FISAC IN THE FLESH

A small and little known work by Fisac

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Today I entered Fisac again. In a pristine, pure, perfect Fisac. The space, showcase included, of the Bookstore of the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, in Duque de Medinaceli Street, behind the Palace Hotel in Madrid.

Don't think you're going to find something overwhelming. On the contrary. It is a simple space. All the walls are made of "decarburized" pine wood, treated with lime, very clear, how many times would Fisac not do it this way in his works of the 50's! Every detail, every lamp, every doorknob, every encounter. Everything simple, but well thought out. The pillars, we imagine metallic inside, cylindrical, formed by small stone tesserae in the purest Ponti style. The undulating ceiling with all the difficult encounters well resolved.

The chairs and tables, pure Fisac, designed by him, with a certain aroma of Aalto. The general Nordic air, very Nordic.

And inside, a treasure trove of CSIC books created by Ibáñez Martín, ranging from Poetry to Philosophy, with all the classics included, of course. And an edition that is a jewel, the plates of Celestino Mutis.

Even the bookseller, a blonde girl who seems to have been in that beautiful bookstore from the beginning. Perhaps she is a relative of Mendel the bookseller, Zweig's Viennese bookseller.

It is well worth the trip. On my last visit I bought a De Senectute by Cicero, which I highly recommend.