

Raphael Soyer's art show is glowing with youth and hope



Model Resting — Painting by Raphael Soyer



Portrait of the Artist Raphael Soyer by Alice Neel

By DAVID GORDON

The paintings of Raphael Soyer are perennially fresh and lively. Soyer, born in Russia in 1899 but brought up, after age 14, on New York's East Side, trained in art here, and famous for many years, again captures the youthfulness of youth in his current show at the Forum Gallery, 1018 Madison Ave., at 79th St., New York.

There is also contemporaneity in the canvases of young people dressed in the colorful and casual clothing of today.

What can be said of a humanist artist of great talent who has not permitted the problems and difficulties of life to prevent him from the steady portrayal of the vibrant in people? Soyer's paintings exude life and hope—in the

determination or composure witnessed in the older subject as well as in the young. In his paintings Soyer has maintained an undistorted view of people during his life as a painter—almost half a century.

It is amazing that Soyer's art has continued to flourish and win recognition during the many gyrations that have occurred in artis-

tic expression during the last fifty years. He is a member of the Academy of Arts and Letters. He has received many prizes and awards—among others, from the Corcoran Gallery, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the National Academy.

Soyer's paintings may be found in public and private collections

all over the world, including the Metropolitan, Whitney and Modern museums of art in New York.

This great craftsman, filled with a love of humanity, has been able to express that love honestly, frankly, convincingly, and without sentimentality. The viewer feels identified with the brightness of the peopled canvases.

The exhibition runs to Nov. 4.