

BOOKS

Who Paints What in Spain

SPANISH ART NOW, by William Dyckes. Published by Mr. Dyckes, Paseo de Florida 31, Madrid.

Reviewed

by Quinn Douglas

WILLIAM DYCKES'S book is a review of the men and moods molding art in Spain today. The only criticisms are lack of color reproductions and static layout, no doubt due to reasons of economy. The rest is praise for this enormously complete directory of *who* is painting and sculpting *what* in Spain today.

Mr. Dyckes has been deft in his choice of artists for inclusion: almost all the major names are there (Viola, Tapies, Saura, Canogar, Sempere and Chillida), and a number of young talents receive a first public mention.

These include the *Equipos Cronica*, Celestino Cuevas, Jose Luis Alexanco, Feliciano Hernandez, Jose Maria Yturralde and Jorge Teixidor. His choice of representative art has been equally accurate.

Most of the 76 works presented are recent ones; the history of contemporary trends and sources is set out concisely in the text. The disappearance of the tragic muse of Spanish art is briefly noted, and the book demonstrates that there is little lament and much lyricism south of the Pyrenees.

The relatively new tendency toward geometric styles is documented in the pages devoted to Eusebio Sempere, Pablo Palazuelo and Joan Claret.

The two extremes of Spanish art meet by alphabetical chance in the juxtaposition of Manuel

Millares and Hernandez Mompo, the first a methodical artist achieving a solemn, bitter mood, the latter a visual sprite of bright colors and snappy sketches. Together they represent what is happening in Spain; and what is happening in Spain is represented in this book.