

ARTISTS PRESS FIGHT ON ROXY BAN ON NUDES

Two More Societies Accuse Head of Rockefeller Center Hall of Effrontery and Bad Taste.

Two organizations of artists retorted yesterday, in no honeyed words, to the recent banning by S. L. Rothafel (Roxy) of three works of sculpture in the nude by William Zorach, Robert Laurent and Gwen Lux from the Music Hall of Rockefeller Center. The Salons of America, with a membership of 500 artists, and the Society of American Painters, Sculptors and Gravers issued statements which left no doubt about their indignation.

The former organization concluded its statement with a "demand for reinstatement of these works of art in their original position" on the grounds of "justice to the artists, the public and also the creators of Rockefeller Center, who have in their selection of these and other artists shown the clarity of their artistic vision."

The latter organization, whose statement was issued by its chairman, Leon Kroll, well-known artist, contented itself with taking Mr. Rothafel to task.

"In the name of the Society of American Painters, Sculptors and Gravers," wrote Mr. Kroll, "I must protest the attitude of Mr. Rothafel in relation to the sculpture expelled from the new Music Hall.

"According to his own statement, he is honest and sincere, which qualities, while very desirable and even necessary for the maintenance of any social structure, are commonplace and make up the mental equipment of the majority. Good taste, however, is rare, and we challenge that of Mr. Rothafel in comparison to that of the talented artists whose work he had the effrontery to reject."