RKtwenty-fiveJOURNAL of theROYAL college of ART 3s-75c

In Milan recently, at the Montenapoleone Gallery, Munari exhibited a series of 'travelling sculptures' that are foldable and reducible to two dimensions. These sculptures were made, for the most part, of white or coloured cardboard, also there were some in wood veneer, others in metal. Nearly all these sculptures were exhibited on large Italian trunks and suitcases made of leather, instead of the pedestals normally used. The intention of these travelling sculptures was explained in the invitation to the exhibition: when travelling one often finds oneself in hotel rooms furnished in a way very different from one's taste, and to rectify this situation, a travelling sculpture (which one has brought along folded in the suitcase), when opened up and exhibited in the room, creates a point of reference for one's own personal world.

During the exhibition, in a radio interview, Munari was asked if,



having to leave in a hurry and having very little space in his suitcase, would he leave out the travelling sculpture or the toothpaste. 'The toothpaste', replied Munari, 'because I could find that anywhere, but as yet not the travelling sculpture.'

Munari does not make the sculptures in single copies, except in rare cases; he prefers to make several copies according to the occasion. The folding sculptures of pearwood (those 95cm high and wide) were made in ten copies, numbered and signed by the artist. A small sculpture 17cm high was made in red and green cardboard in three hundred numbered and signed copies, and sent by air to various friends of Munari all over the world.

translated by David Russell

Munar

