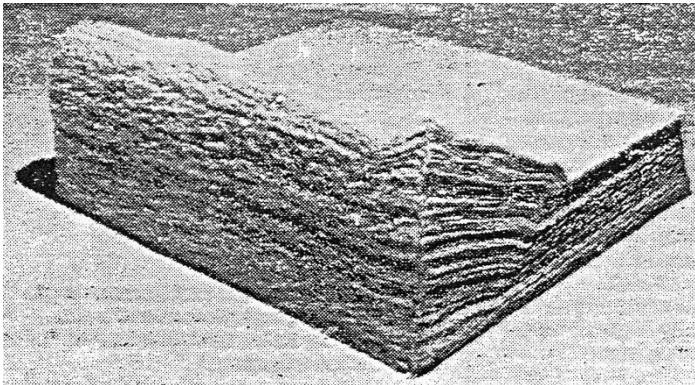


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Wood sculptures get a little help from nature



Sculpture "Paper No. 1V" by Kazuo Kadonaga at the SPACE gallery

By Diana Rico

Dary News Art Writer

Kazuo Kadonaga, of Ishikawa-ken, Japan, says of his work, "I am not creating beauty, but discovering the natural beauty of the material." The process of his discovery includes both what he does with the materials he uses and what he leaves for nature to do on its own.

In the wood sculptures for which the 38-year-old artist is best known, he sliced tree sections paper thin, or scored and divided them, then reassembled these parts in their original natural order. Once whole again, the pieces were allowed to curl, warp and crack according to atmospheric conditions - an activity the artist regards as an integral part of the sculpture.

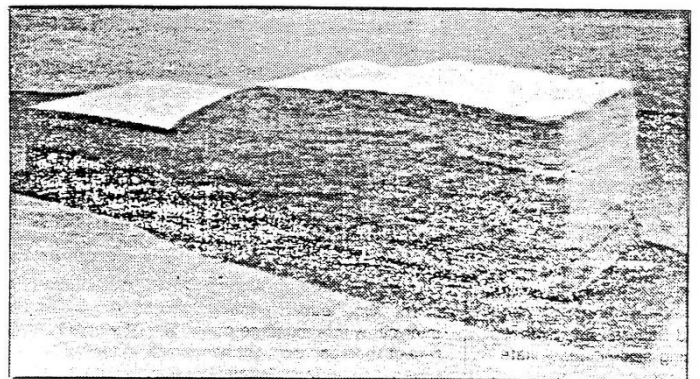
Opening today at SPACE gallery in Hollywood is "Sculpture in Paper," an exhibit of some two dozen pieces that once again reflect Kadonaga's concern with the interplay of artificial and natural processes in his art.

The textures of these pieces, with their rough-

edged, sheeted layers, are reminiscent of his wood sculptures. Some resemble unbound books, curling from exposure to moisture. Others have been partially folded first and then left to natural transformations. An exploration of light and shadow as part of the process of natural change also is made possible by Kadonaga's choice of material here.

At one time, Kadonaga expressed the hope that in his life he would investigate a number of natural materials, including clay and perhaps stone. In his paper and wood sculptures, he already has shown what can happen when concept, craft and nature meet.

Kadonaga has exhibited in Japan and abroad, including one person exhibitions in California, Holland, Sweden and both Tokyo and Kyoto. His work won prizes in the Tenth Japan Art Festival and the Eleventh Contemporary Art Exhibition of Japan. His sculptures are in the public collection of the



National Museum of Modern Art in Mexico City and the National Kroller Muller Museum in Amsterdam.

Kadonaga's "Sculpture in Paper" is on view through June 23. For further information, call (213) 461. 8166.