

# Exhibits at New Paris Gallery Win Praise at Private Showing

By SEYMOUR DE RICCI

The new gallery for the exhibition of contemporary European art at 20 avenue George V., sponsored by Mrs. John W. Garrett and Princess Caetani di Bassiano, which will have its formal inauguration on Friday, was the scene yesterday of an advance reception at which the organizers greeted an appreciative gathering of friends and newspapermen. After inspecting the gallery's first show, which the general public will see in three days, those present yesterday expressed admiration for the new enterprise.

A great deal has been written of the difficulties experienced by all foreigners in their attempts to see modern French art at its best. The would-be admirer is swamped at the start in the vast expanses of the annual salons and he is somewhat diffident of the loud-voiced appeals made by some of the smaller art galleries. He either sees too much or too little and he frequently misses the very works of art he would enjoy seeing.

The struggling artist, on the other hand, in spite of his merits, fails too often to meet an appreciative patron and is rather delighted than otherwise if he has the questionable luck to fall into the hands of a somewhat too enterprising dealer.

Thanks to Mrs. Garrett and the Princess di Bassiano, a new era will now start for deserving talent. In a delightful and roomy private house near the Champs-Élysées, four spacious galleries have been secured for the cause of modern art. Under the title, "Les Amis

de l'Art Contemporain," a group of discerning patrons will open Friday a new museum in which all visitors will find much to learn.

Nothing but the best of today's art will be shown; every painting and sculpture on view will be for sale and the whole of the proceeds will go to the artist, no commission being charged, as the costs and upkeep will be entirely supported by the patrons.

Yesterday we saw, in a first room, a series of large compositions by the greatest of living French painters, Edouard Vuillard. A magnificent canvas shows the Princess di Bassiano, surrounded by her family in a brilliant chiaroscuro effect. Four other pieces

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## NEW ART GALLERY HERE WINS PRAISE

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are from the country house of a well-known Paris picture dealer and combine interiors with open-air effects in vivid but subdued color schemes.

The masterpiece of the artist is in the next room. From behind her writing table, Mme. Jeanne Lanvin's characteristic and powerful figure dominates the public. Never has Vuillard more successfully blended light and color. He excels in creating an atmosphere. In that field he has no rival.

On the opposite wall are two colorful paintings by Bonnard. Across the hall in another room, we find the most representative gathering of works by Du-

noyer de Segonzac that we have seen in several years. His water-color landscapes are of the highest quality and his large oil is of outstanding merit. His drawings are equal to Rodin at his best, and that is no mean compliment.

Half-a-dozen busts and three red-chalk drawings by Despain show contemporary French sculpture in its finest achievements. Nearby a series of refined water-colors by that sensitive Italian artist Cagli and four dashing compositions by André Masson, in an extremely modern style, form a vivid contrast to the Michelangelesque drawings of the Italian sculptor Fazzini.

The exhibits are to be changed twice a month so as to give a chance to different artists of various nationalities. All friends of the fine arts will congratulate the organizers on their début and wish them success in so fine an enterprise.