

Weekend

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ART REVIEW

Sculpture Under the Sky: Free, Daring and Soon Departed

By HOLLAND COTTER

Metrotech Center

Ursula von Rydingsvard's three sculptures at two different locations within the sprawling Metrotech Center in Downtown Brooklyn are also monumental, but their spirit is gravely poetic.

Like most of Ms. von Rydingsvard's work, they are made of fragrant cedar beams laminated and then chiseled, sawn and gouged. One piece looks like a massive wall pocked with hacked-out indentations, another like the remains of an ancient ship. A third consists of 16 separate logs lying side by side on the ground. Carved with spiral patterns, they suggest outsized ritual instruments whose precise purpose is obscure. Expressionistic, romantic, redolent of myth, Ms. von Rydingsvard's works are like little oases of Teutonic reserve amid the bustling commercial activity at Metrotech.