

FOR MÓNICA ALONSO

ILYA KABAKOV, 2002

I would like to congratulate the artist Monica Alonso, for it does not fall to each artist to make such a first-rate discovery as she has done. Having examined her works carefully, I saw the main idea that she elaborates in many different variations. She builds three-dimensional models of rooms, small in size, very spacious in space, that articulate her precise and ascetic constructive resolution in each instance. In principle, however, such models simply indicate her clear and professional thinking. The artist's discovery lies in where she arranges these models. She finds places for them inside of spatially abstract structures that are many times larger than the models themselves. Hence, these tiny rooms turn out to be submerged into a net of something enormous but empty, harsh and senseless. On the psychological level, this can be read as a vivid metaphor: the intimate, human world is scattered and lost on the many floors of the surrounding cold, impersonal world. A great, capacious artistic result is achieved via the very simplest of devices: "space within space", moreover, by using precise, optically accurate proportions. But good discoveries are just as simple as they are rare. It remains only to be happy for the artist's success, and of course, to envy her.