



k Gallery.

Peter Reginato, *Dr. Jekyll*, 1975. Painted ochre steel, 24 x 38". Courtesy Gallery Ariadne and Tibor de Nagy Gallery.

SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

The *First Invitational Sculpture Exhibition* features the diverse work of Stanley Boxer, Mel Edwards, John Ferro, Peter Reginato, and L. Alan Reynolds. Even though each artist shows no more than two works, the viewer must deal with five distinct approaches. Reginato's painted welded steel sculpture is modest in size; both *Naked* and *Dr. Jekyll* use open silhouette forms versus solid, planar mass. There is a lightness and playfulness about these works, yet they are not frivolous. Edwards' steel pieces, which incorporate such aggressive objects as barbed wire, a machete, chains, and spiked fence palings, are threatening but have undeniable impact.

By contrast, Boxer's slender, elongated marble icons are serene and rarified, stressing the exquisiteness of the marble itself. The frank-

ness of Ferro's *X Construction 1* derives from his symmetrical use of industrial steel; no trickery here, just honest bolts and beams. Most enigmatic is Reynolds' work which in a sense defies all conditioned responses as to how wood should look, how it should be dealt with. This wood sculpture at first glance appears to be made of metal; gradually one begins to observe pieces of wood glued or wedged into wood, various surface scorings, and the deliberate repetition of certain shapes. Such an exhibition is welcome, if tantalizing, since it can only serve as a preface to the full volume of each artist's work. (Ariadne, January 18-February 8)

By NOEL FRACKMAN