

Piotr Grobliński, *Budowanie przestrzeni* (*Building up space*), www.reymont.pl, 7th January 2005.

The Patio Gallery has gained new exposition space. The continuously developing WSHE has recently opened its new college library at 26 Sterling Street, where there is also some room for presentation of art. The inaugural exhibition in the new place beautifully relates to this building up of artistic space. Its author, Jan de Weryha-Wysoczański, is a sculptor endowed with a unique spatial imagination. His monumental works can furnish any interior. He is a real architect of space. The artist graduated from State Art Academy in his hometown Gdańsk, but since 1981 he has been living and working in Hamburg. He is interested in sculpture in wood referring to minimal art. The Łódź exhibition is the first presentation of his works in Poland. Wysoczański approaches the material he uses with great humility. He never cuts down trees for his works – he recycles wood from windfallen trees or uses the remains of material left over by the foresters. He interferes in the structure of wood in such a way that it does not lose its own history (the exhibition is titled "Wood-Archive"), leaving some surfaces unprocessed. He creates both forms inspired by nature (hills, bee nests) and purely geometrical structures in which rhythm is particularly important. What makes the greatest impression at the exhibition is a sculpture consisting of hundreds of chipped pieces of wood, arranged into four square segments placed on the floor. It is interesting that the artist has been displaying it like that for the first time – until now the squares have formed the walls of a cube. Yet the character of the gallery space forced the author to create the new arrangement of the elements. Patio Gallery – WSHE Library, 26 Sterling St., until February 15th.