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Art: A Hit Scored by 28 Painters Lured From Latin America

JOHN CANADAY SEPT. 23, 1964

IT is not exactly an invasion, but there is at least a strong Latin-American infiltration into the international strongholds so largely cornered by New York galleries. The exhibition currently at the Galeria Bonino, 7 West 57th Street, arranged by the Inter-American Foundation for the Arts, might have been called "Target: New, York," in which case the comment would be in order that a sound hit, although not a bullseye, has been scored.

But the exhibition is more tactfully called "Magnet: New York," since all the 28 artists represented have been lured from their homelands to residence in this wonderful and terrible city. The list includes 12 Argentines, 3 Colombians and 3 Cubans, 2 artists each from Guatemala, Uruguay and Bolivia, and single representatives of Mexico, Chile, Venezuela and Nicaragua.

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Let us say immediately that the visitors are welcome and that they have put on a good show. Some of them—notably Fernando Botero of Colombia and Jose Antonio Fernandez-Muro of Argentina—are already well known from New York exhibitions, but there are others who are still strangers. The discoverer of the exhibition, as far as I am concerned, is Marcelo Bonevardi, of the Argentine contingent, who is listed in

the catalogue as having exhibited in New York in 1960 at the Roland de Aenlle Gallery and in 1961 at the Latow Gallery, but who was brand new to me.

If an artist can be judged by a single work, Mr. Bonevardi's "Astrologer's Table" reveals an artist of imagination and a craftsman of skill. "Astrologer's Table" is a

The artists who appealed

In spite of the preponderance of Argentines, "Magnet: New York" does not represent the current figurative movement in that country except in a single and far from satisfactory example by one of its leaders, Luis Felipe Noe. Another leader, Antonio Berni, may be seen (along with Mr. Noe) in another Latin American show now current, "Buenos Aires 64" at the Pepsi-Cola Gallery, 500 Park Avenue at 59th Street.

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"Buenos Aires 64" includes several artists mentioned in this column at sufficient length in recent reviews of the exhibition "New Art of Argentina" at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis. The Pepsi-Cola show on the

"Magnet: New York" closes Oct. 10 and the Galeria Bonino is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. "Buenos Aires 64" closes Oct. 2 and the Pepsi-Cola Gallery is open weekdays from 9 to 7.

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