



It is by no means our intention to confine the achievements of the excellent Berlin photographer, Felizitas von Baczko, to the limited field of architectural and interior photography. In this woman artist's studio we saw portraits which vitalized features and figure, imbuing them with all that goes to make up personality—betraying the artist's profound understanding of human nature. We saw photographs of objects which even at a distance preserved the colour and structure of the material in their surface in most striking fashion without ever becoming hard: we saw landscapes in which air and lights and shadows played deliciously about foreground and distance; and much beside.

We purposely chose the architectonic because it affords a convincing proof of Felizitas von Baczko's certainty of aim and her artistic conscientiousness, even in the few examples we are able to give. Here the artist is quite in her element and separates herself by sheer force of superior ability from the fashionable frivolities of certain "botanizing" speculators whose metaphysical designs with their distorted perspectives have so wearied us that we have almost lost the taste for serious contemplation of architecture. Here, however, we sense a creative mind with a touch of genius in its feeling for space! It is true enough—what do we know of the miracle of space by which we are surrounded. Without our co-operation, our two eyes adapt themselves automatically as we move about, to the changing perspective. This explains why it is so difficult for the photographer to reproduce the impression convincingly once and for all.

Consider how, in the staircase, looking at it from four sides and from above, the whole movement chimes in one harmony—or the organ, with its astonishing expansion of the plastic which, without exaggeration, imparts a cosmic apperception of space and yet gives every detail its full value. Such photos render the praise comprehensible which we have lavished upon the work of this artist.

Trans. by E. T. Scheffauer.

F. von BACZKO