



Blick auf die Peterskirche, Rom
View of St. Peter's, Rome

W A T E N P H U L

A N E W P H O T O G R A P H E R

Max Peiffer Watenphul began as a painter and though he belongs to the younger generation, the excellence of his art has rapidly made his name one of the best-known in Germany. To-day pictures of his hang in nearly all the larger museums. His name became familiar to the general public when the Prussian State awarded him the Prix de Rome in 1932 and a year later the Pittsburgh Carnegie Institute awarded first prize to one of his extraordinary studies of still life.

He took to photography in the year 1931. At this time he was teaching at the Folkwang School at Essen. But he threw his whole artistic personality into this new phase of his work, just as he had done as a painter. Watenphul considered the photograph wholly from an artistic standpoint and thus he discovered absolutely new ways for it. In conscious contrast to the objective photo he created for the first time a pictorial photograph, imbued with his own personality and based upon strict laws of composition: it was, in a word, a new form of art. His success proved that he was on the right path. His work received distinguished mention not only in Germany, but also in France, Italy and America.