

# ART NEW ENGLAND

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Barbara Krakow Gallery/Boston, MA [www.barbarakrakowgallery.com](http://www.barbarakrakowgallery.com)

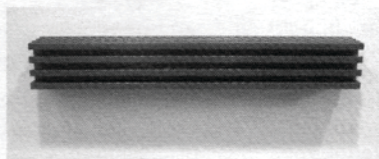
## **DONALD JUDD: 12 SCULPTURES FROM 1991**

Color dominates form in one's first impression of these identical 5 7/8-by-41 3/8-by-5 7/8-inch pieces of anodized, extruded aluminum, but it is the interaction between the two that drives the content of these untitled wall pieces. Comparing the different colors of the eight pieces installed in the Krakow Gallery yields a more nuanced understanding of the work than could be arrived at by viewing one isolated piece. Judd specified exactly the size, form, color, and installation height of this series.

In the context of this installation, a clear anodized piece serves as an index against which the other pieces can be measured. Its surfaces appear to dissolve into the wall when seen frontally, yet from an oblique angle the form is solidified by reflected color that deepens the tone of the raw aluminum. This is also true of the others—three very dark and three more brightly colored. If the clear piece represents one end of Judd's spectrum of inquiry, at the other end is a black piece, perhaps the least illusionistic of the group. The others fall somewhere in between these two: The black/green piece when viewed frontally reads as almost identical to the pure black piece, but from an oblique angle dissolves with the light reflecting within itself, bringing to mind an X-ray rendered in three dimensions; and the turquoise variation, the most vibrantly colored of the group, gives over the saturated intensity of the full frontal view to a deeper, muted blue when viewed obliquely.

This exhibition suggests that we need to reassess the common categorization of Judd's work as strictly formal and coldly lacking in human reference.

Mary Bucci McCoy



Donald Judd, *Untitled 1991*, extruded aluminum, anodized in twelve different colors, 5 7/8 x 41 3/8 x 5 7/8", 1991. Edition: 12 in each color, 3 AP, stamped and numbered, anodized in yellow.