

THE SOHO WEEKLY NEWS

May 30, 1974

JOHN FUDGE (Walker Street Gallery, 46 Walker St.): Fudge, like his name, is entertaining. He cites as main influences "the music of Richard Wagner, old MAD comics, science fiction, World War II, Alfred Hitchcock movies, monster movies, old rock and roll, and also historical painters like Magritte, Hopper, Munch, Vermeer, Duchamp, etc." With a taste amalgam like that, Fudge's own paintings can't help but amuse—and amuse they do, in a cartoon-ish sort of way, and in a technically awkward way, as well. The best works deal with Egyptian themes—shapely "Little Egypts" stroll seductively under rows of date palms, the ancient Egyptian symbols of bird, sun, and elaborations on head-dresses, appearing in sunny, well-observed detail.

This is a zany, quite endearing show, full of restless energy and cock-eyed wit.