

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

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PRESS PREVIEW:

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11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Twenty-seven sculptures and drawings by the German artist, Norbert Kricke, will be on view in the Members' Penthouse of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York City, from March 2 through April 2. The exhibition, directed by Peter Selz, Curator of the Department of Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions, and installed by Alicia Legg, Assistant Curator, will be open to the public Monday through Wednesday from 3 to 6 p.m. It may be seen by Members daily during regular Museum hours.

As Dr. Carola Giedion-Welcker points out in the exhibition catalog, Kricke is stimulated by the "trend toward ~~depersonalization~~ personalization, transparency and space-time dynamics" which has increasingly affected the art of our time. His constructions are characterized by an expressive linearity that shoots into space freely, yet is strongly disciplined.

A former pilot, Kricke derives his forms not from machines but from nature-- the motion of birds, water and air. The flight of carrier pigeons, which he raises, provides the inspiration for many of his works.

The thirteen aluminum or steel sculptures shown date from 1956 to the present. Included are complex "space sculptures," 8 to 42 inches high, in which linear movement is expressed through bundled and twisted coils, as in the painted White Coil (1956) and Construction (1958), or by welded rods which soar into space in twisting and impinging planes. Four works entitled Flächenbahn are flat structures formed from irregularly placed parallel rods or tubes. These range in length from 21 inches to 6 feet. A number of the drawings on view are studies for sculpture.

Kricke's concern, in recent years, with the integration of architecture and sculpture is indicated by a wire model for a sculpture for the University of Bagdad building designed by Walter Gropius.

Kricke was born in 1922 in Düsseldorf, his permanent residence since 1947. He began working as a sculptor in the constructivist tradition soon after the war and has exhibited extensively in one-man and group shows during the past 9 years. He has carried out architectural commissions in Stuttgart and Düsseldorf and, in addition to his sculpture for the University of Bagdad, has made reliefs and water sculpture for the new opera houses in Gelsenkirchen and Düsseldorf. Among the important recent exhibitions in which he has been represented are "Documenta '59" in Kassel, "Fourteen European Sculptors" at the Staempfli Gallery in New York in 1959, and the "Kricke Luginbuhl Pinguely" exhibition in Bern in 1960.

Photos and additional information available from Nancy Reed, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N. Y. CI 5-8900.