S. I. T. E. S.

JAN 16 1964

The J. Conrad Seegers Union Cultural Committee presents "The Seasons" by a fine photographer, Eliot Porter. After initial showings at the San Francisco Museum of Art and the George Eastman House, Rochester, New York, it is being circulated throughout the country by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

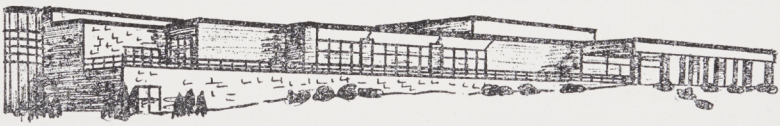
In these outstanding photographs, Eliot Porter depicts the four seasons of the year, in landscapes and in details of the natural scene, and in labels accompanying them, he has quoted from the writings of Henry David Thoreau.

Dr. Porter, who holds the M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School, became a full time photographer only in 1939, although since his early youth he has been interested in it, and especially in the photography of birds. The Smithsonian Institution circulated his exhibition "Birds in Color" in 1956-57. He applies the rigorous standards of science to his work, shunning facile and dramatic effects and striving instead for accuracy in the depiction of his subject. As a result, his precise photographs are a delight to a naturalist. He has discovered solutions to many technical problems confronting photographers and has written articles for such publications as the Journal of the Biological Photographic Association, U.S. Camera, Photo-Technique, and the New England Naturalist.

He finds his subjects, whether they be birds or scenes from nature, and adds the frame, as it were, to an already existent composition by nature. But the photographs bear the unmistakable imprint of the artist in the selection of that which is to be photographed, the sensitivity to color, line, and texture, and the quality of the works. In the present exhibition are spruce trees, sunflowers, blackberries, autumn leaves, birches, brooks, etc. Critic Virginia J. Smith of the Rochester Times-Union has remarked of "The Seasons": "There is a peace and serenity.... a stillness in which one can listen to the voice of nature. None....depicts wind or motion. The coloring is gentle and in such subjects as the arbutus or the hepatica you feel that you have just come upon them in the woods."

The Seasons

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