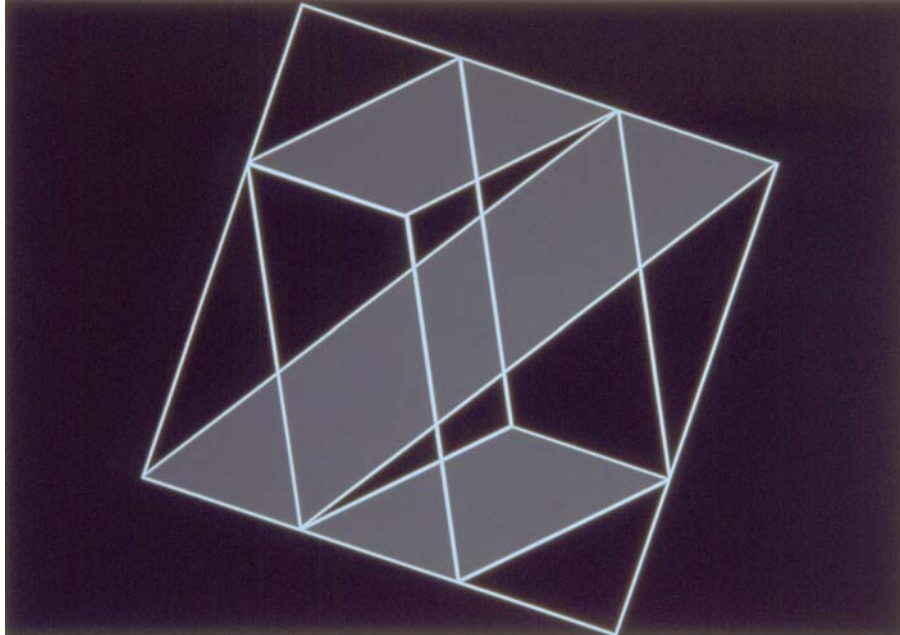


## Josef Albers, Screen Prints

1 – 25 June 2004



Josef Albers,  
*Composition* from  
the *Formulation:  
Articulation*  
portfolio, 1972  
Image size: 31 x  
44cm  
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As an artist and teacher, Josef Albers (1888-1976) exerted an enormous influence on the history of modern art in Europe and America. This National Touring Exhibition from the Hayward Gallery presents an overview of Albers's career, from his early geometrical abstractions at the Bauhaus to his famous experiments with colour in the *Homages to the Square* series.

Sometimes referred to as 'The Square Man', Albers is best known for his *Homages to the Square* series, which he began in 1950 and continued until his death. He made over a thousand *Homages* paintings and prints in four formats that gave colour a unique emphasis. He referred to them as 'the dish I serve my craziness about colour in.'

This exhibition of silk-screen prints has been selected from a portfolio called *Formulation: Articulation*, designed and produced under Albers's direction in 1972. It includes works from all the major series of his life: the *Homages* (1950-1975), *Graphic Tectonics* (1941-42), *Structural Constellations* (1949-76) and *Variants* (1947-55).

Born in Germany, Josef Albers taught at the innovative school of art and architecture, the Bauhaus, in Weimar (1920-33) where he was a colleague of Paul Klee and Wassily Kandinsky. After the Nazis closed the Bauhaus in 1933, Albers settled in America and taught at the experimental Black Mountain College in North Carolina (1933-49), and later at Yale University (1950-58). His later work and theories profoundly influenced American Minimalist artists like Donald Judd, Frank Stella and Sol Lewitt. However, Albers was never associated with any artistic movement. He believed in

diversity and variability – he used to say that no two people pictured the same colour upon hearing the word ‘red’.

After he retired he published his teachings in *The Interaction of Color* (1963), which is generally regarded as one of the most important 20<sup>th</sup>-century contributions to the understanding of colour.