

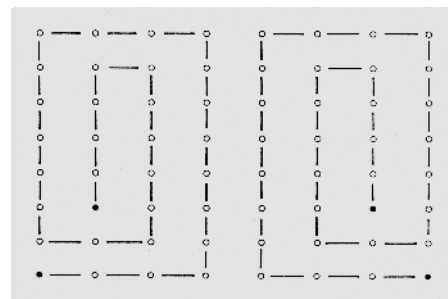
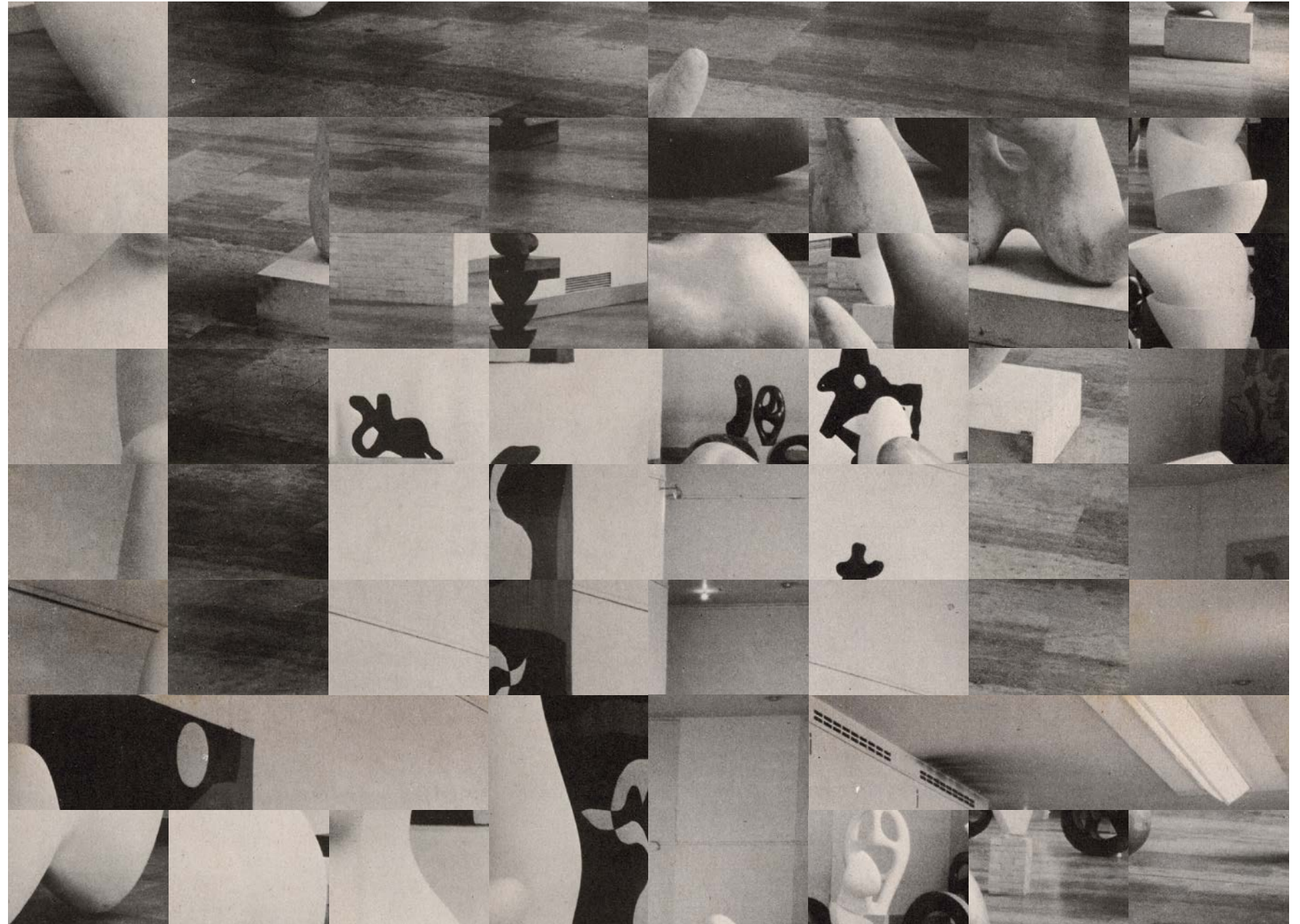
# Arp

“The World of Art Library is a long established series of pocket-sized art books from the British publisher Thames & Hudson. The series was launched in 1958 and over three hundred titles have been published as of 2021. The books are typically around 200 pages, but heavily illustrated. Unlike some concise or popular art books, the layout is traditional with text and pictures often on the same page, but segregated.”—*Wikipedia*, ‘World of Art’

Herbert Read’s *Arp* is a typical monograph in the World of Art series; it was published in 1968, the year of the poet and art historian’s death. The printing is by Jarrold & Son of Norwich, on uncoated stock—a particular characteristic of the series—with good tonal range in the mainly black and white illustrations and accuracy in the several colour reproductions.

In the paperback editions, as with much perfect binding of this period, the spines lose flexibility due to the adhesive drying out and cracking, leaving a collection of loose pages between the covers, as is the case with this particular copy.

The description quoted above suggests that the images are ‘illustrations’ rather than ‘plates’; they are integrated at various sizes amongst the text, apart from when an image occupies a page alone, either within the text margins or in several instances bled to the edges of the paper. There is one example showing an installation view from the 1962 retrospective exhibition at the Musée National d’Art Moderne in Paris which forms a complete double-page without margins.



64 parts, reversed single-page spirals: p.62–63: installation view, Paris, 1962, in *Arp*, Herbert Read, London, 1968; printed paper on board, 208 x 288, 1993 (digital version, 2024).