

◆ More than 400 pieces of costume jewelry make up "Jewels of Fantasy: Costume Jewelry of the 20th Century" appearing now at the Baltimore Museum of Art.

## Costume Jewelry as Art

By Jene Stonesifer

**A**n exhibition at the Baltimore Museum of Art illustrates the evolution of costume jewelry through the century with more than 400 bracelets, necklaces, brooches and other objects, many by famous artists and designers.

A green glass ring by Rene Lalique, pins shaped like birds and insects and an *art nouveau* belt buckle featuring a young girl with long flowing hair are among the objects on display.

"Costume jewelry is now being recognized as a very valid expression of innovative design," says museum spokeswoman Marge Lee. This exhibit, she says, is the first of its kind to feature costume jewelry, made with inexpensive materials rather than precious metals and gemstones.

The show, sponsored by Swarovsky, a supplier of cut crystal stone, already has appeared in museums in Europe, Asia, New York and Los Angeles. A series of classes and gallery talks will be presented in conjunction with the show.

"Jewels of Fantasy: Costume Jewelry of the 20th Century" will remain at the museum, Art Museum Drive, through April 24. Hours: Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 410-396-7100.

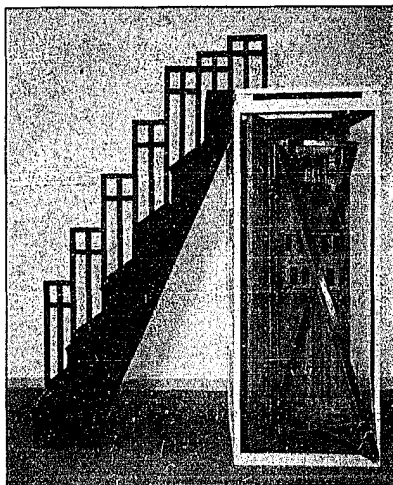
### 'Mind-Bending Sculpture'

Siah Armajani, known for his sculptural architecture, will talk about his works Feb. 23 at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.

Armajani recently won a commission to design the flame cauldron for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. His work is "a mind-bender," says Sidney Lawrence,

spokesman for the Hirshhorn museum, where Armajani's works have appeared since 1981. He combines minimalist sculpture and solid carpentry. Many of his life-size structures including pavilions, bridges and reading rooms, "are meant to be used," says Lawrence. Stenciled quotes from historical figures such as Ralph Waldo Emerson and Thomas Jefferson often are incorporated onto the structures.

The lecture, "Public Sculpture in the Context of American Democracy," begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Marion and Gustave Ring Auditorium of the museum, Independence Avenue at Seventh Street SW. Free. 202-357-2700.



◆ Siah Armajani's "Dictionary for Building" appears at the Hirshhorn museum.