



Vasarely

Magdalena Holzhey, Taschen, £4.99

In this comprehensive look at the work of Hungarian artist Victor Vasarely, Magdalena Holzhey conveys well the visionary quality of Vasarely's work.

He saw the role of the artist in society change and so too, the purpose of art, explains Holzhey. She says: "The notion of a "democratised", endlessly reproducible art capable of destroying the aura of the one-of-a-kind work and the elitist idea of ownership it entailed, inspired much of the period's art production."

She explains how Vasarely strived to create a universal visual language with art. The objective of one piece called *Unité Plastique* was to 'be produced by teamwork, using industrial methods...that could be integrated effortlessly into daily life,' she said.

Holzhey has illustrated Vasarely's purpose brilliantly with page after page of well reproduced colour images of the artist's work. The reader is greeted by a compelling self-portrait on the inside page while the back pages show Vasarely's laboratory-style studio and photos of friends and family.

Vasarely contains the main ideas of the man, thoroughly illustrated and although philosophical texts can be dry to read, this edition, on the contrary, is accessible and hard to put down.