NOVEMBER 1989 £2.00 RECEARDEN

INCORPORATING WINE & FOOD MAGAZINE







The Catalan who loves flowers

Henrietta Howard writes about the paintings of José Escofet, featured in an exhibition at the Coe Kerr Gallery, New York, organized in association with Stephanie Hoppen

instantly recognizable as the objects a traditional training, he moved on By the 'seventies, José Escofet rare encounter for a gallery-goer.

Yet such paintings are the enviable achievement of José Maria Es-

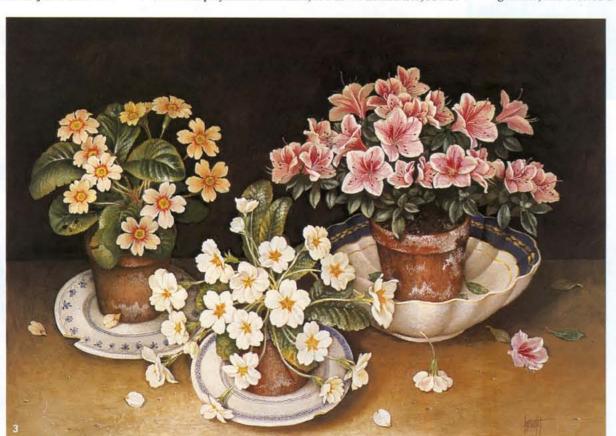
VIEWING CONTEMPORARY paintings of flowers and fruit which are province of Barcelona in 1930. After amongst his contemporaries.

they are alleged to be, and which are to experiment with abstraction, had become profoundly interested equally recognizable as the work of a then, in his thirties, acquired a more in eighteenth- and nineteenth-cenparticular artist, is a comparatively rational view of the environment tury Chinese and Indian painting,

1 Ornamental cabbage, 25 x 18". **2** Dusky blue fresh figs, 18 x 25". **3** Saucers of polyanthus and azalea, 18 x 25". **4** Lemon tree, 32 x 24".

and the simplicity and innocence which initially impressed him have proved a lasting influence.

He moved to England in 1979 and became increasingly preoccupied with flower painting. Having explored many techniques and media, he has turned more and more to gouache, and evolved a style which









enthusiasts of his work.

the immediate reaction of Stephanie Hoppen, owner of the delightful paintings and decorative prints. Stephanie Hoppen, 'and there were New York, this month □

has become quite irresistible to Alma Escofet showed Stephanie the paintings before me.' examples of her husband's work, He owes much of his success to the immediate reaction of Stephanic Hoppen, owner of the delightful Hoppen, owner own showroom in Walton Street, ing in all manner of pots – of clay, the artist's paintings over the past two years, is at the Coe Kerr Gallery, ing in all manner of pots – of clay, granite, ceramic and the rest,' says the artist's paintings over the past two years, is at the Coe Kerr Gallery, bowl, 153/4 x 191/2". 6 Three clay



She has since been instrumental

1 Geraniums in Italian clay pot, 32 x 24". **2** Pale pink cyclamen in trough, 24 x 32". **3** A basket of polyanthus, 18 x 25". **4** Polyanthus in pot, 19½ x 15¾". **5** English pots with narcissi, 32 x 24".



The works pictured here are gouache on paper, 1988-9, and are included in the exhibition, José Escofet: Recent Works, at the Coe Kerr Gallery, 49 East 82nd Street, New York, NY10028, USA, from October 25 to November 11.



