

The A. M. Sachs Gallery in New York recently held an exhibition of sculpture by Ursula Meyer. Most of this artist's work consists of separate modules — that is, exactly similar forms placed in relation to each other.

The picture of "Homage to Ad Reinhardt" (below) shows just one arrangement of the two modules that make up that piece; the multiple photograph of "Xerxes" (above) shows ten positional variations, giving some idea of the extraordinary differences that can be achieved by a simple re-arrangement of two like units.

In the exhibition one sculpture (called "Dedalus") had been made in three different materials and sizes. The smallest version could sit on the table with the visitors' book, like a neat toy, while the largest filled a room. In the two smaller versions the

elements can easily be re-arranged. The large version presents more difficulty.

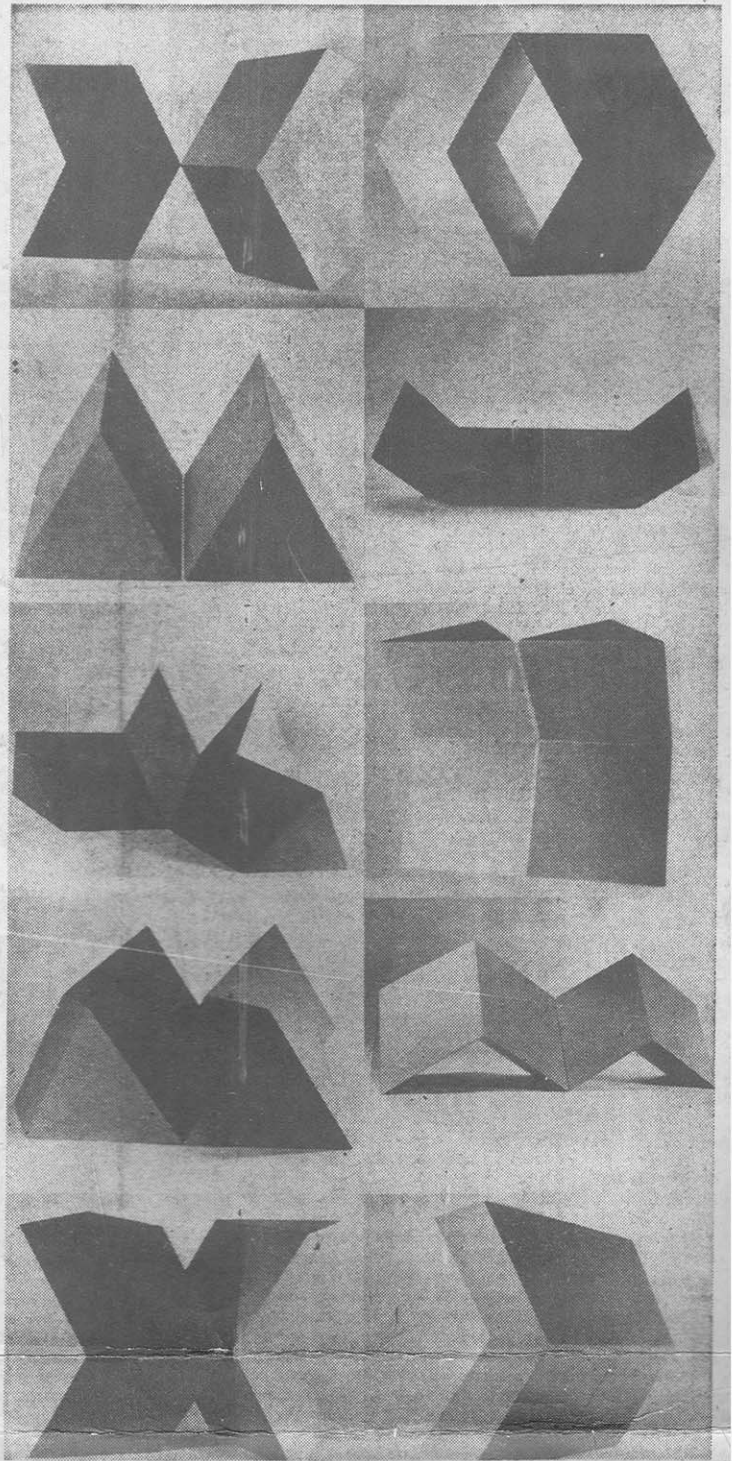
In an interview connected with a previous group exhibition, Miss Meyer talked of the two-module piece she was showing as "offering many different possibilities of positioning. The inherent complexity of relationships is so strong that this work can be arranged in 36 variations and many more."

Each of the ten different positions chosen by the artist for "Xerxes" is symmetrical. Elsewhere in the above quoted interview she expressed her interest in symmetry, also describing her forms as "discrete." The way in which she described the earlier piece seems to apply with equal meaning to "Xerxes" and "Homage to Ad Reinhardt":

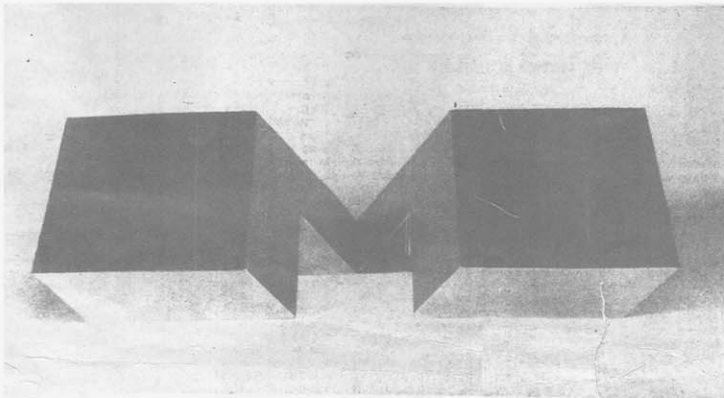
"This work may appear simple, but it is not: it is only what it is, but it is also all the possible variations of what it could be. The idea of inner logic of form or of related forms is paramount. Radical abstraction or reduction calls for the understatement of material, color and texture. The result is a no-material and no-color treatment. I feel that too much concern with material, and for that matter craftsmanship, can get in the way of art."

Born in Hanover, Miss Meyer studied at the Bauhaus for a year and a half, specializing in ceramics. At present she is an Assistant Professor at Hunter College, New York, teaching art, ceramics, and ceramic sculpture.

CHRISTOPHER ANDREA



Both pictures by courtesy of A. M. Sachs Gallery, New York
 "XERXES": Stainless steel sculpture by Ursula Meyer



"HOMAGE TO AD REINHARDT": Plyron sculpture by Ursula Meyer