

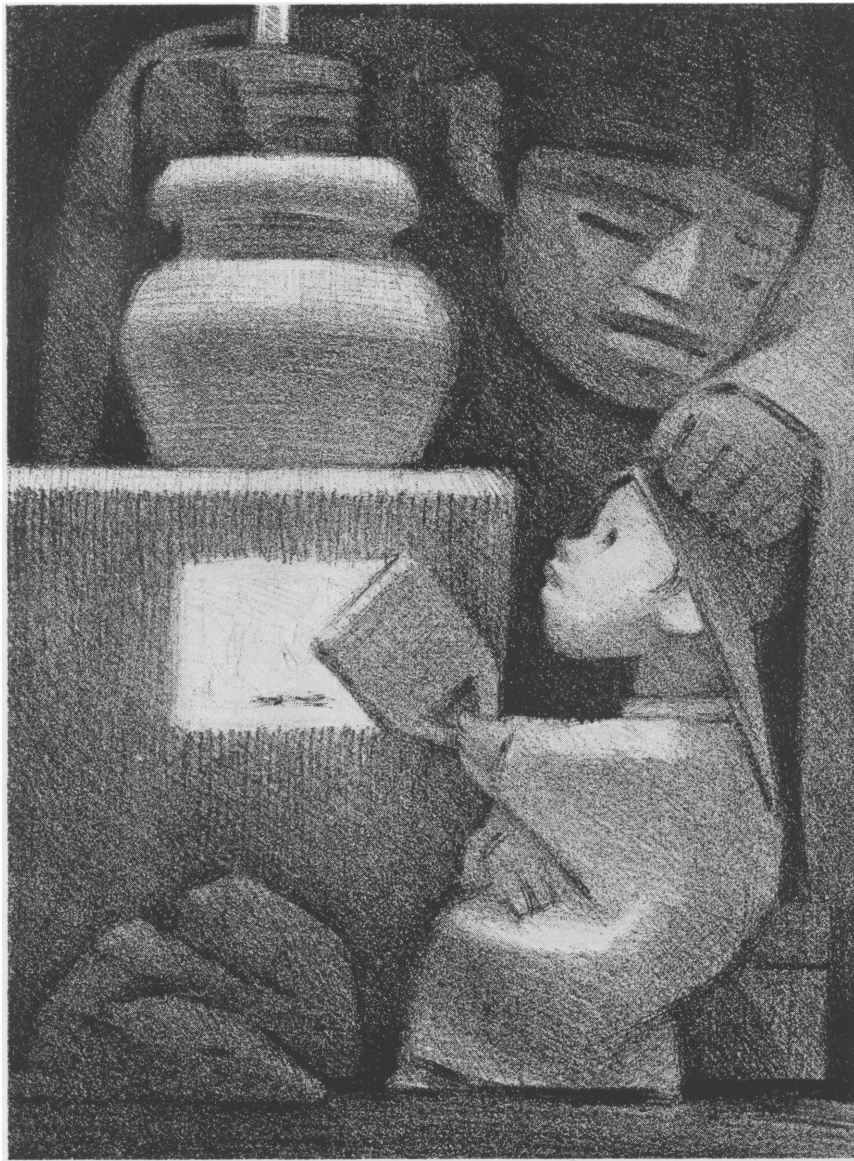
MEXICAN KITCHEN

JEAN CHARLOT

*AMERICAN PRIZE PRINTS
OF THE 20th CENTURY*

by Albert Reese

American Artists Group, inc. ★ New York



MEXICAN KITCHEN

JEAN CHARLOT

Purchase Prize, First National Print Annual Exhibition, Brooklyn Museum, 1947 *Lithograph 10x13¼"*
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Although Charlot is a native of France, he has for years been identified with the great creative movement in Mexican art. Mayan art in particular has been a dominant influence in his work. To it he owes his extraordinary grasp of sculptural form and the sense of design which fuses all elements, human and inanimate, into a powerful dynamic entity. *Mexican Kitchen* has a volume and amplitude, a monumental solidity that is the predominant characteristic of this artist's lithographs. It is big and elemental, and at the same time full of tenderness and compassion, a compassion neither sentimental nor tawdry but implicit in the very nature of humanity itself. Withal it has an almost timeless quality, the same quality that makes Mayan sculpture as alive today as when it was first conceived in the hearts of the great anonymous artists of the pre-Columbian past. In commenting on the print the artist writes: "The interest centers around the pot of beans cooking over a charcoal fire. While the mother is stirring the beans with a wooden spoon, the little girl is fanning the fire with a fan of woven straw, and the dog enjoys the warmth. It is a scene that I have treated a number of times in different mediums. . . . Besides the close-knit composition, I enjoy the feeling of power that comes in drawing and painting a fire that seems to really warm us up."

CHARLOT, JEAN

Painter, lithographer, illustrator and teacher; born Paris, 1898. Artist-in-Residence, University of Georgia; and Smith College, Northampton, Mass. Director, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Colorado. Represented, Phillips Memorial Gallery, Washington, D. C., Metropolitan Museum of Art; Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy; Museum of Modern Art; Brooklyn Museum; etc. Guggenheim Fellowship.