



**Art:** *Ten Vertical Constructions*

**Site:** Interior landscape

**Place:** Dia: Beacon

**Location:** Beacon, NY

**Artist:** Fred Sandback

The fact that you can walk through this series of gallery spaces and possibly miss the installation does not take away from its power. Eyes open, art is all around. One can't get much more minimal than using string as a medium, but this artist creates space out of thin air and thin string. And it is magical. Much art is about line, and here you have it: 3-dimensional line – if line does have dimension – drawn in space rather than on paper or canvas. There isn't a lot of string, either, but what is there is "cherce," as is said. Being more of a form and mass aficionado, I was surprised and deeply affected by the simplicity, rectangularity, ethereality, suggestiveness and spatial delineation accomplished by a singular, nearly invisible material. There is the interplay of the interior space and the bulkier architectural lines all around, the configuration of the walls and floors as geometrical solids and how the string's transparent geometry uses that contrast to relate. And then there is the light that enters from windows and between partitions from surrounding galleries that changes the string at various times of the day – sometimes making it more vivid, other times making it

fade away, like a spider's web from different vantage points. It is rare that a thing which is so ordinary, inconsequential or tenuous can make this kind of impact. Although it defines rigidly structured form, it has a fragility and grace that defies it and dances through and enlivens the place it occupies.



diacenter.org, Nic Tenwiggenhorn

**Impact:**

- Containment
- Scale
- Primal/spiritual
- Line
- Experiential
- Geometric rendering of interior landscape

**Art-to-Site Rating:** High

**View Date:** July 2007

