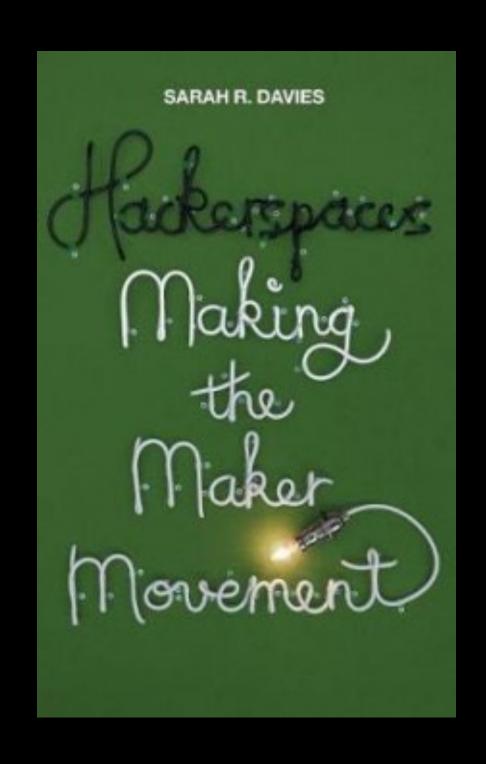
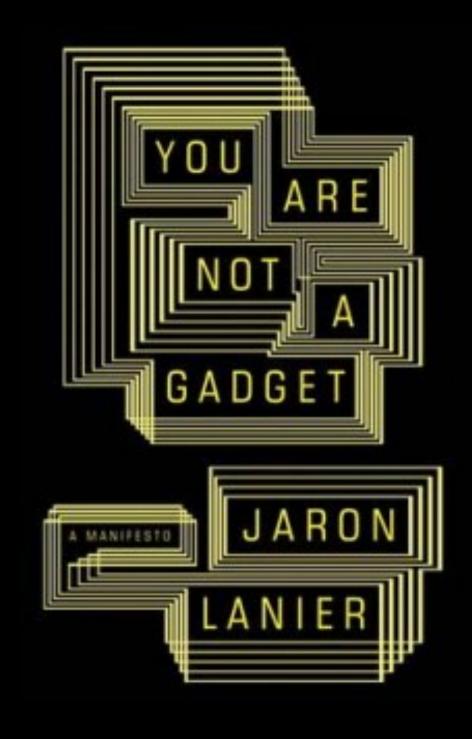
# The Zwicky Box

Karl Gerstner—Designing Programmes







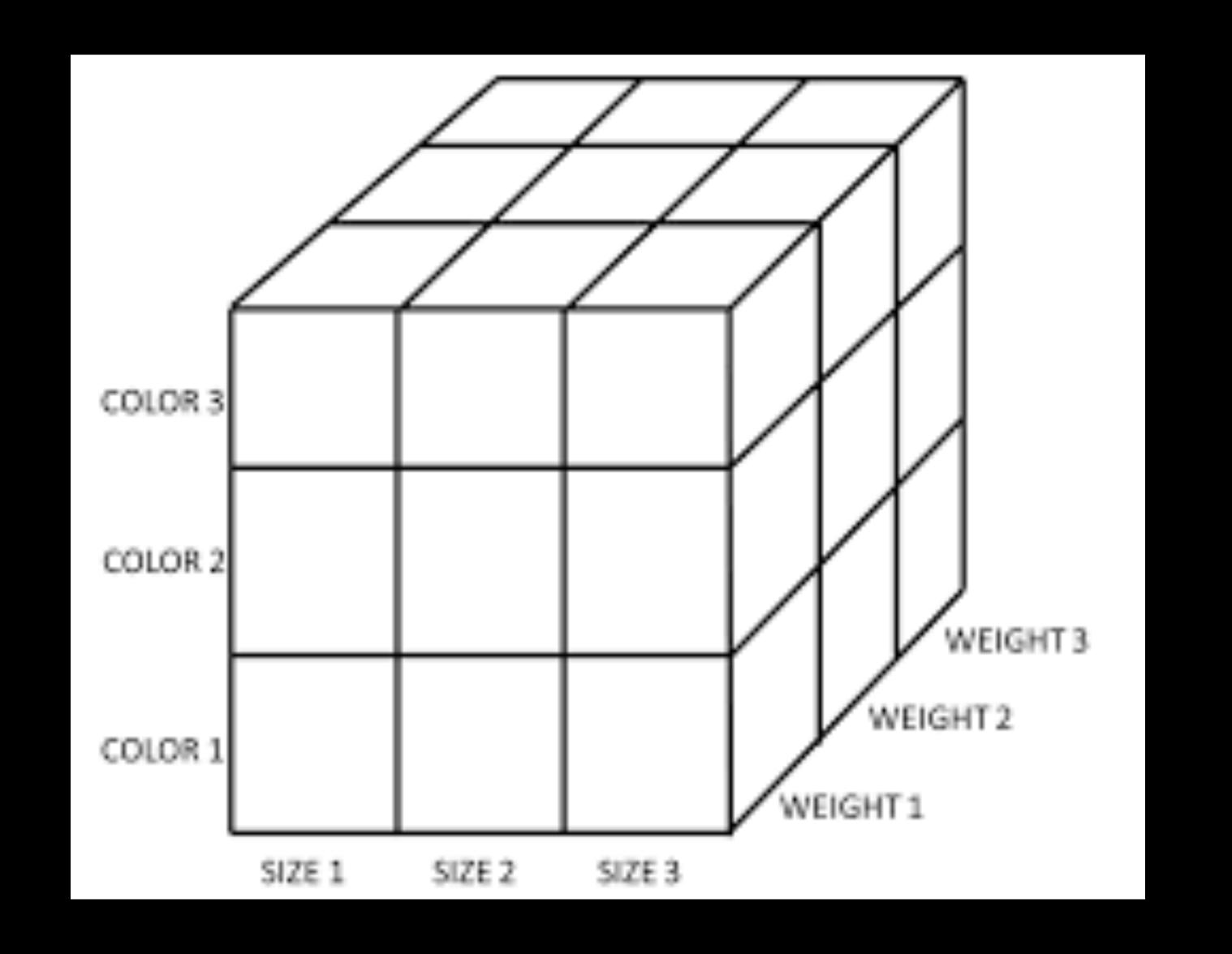


Programme as morphology Programme as logic Programme as grid Programme as photography Programme as literature

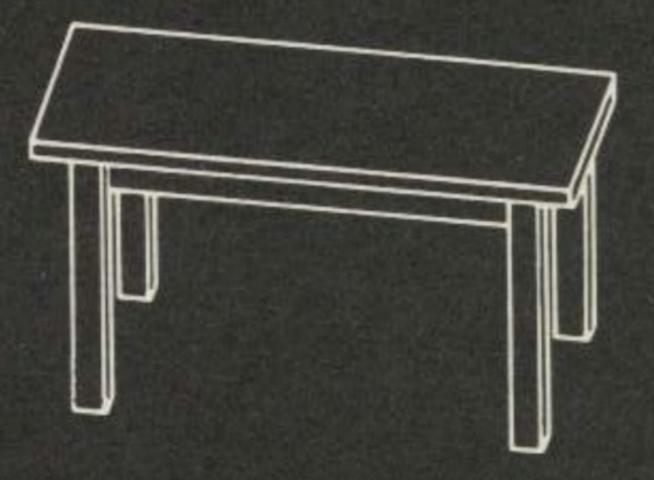
Programme as typeface Programme as typography Programme as picture Programme as method

Lars Müller Publishers





Looking at a table you may see the table like this:



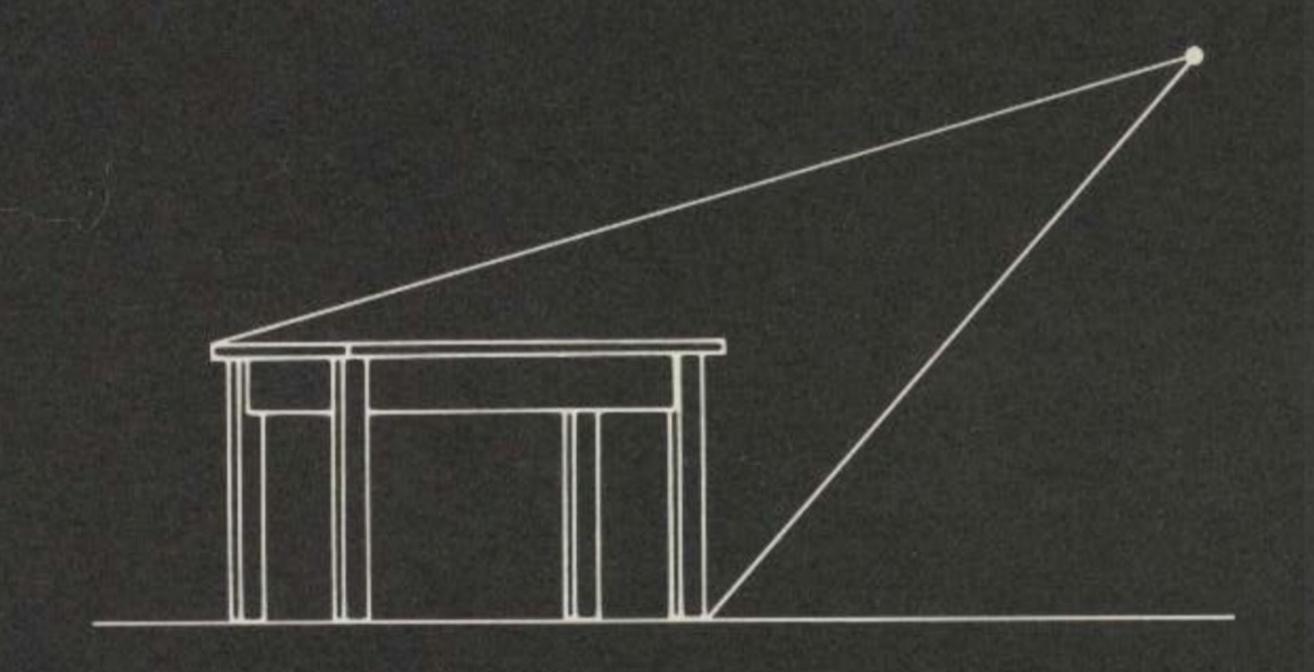
Walking around it, the table looks different with every step:



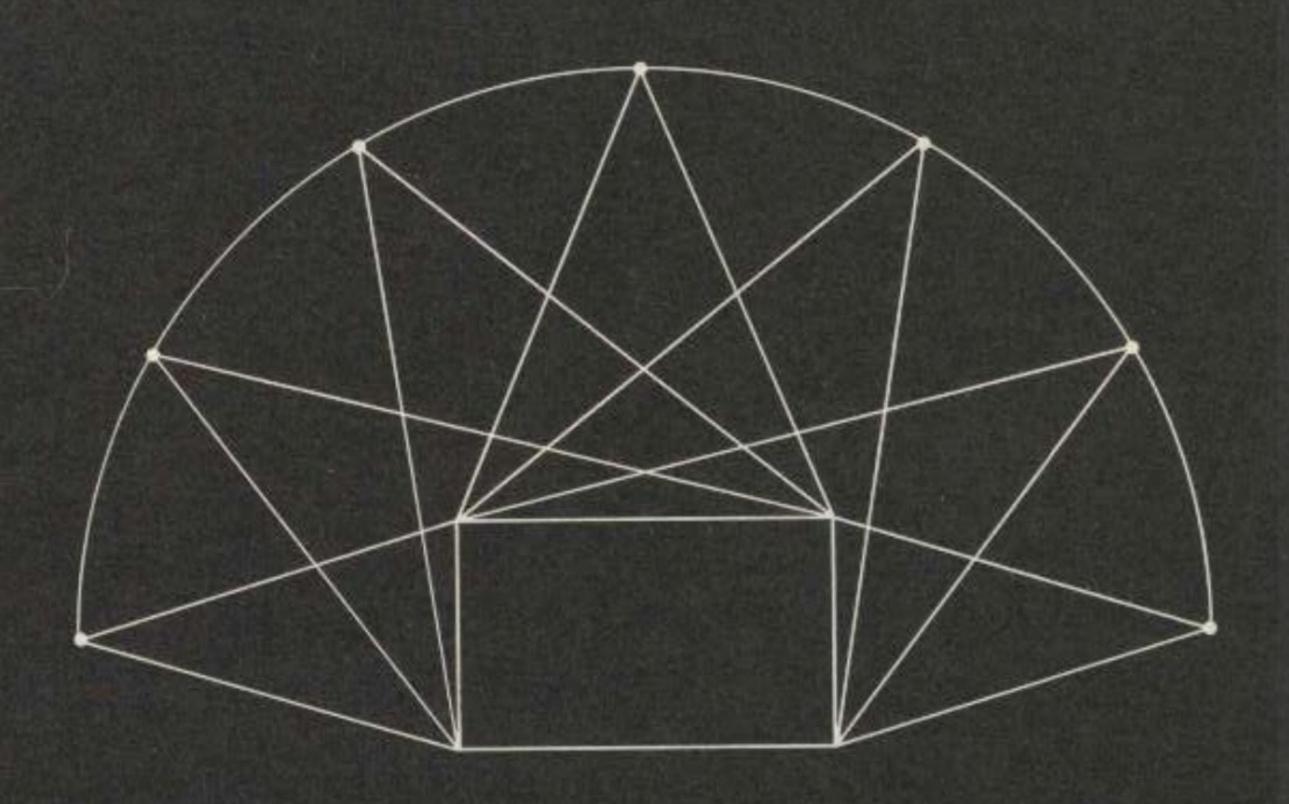
Though the table remains the same, it changes in relation to your point of view:



Looking at the table while you're walking around it may be defined as: exploring its aspects in the horizontal dimension from eye level,

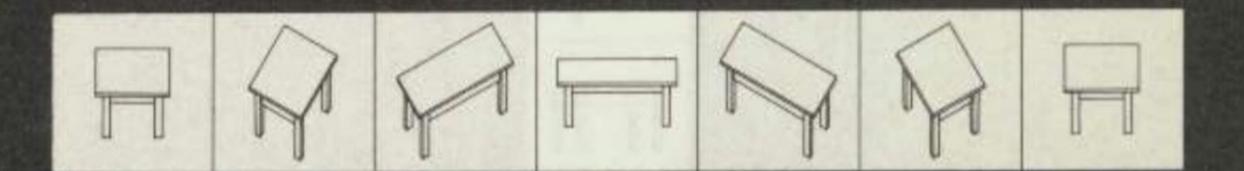


from front to back:



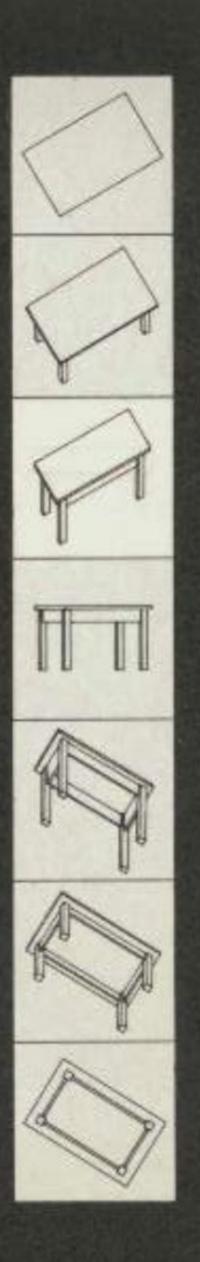
Now I design a program of this experience:

What was first a series of spontaneous and randomly fixed impressions has become a sequence of seven equal phases.

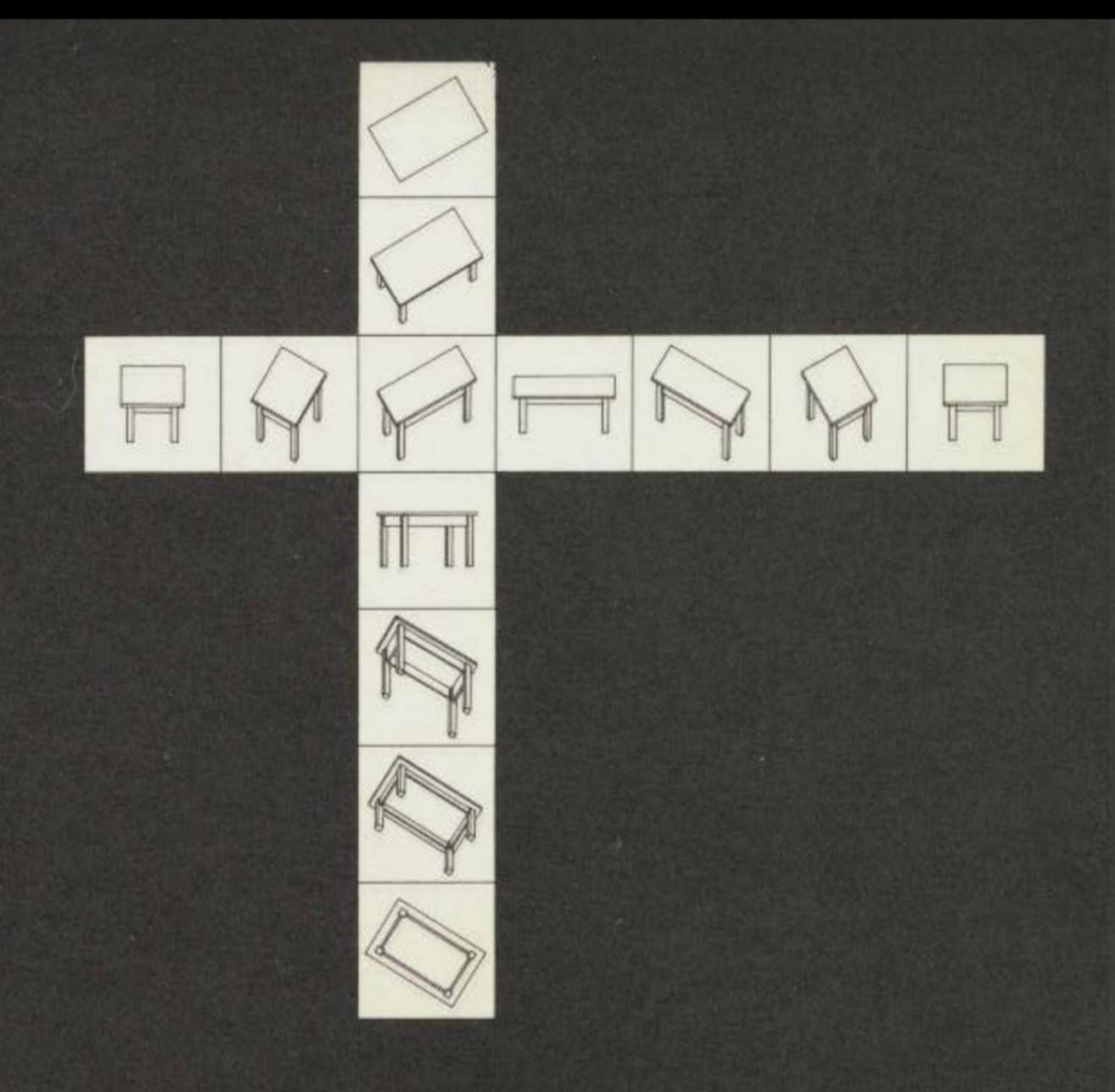


After I've designed the program from front to back I'll do the same from top to bottom.

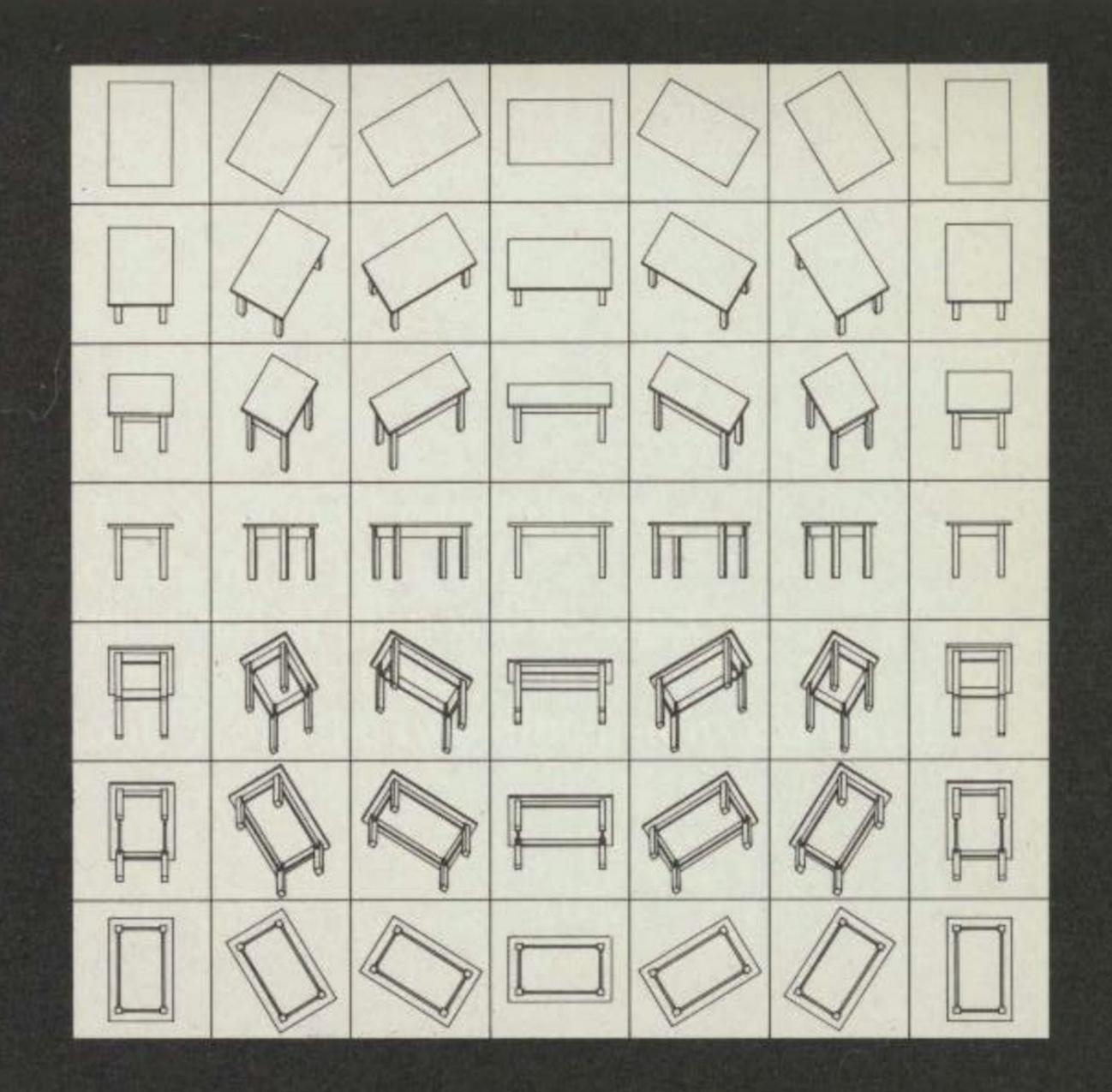
I design the program of the vertical dimension:



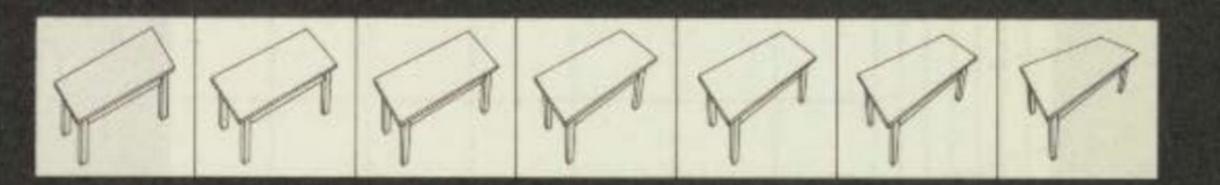
Because the two programs have a common link I can combine the sequences of the vertical and horizontal dimensions:



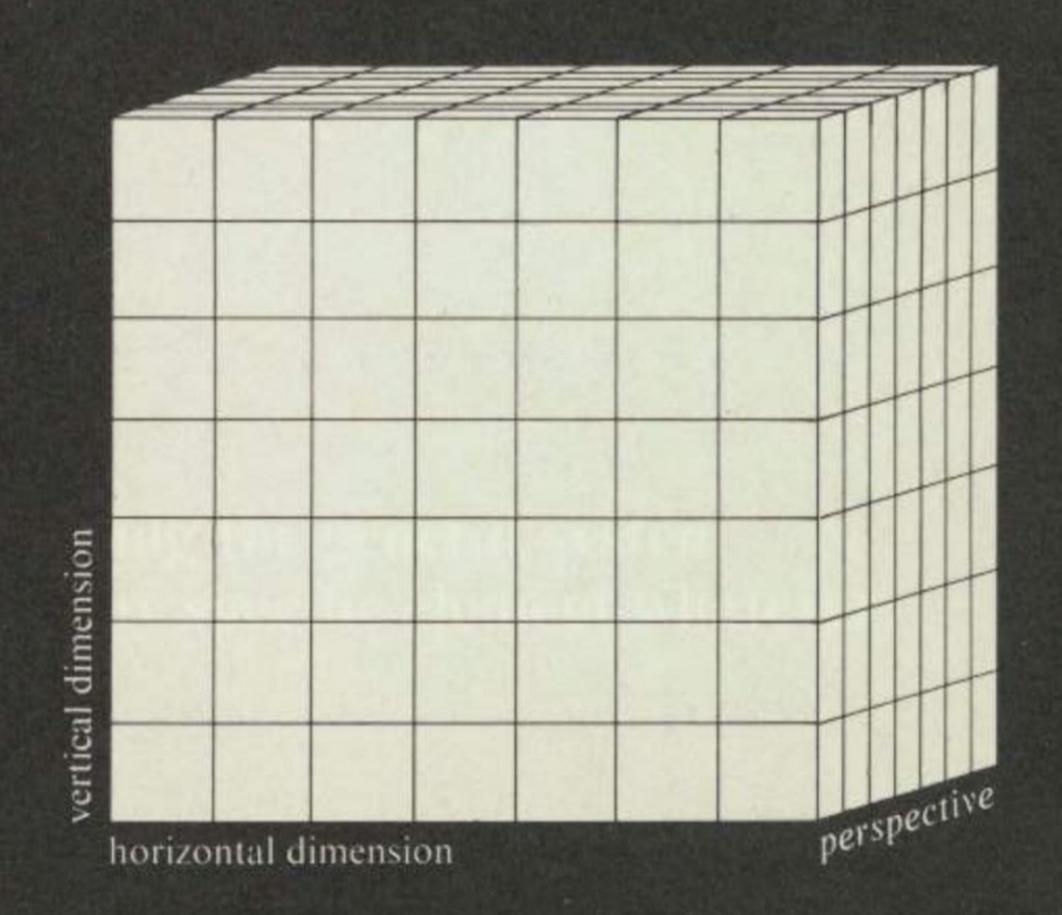
Completing
the two linear sequences
to a planar system of coordinates
I automatically obtain
a multiplying effect:



As the third dimension to be programed: perspective.



The three dimensions explored produce a spatial coordinating system – which is to be completed until every possible aspect is covered.



Taking any element whatever. Two letters for instance.

(But don't take them as signs for the message they convey. Take them simply as the shape they present.)

The goal is: exploring systematically the possible dimensions of the shape. And finally: the universe of the shape of all letters.

The 1st dimension may be proportion:



The 2nd dimension may be strength:

dp dp dp dp

The 3rd dimension may be stance



State of the State				WALTER TO SERVICE
0.	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
type	serifs	sans serifs	fantasy	combined
1.	1.1	narrow	1.3	1.4
proportion	normal		broad	combined
2.	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
strength	normal	lean	fat	combined
3. stance	3.1 upright	3.2 slanting left	3.3 slanting right	3.4 combined
4. Integrity	4.1 integer	4.2 something omitted	4.3 something added	4.4 combined
5.	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4
gestalt	unchanged	disturbed	destroyed	combined
6.	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4
color	chromatic	achromatic	mixed	combined
7.	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.4
shade	light	medium	dark	combined

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0.	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
type	serifs	sans serifs	fantasy	combined
1.	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4
proportion	normal	narrow	broad	combined
2.	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
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4. integrity	4.1 integer	4.2 something omitted	4.3 something added	4.4 combined
5.	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4
gestalt	unchanged	disturbed	destroyed	combined
6.	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4
color	chromatic	achromatic	mixed	combined
7.	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.4
shade	light	medium	dark	combined

The morphological box functions also as a means of synthesis.

That is to say:
it works as a design algorithm
which produces automatic results.
To prove this I make
a blind choice of one component
from each parameter:

0.	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
type	serifs	sans serifs	fantasy	combined
1.	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4
proportion	normal	narrow	broad	combined
2.	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
strength	normal	lean	fat	combined
3. stance	3.1 upright	3.2 slanting left	3.3 slanting right	3.4 combined
4. integrity	4.1 integer	4.2 something omitted	4.3 something added	4.4 combined
5.	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4
gestalt	unchanged	disturbed	destroyed	combined
color	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4
	chromatic	achromatic	mixed	combined
7.	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.4
shade	light	medium	dark	combined



The problem was:

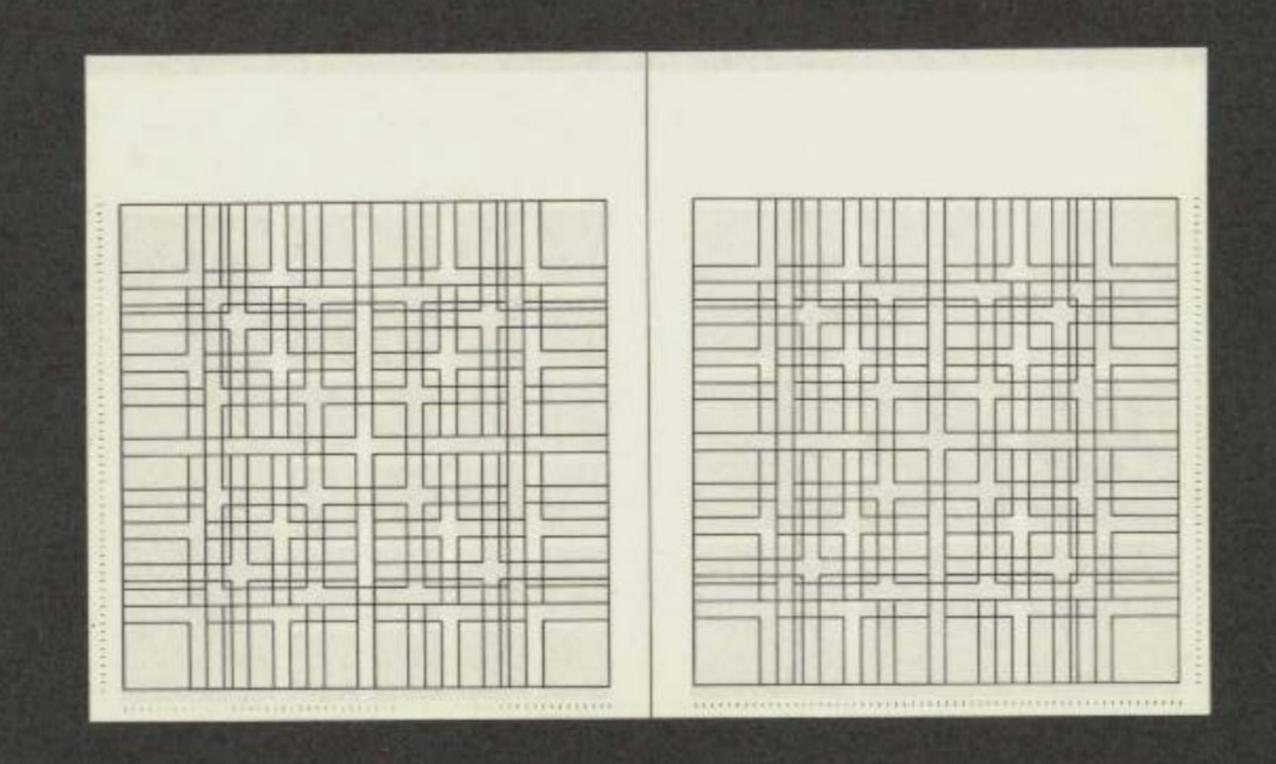
to develop a typographic grid for layouting a monthly magazine.

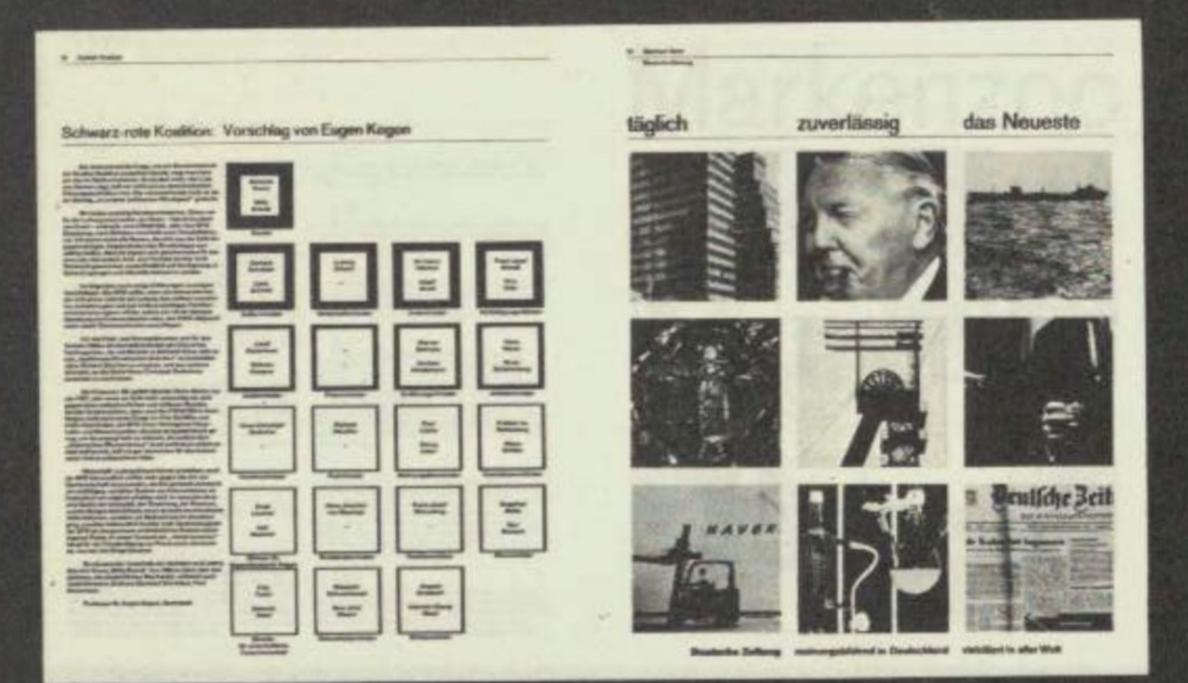
The condition was:

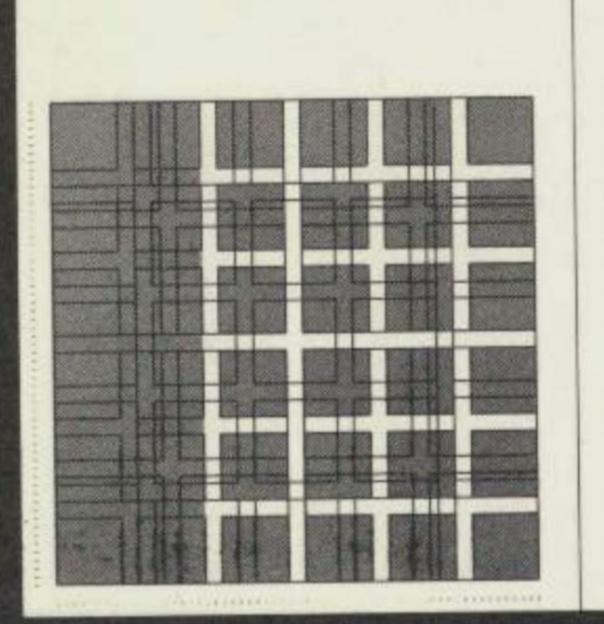
an optimal balance
of constancy:
to establish the visual image
– and adaptability:
to present all possible contributions
in a way appropriate to their contents.

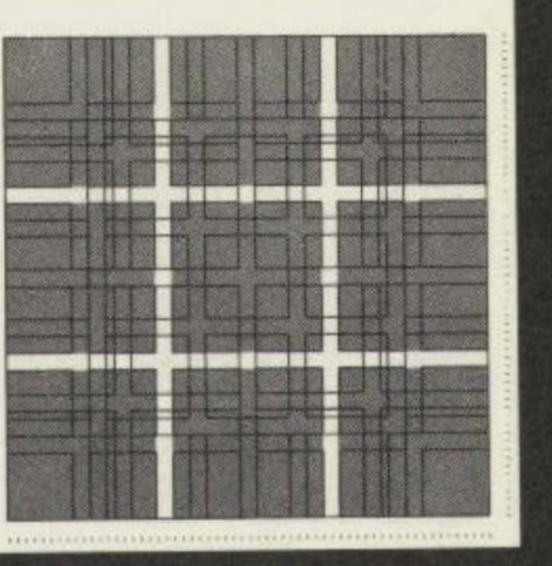
The solution was:

a program containing all possible numbers of columns on a typographic measure standard:









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# Markenzoo















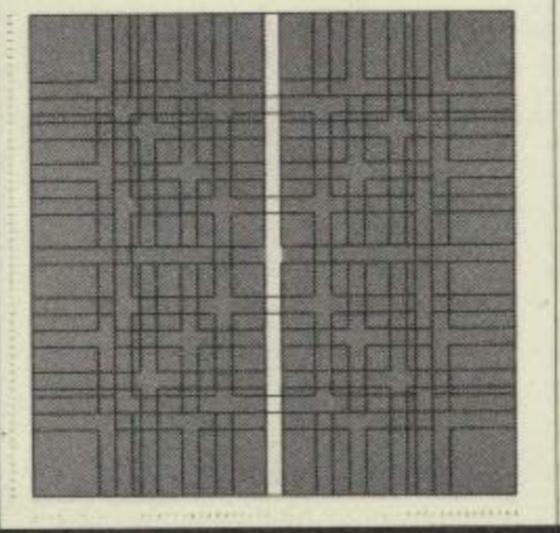


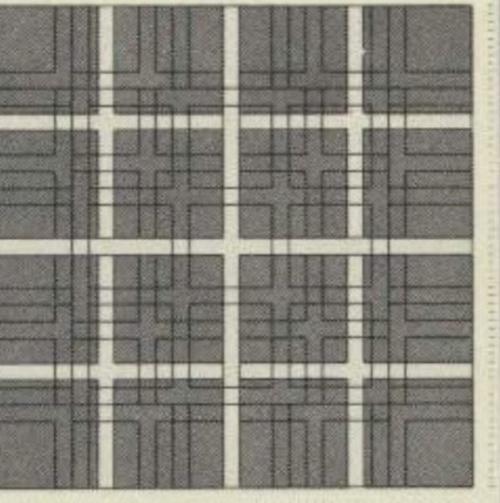


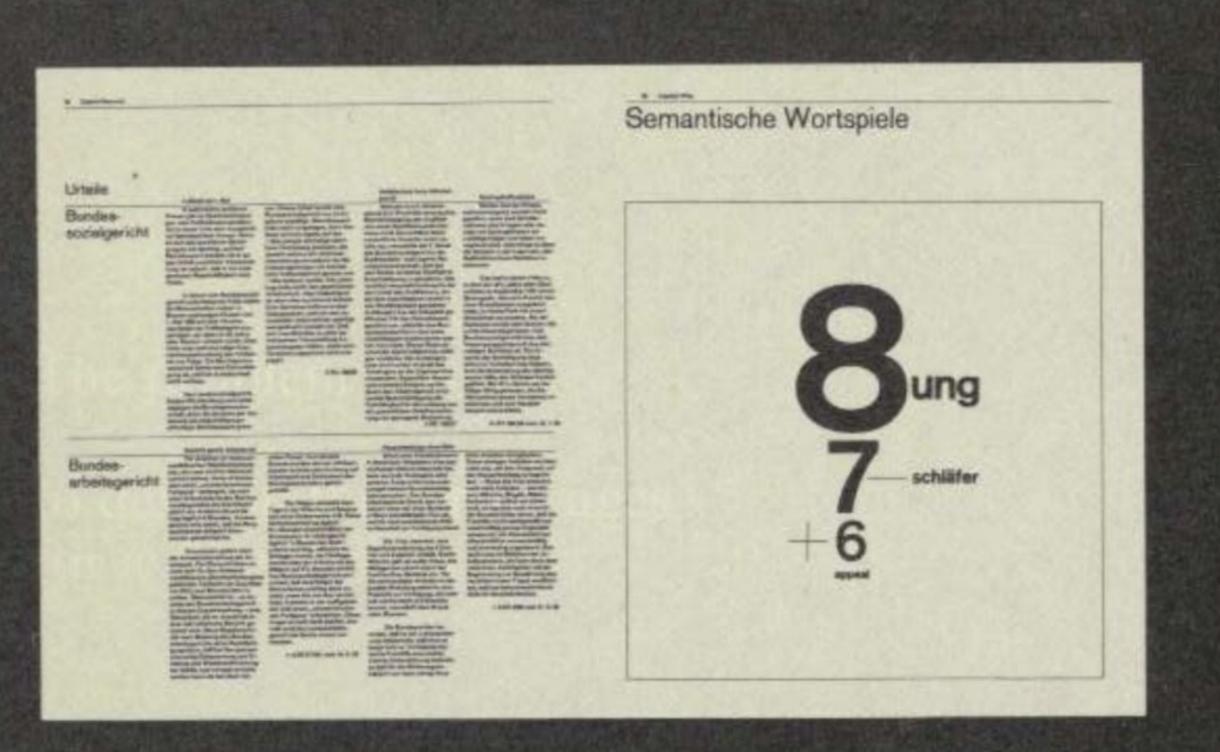


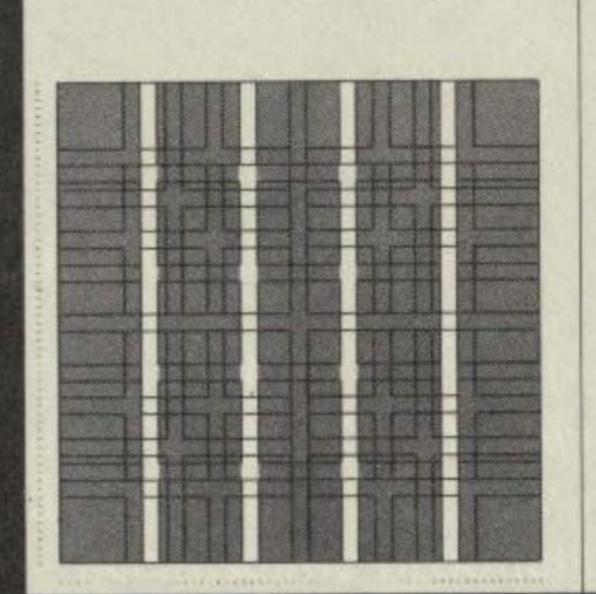


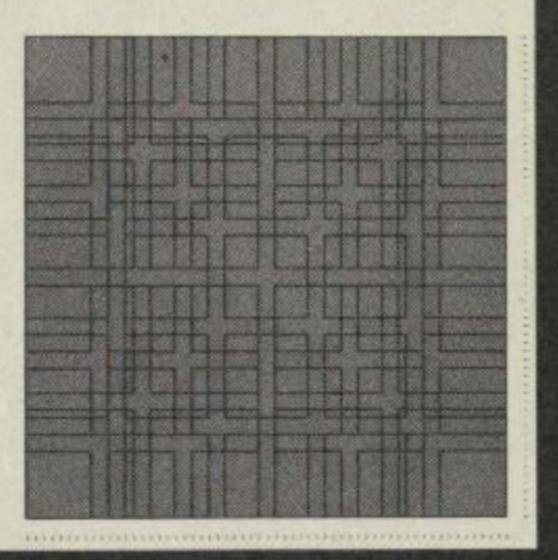












The problem was:

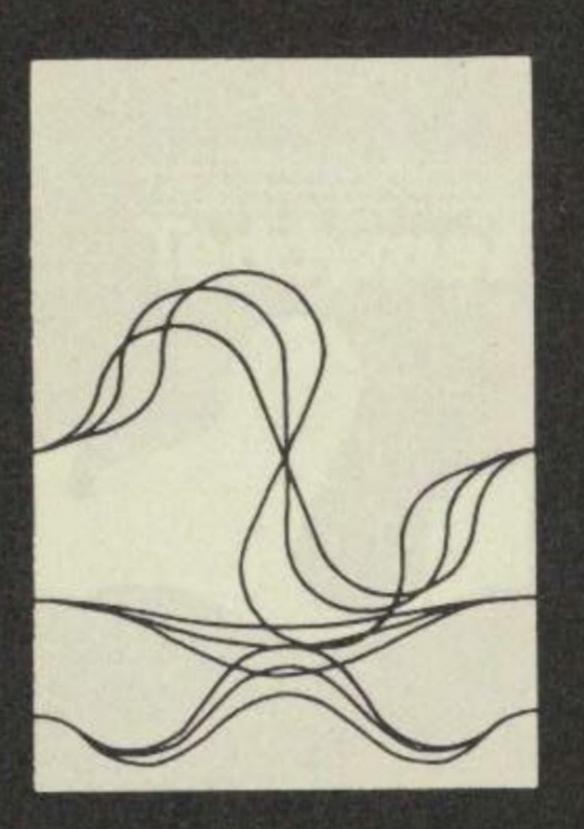
to develop three packages for a detergent family.

The condition was:

the members should be individual, each a brand in its own right, and yet have a family resemblance – because the products supplement each other.

The solution was:

a program containing a structure of different "waves".



Roby 75

Teddy 75

Teddymat

The program produces an additional – and cumulative effect: if several packages are standing side by side they form a new unity.

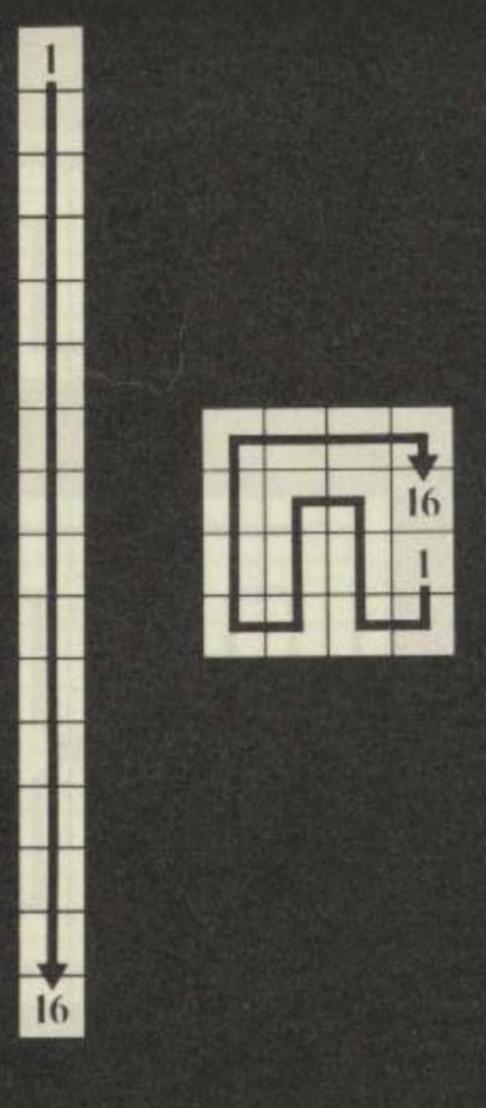


The picture I called "carro 64" was the invention of the problem:

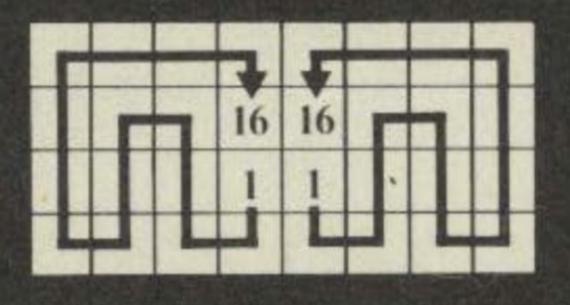
programing color.

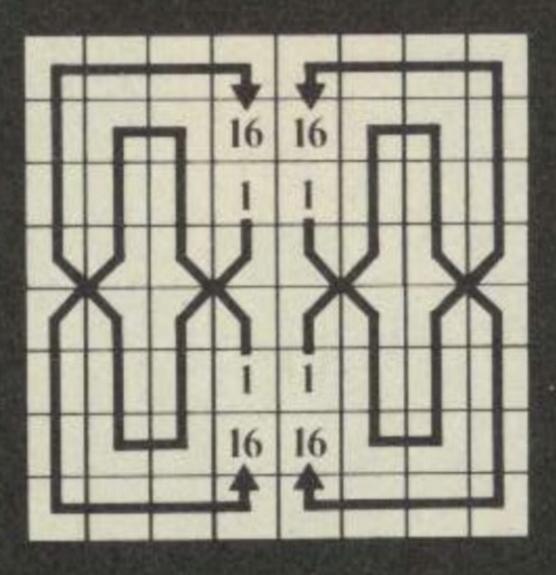
The goal was:

instead of a definitely fixed picture a program of elements and rules, how the elements can be combined – in as many different ways as the perceiver wishes. "carro 64" consists of a sequence of 16 color hues, which is arranged first however in a 4 by 4 square:

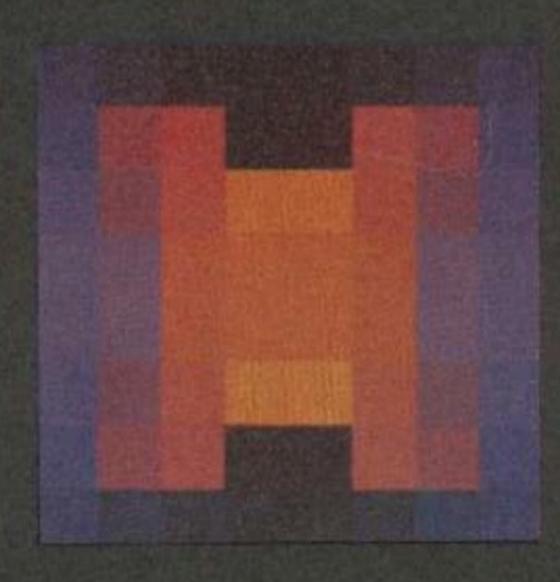


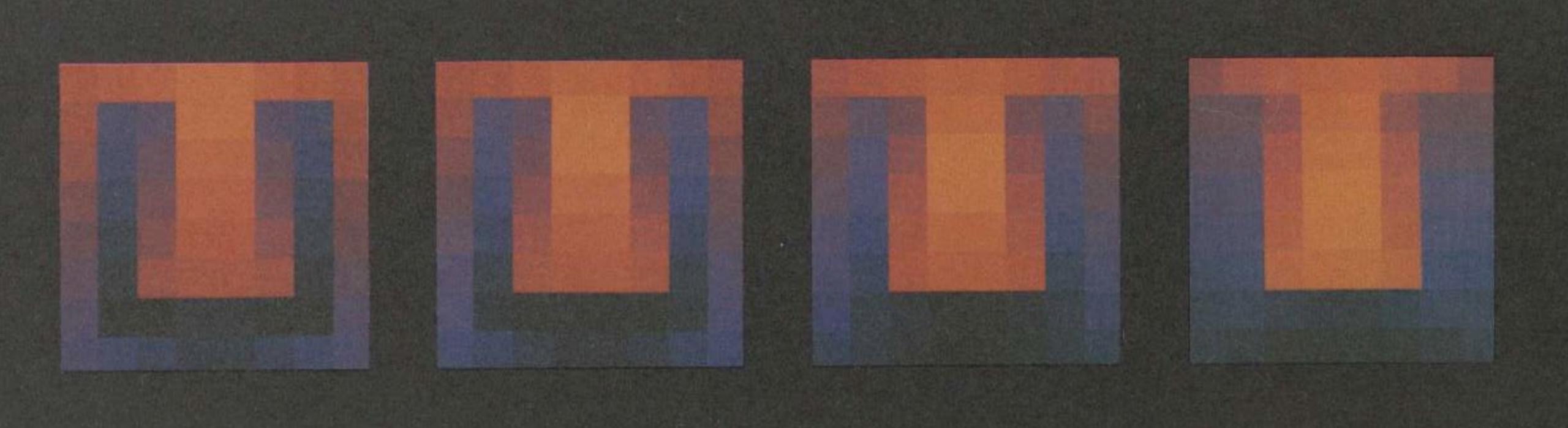
Second mirrored once, and third mirrored twice:

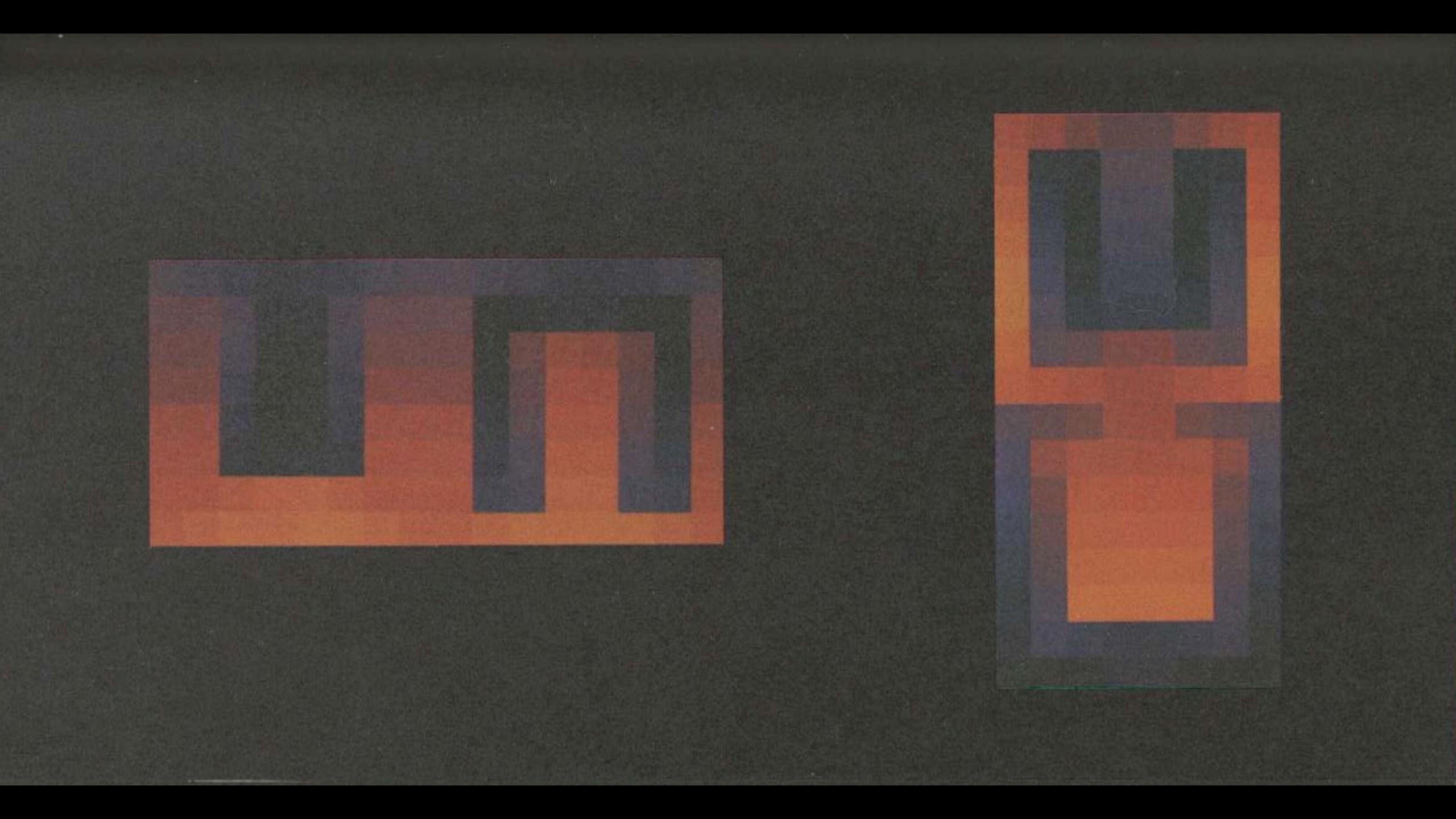




This program produces this result: And an infinite number of others.







The picture I called "algoRhythm" was the invention of the problem:

programing form.

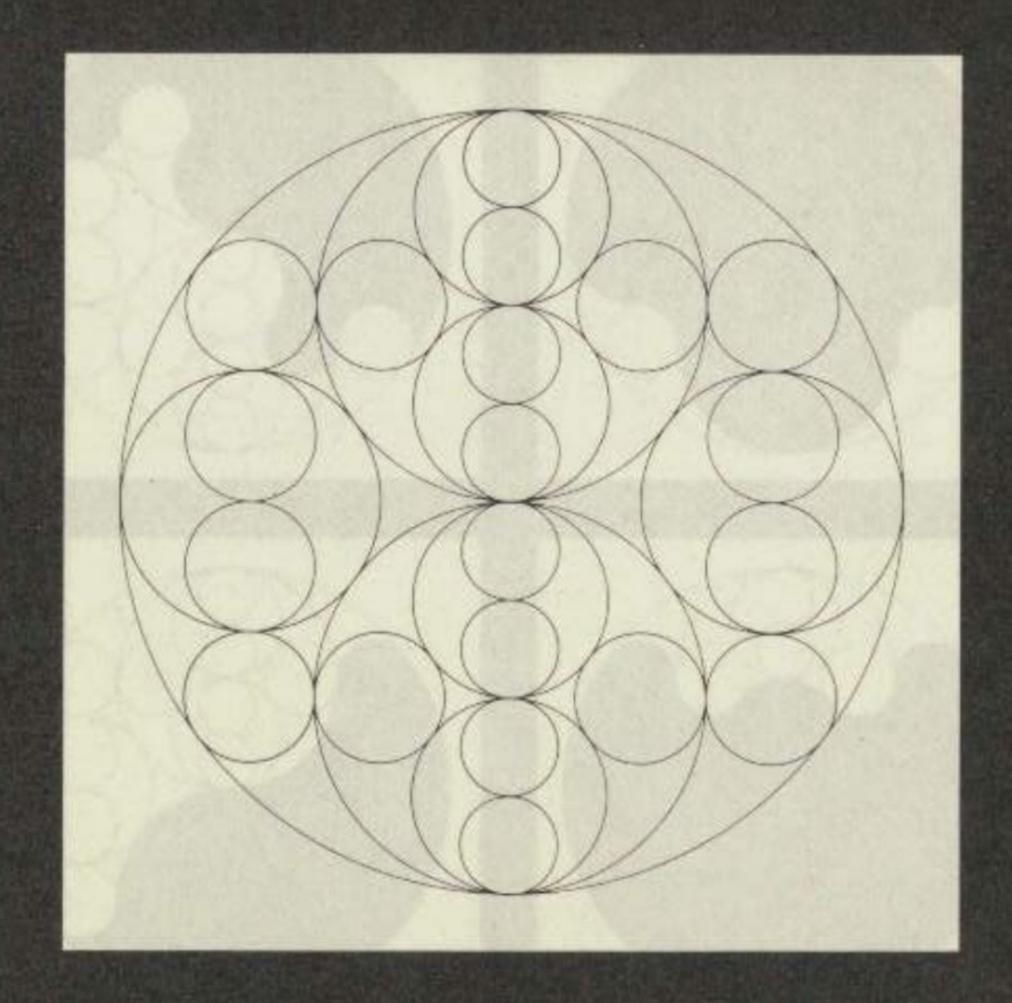
The goal was the same as with "carro 64"

– with forms instead of colors.

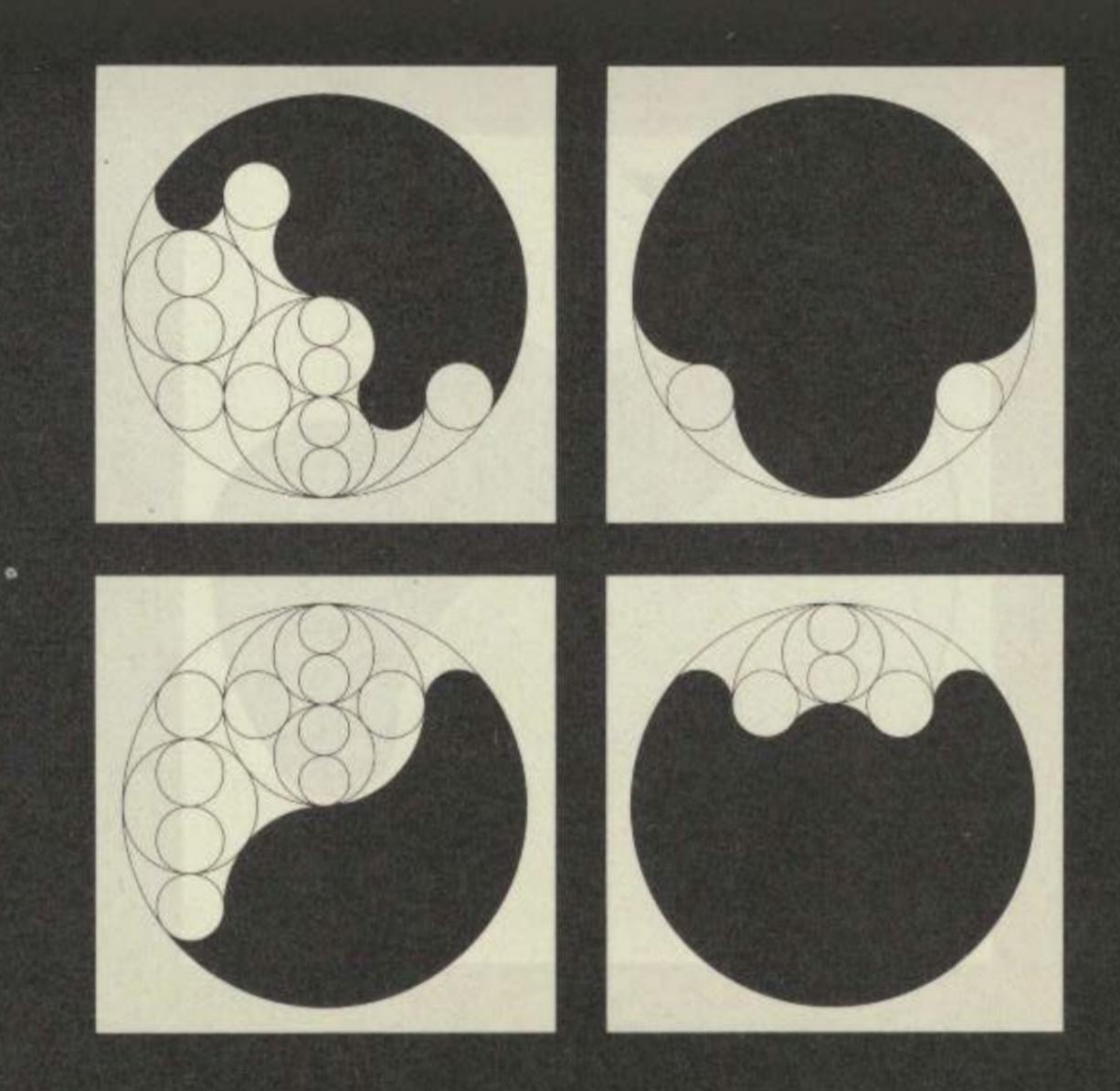
Maybe I should add:
the constellations to be arranged should not be variations of an original theme.

Every single one should be as original as every other.

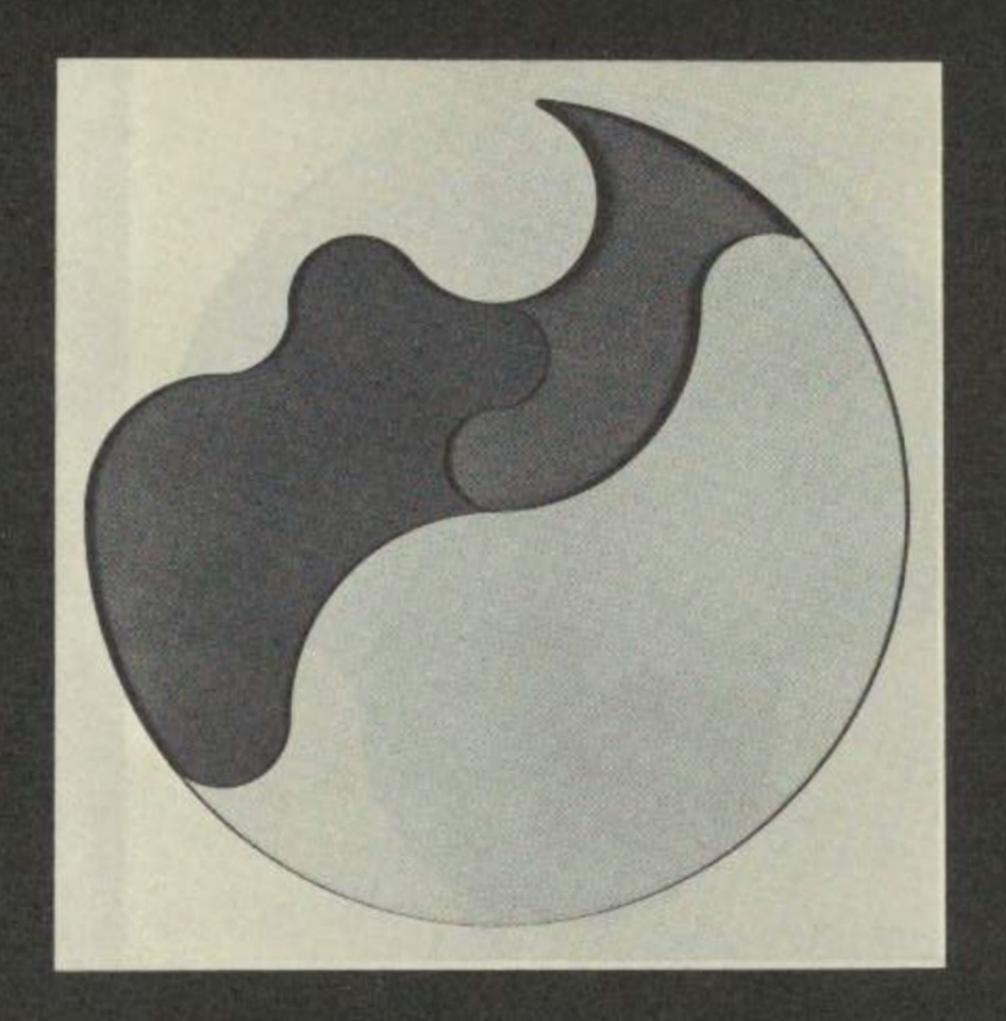
Designing the program led to this structure of interlacing tangential circles:

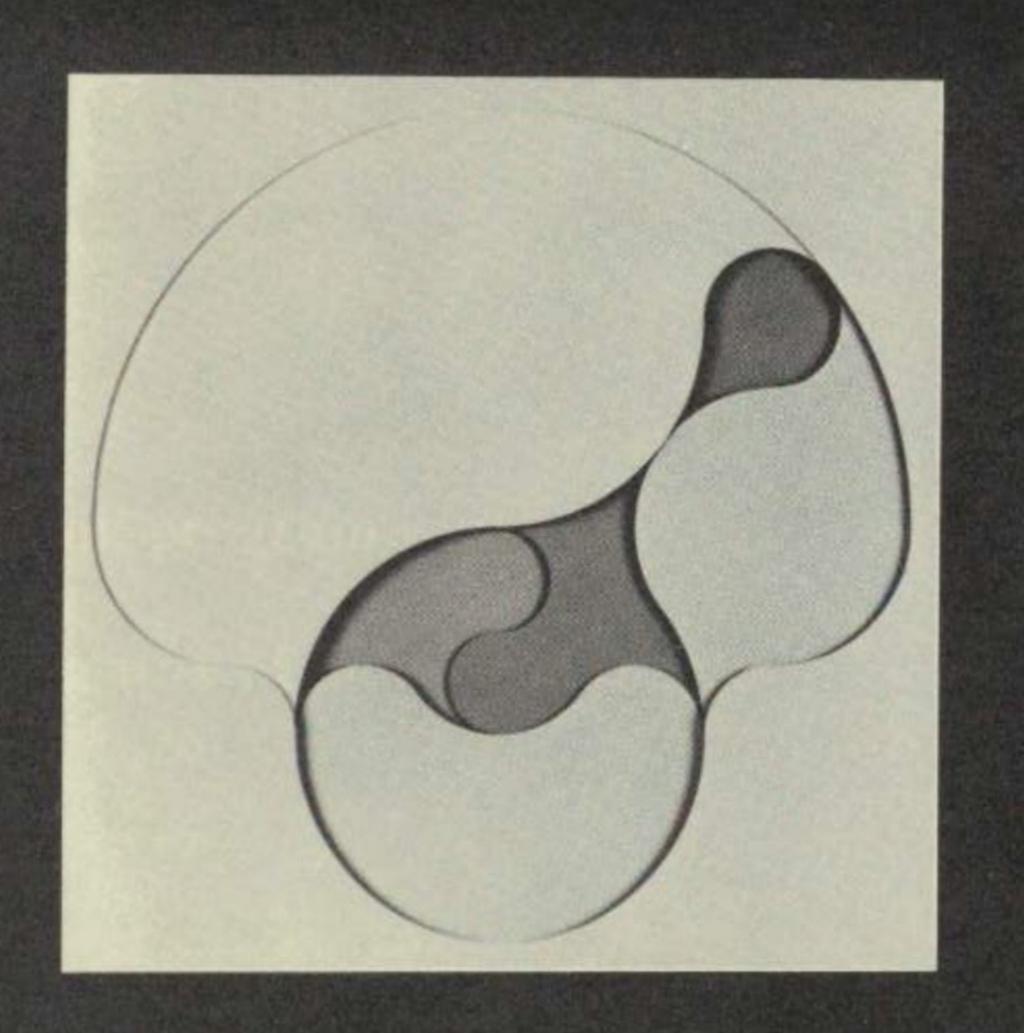


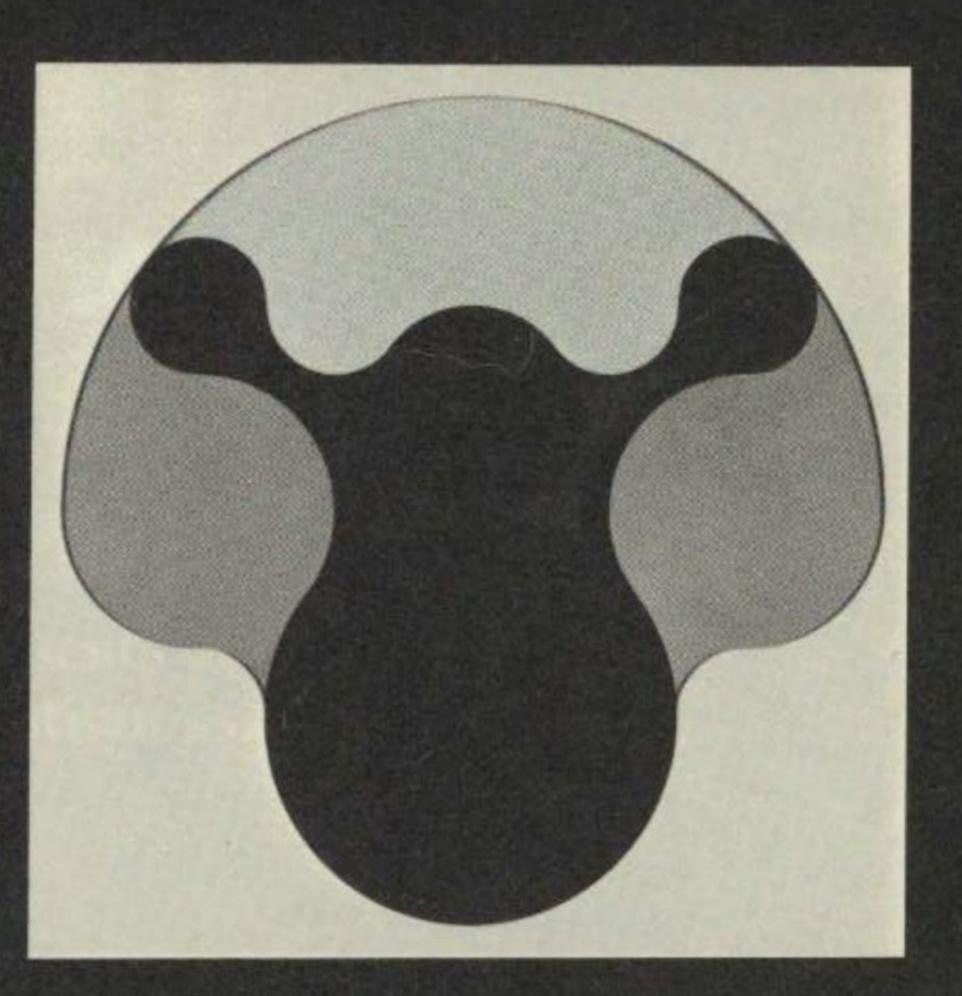
Programing the designs led to these different shapes:



These shapes can be combined to form coherent constellations:







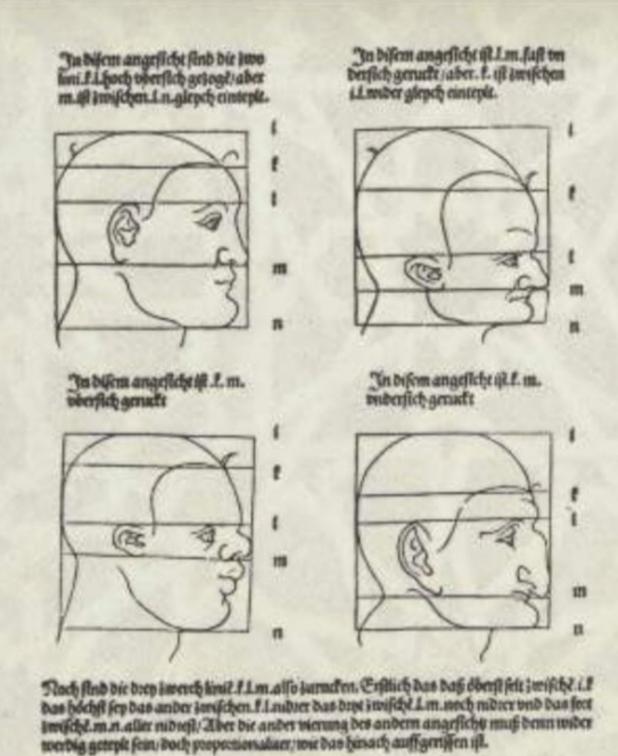
think program is

6. a way of understanding:

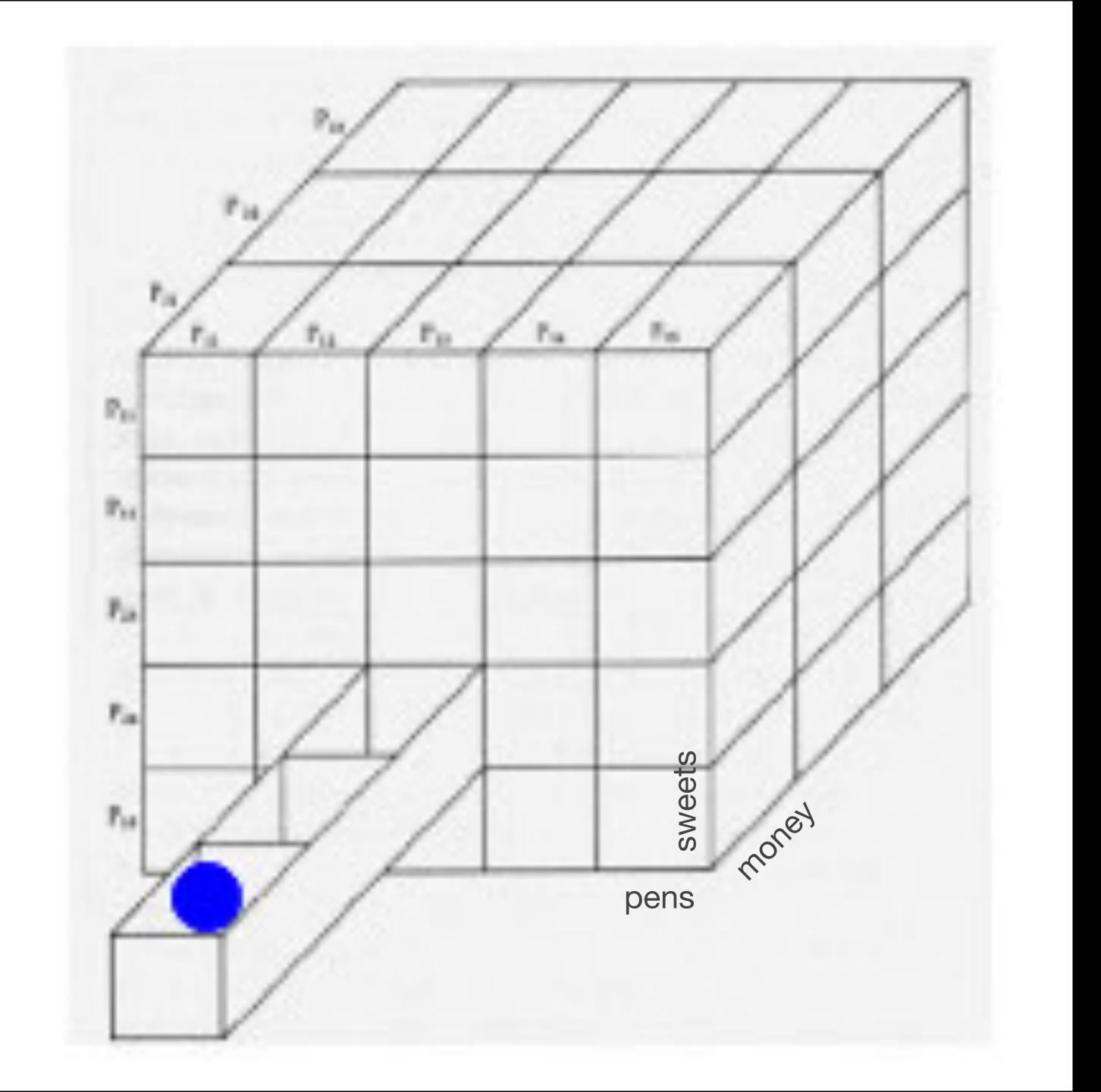
all elements of the visual are continuous.

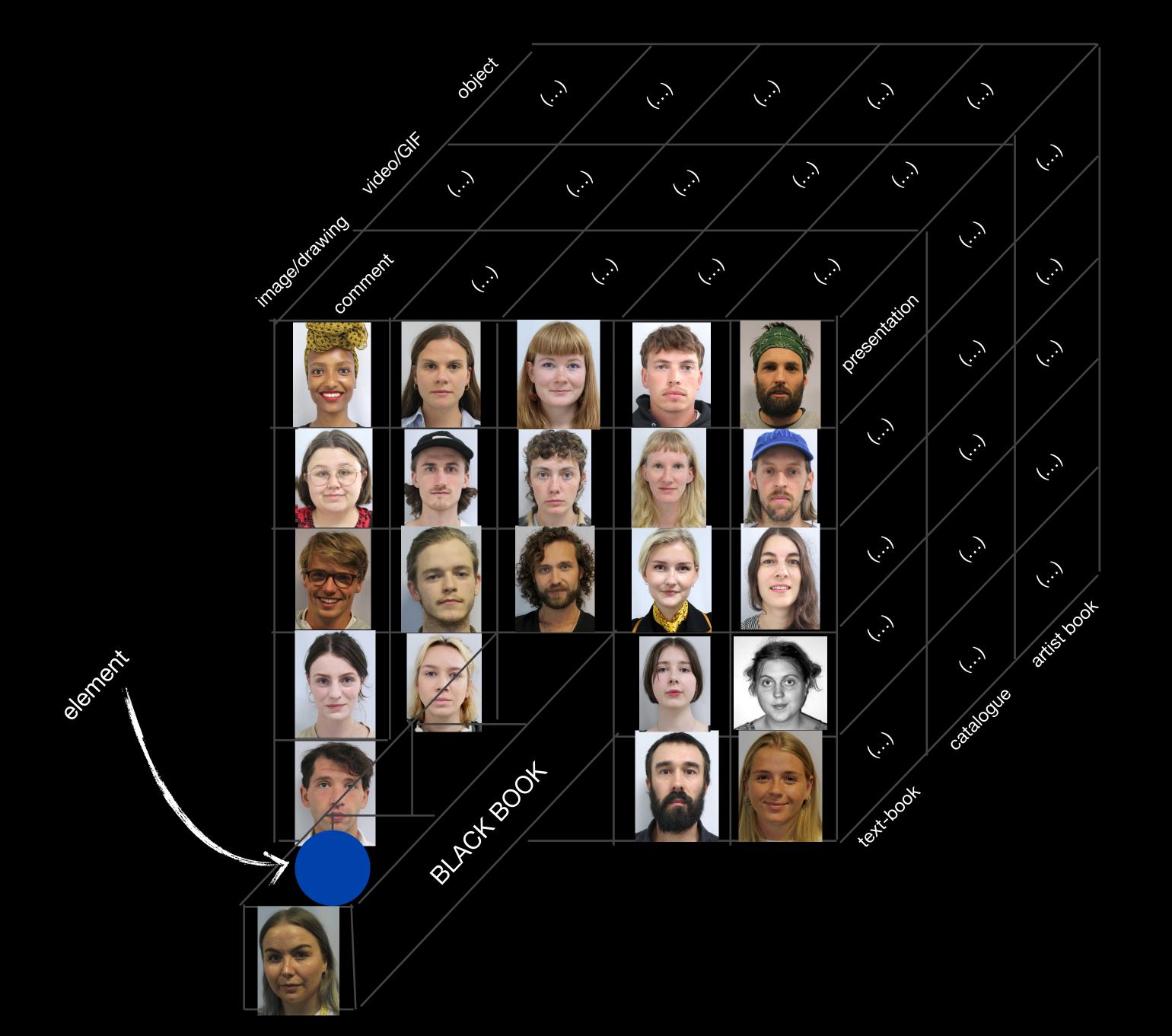
Another example:
Albrecht Dürer

"painter and mathematician"
has designed a program
of all possible human proportions:







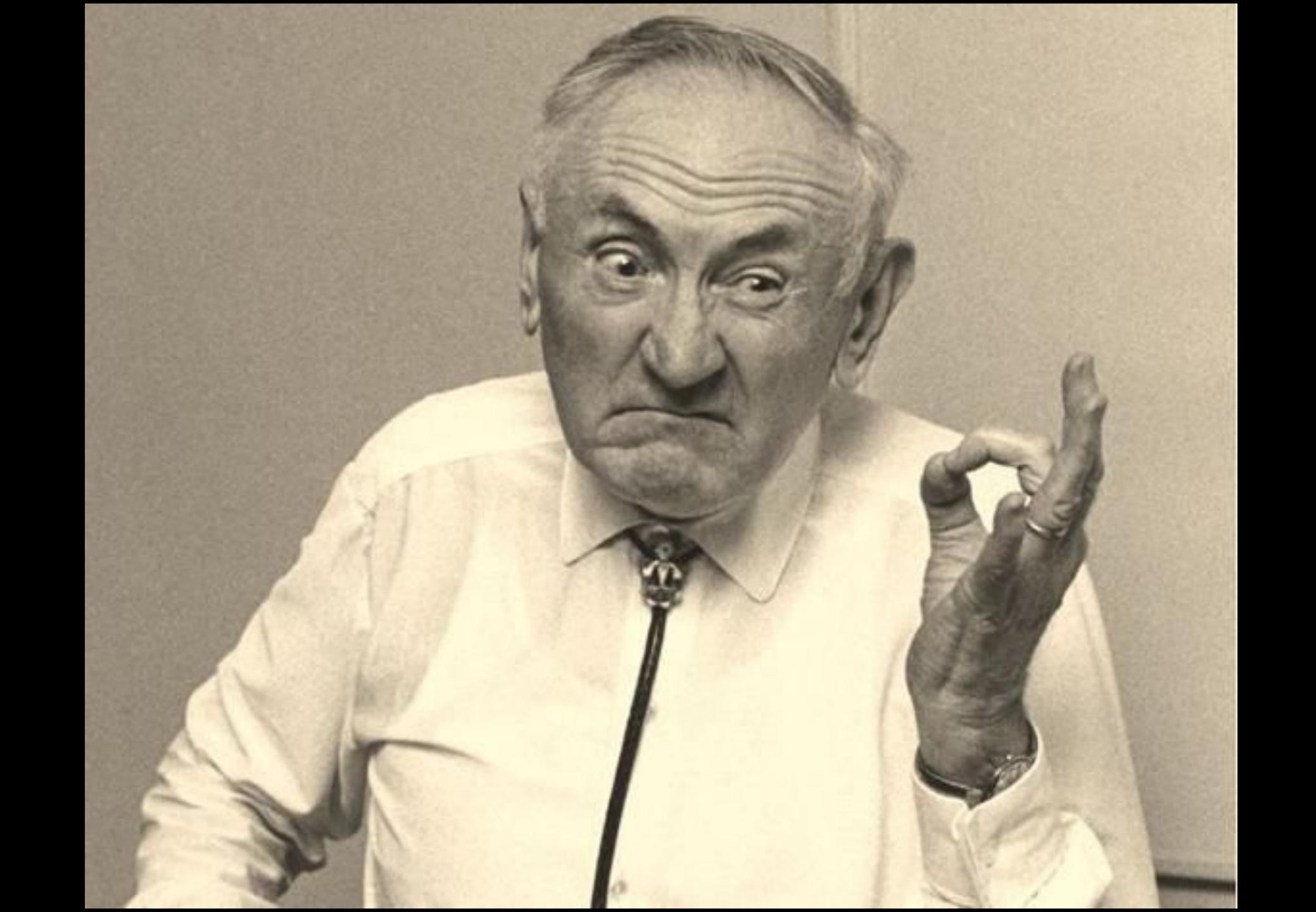




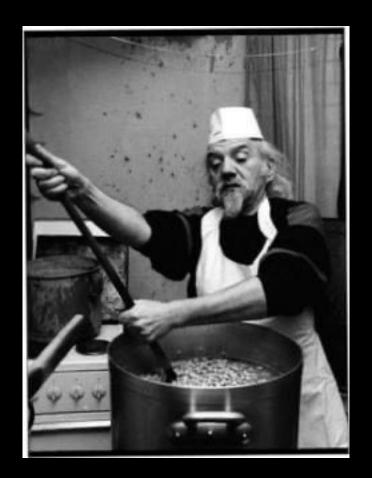








## Cicko—the Cook



FIN