

adding only what can prudently be deduced about Botticelli, the man Leonardo called "vain" because he did not study the painting of landscape for landscape's sake. He emerges from the Ettlingers' sympathetic clarifications more alive than before. The two art historians treat the religious paintings, allegories, portraits, and drawings according to the genre to which each belongs. Illustrated with 138 good reproductions, 18 in color (including the *Augustine*).

#### THE FAIR

by Juan José Arreola  
Univ. of Texas, 1977  
154 pp. \$10  
L of C 76-48981  
ISBN 0-292-72417-9

The town of Zapotlán El Grande sleeps "at the edge of its rounded valley like a fairy tale village of adobes, bricks and roof tiles." Beneath it lies a "colossal geological fault . . . an eggshell." In his first novel, Mexican satirist Arreola bares the controversies, history, and daily hubbub of Zapotlán as the town prepares for its profitable annual fair in honor of St. Joseph. A timeless feud festers between landowners and aggrieved Indians. Characters emerge and gradually become distinct through their own voices: the musings of a weary priest; the daily log of a cobbler turned farmer (the farm fails, but he invents a new shoe for field hands); the confessions of an inquisitive boy; the scoldings of housewives. An old Indian foreman's gentle admonition echoes like a refrain: "Don't shoot the crows, Layo. They are human beings like us, and they don't do the corn any harm. . . . Poor creatures, they can't be blamed for giving in to temptation." This notable short work is illustrated with woodcuts and accompanied by the translator's lively notes.

#### HIMALAYAS

by Yoshikazu Shirakawa  
Abrams, 1977, 128 pp. \$18.50  
L of C 76-47575  
ISBN 0-8109-1051-9

The Himalayas (literally "abode of snows") reach into parts of eight countries. This book's geographical coverage is limited to the Nepal, Punjab, and Sikkim ranges, and the Hindu Kush (Afghanistan). But awesome and austere shots of Everest, Annapurna, and lesser-known peaks make Yoshikazu Shirakawa's book of photographs a great visual prize. And, with 71 full-page color plates, at one-fifth the