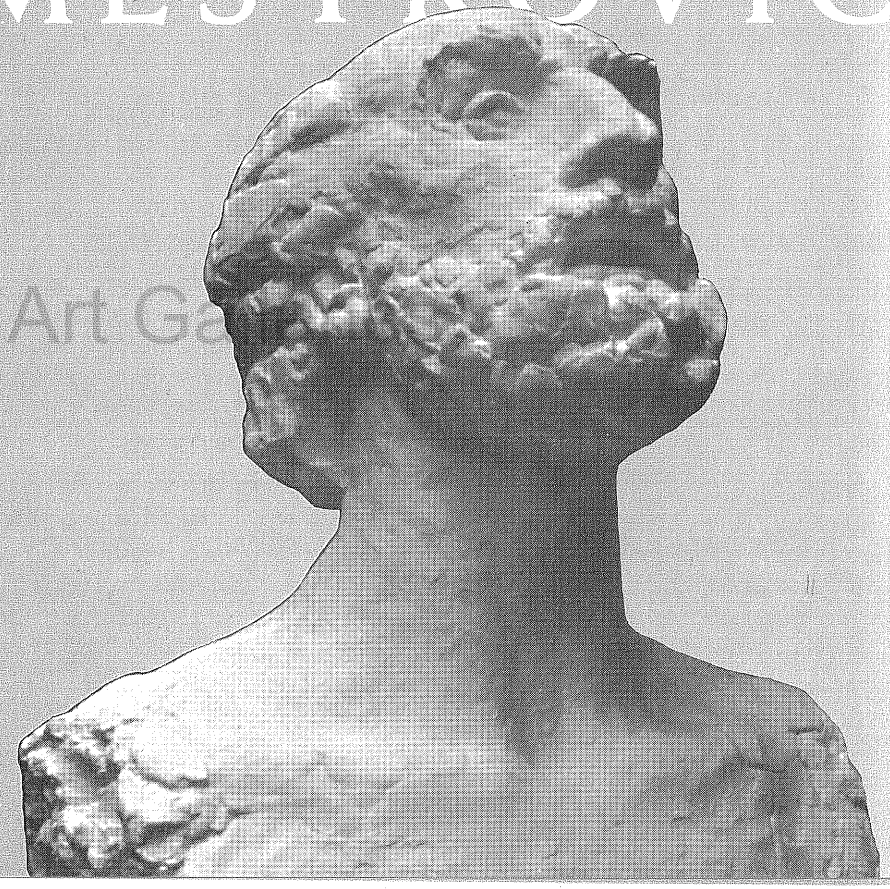
Syracuse University Art Ga

MESTROVIC



IVAN MESTROVIC 1958

50 years ago Rodin had characterized the young Ivan Mestrovic as "the greatest phenomenon among the sculptors"* of his day World catastrophies in the form of wars, depression, and spiritual revolution have wrought changes so drastic that communication between one generation and another seems possible only in the historical sense. Even artists—those prophets of timeless values—are prone to speak of "we and the future" as opposed to "they and the past."

But today Mestrovic is still a phenomenon, and the flow of consistency in his career is its strongest characteristic. The work of the past ten years as represented in this exhibition reveals a dimension and mission frequently sought for but seldom achieved with such power and personal directness.

This year he will celebrate his 75th birthday. To the world-wide respect he already enjoys, new honors in the form of commissions and awards are constantly being added. They stress the integrity of materials, heroic form and profound spiritual insight which characterize his artistic production. But more important, they express the deep respect of intellectual leaders throughout the world for the unrelenting struggle he has maintained for individual freedom and the dignity of man. Rooted in the artist's patriotic devotion to the people of his native Yugoslavia, this struggle has produced an endless array of monuments to great men and the great ideas by which they live. It is no accident, perhaps, that in the past four years Mestrovic has sent more than a dozen major works of art to permanent collections in Yugoslavia as gifts by the artist to the Croatian people. Those monuments serve to embody and actively nourish the latent spirit of freedom which glows behind grim curtains of silence.

LAURENCE SCHMECKEBIER
Director, School of Art

*from The Syracuse University Press book *The Sculpture of Ivan Mestrovic*

Syracuse University Art Galleries

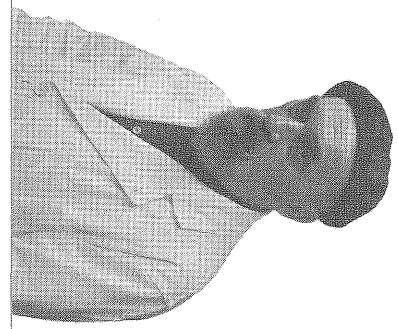
THE SCHOOL OF ART
College of Fine Arts
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

Cordially invites you to the opening reception to honor

IVAN MESTROVIC, *Recent Sculpture*
MERLIN POLLOCK, *Painting*
A HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY, *designed by Gerta Peterich and loaned through the courtesy of Eastman House, Rochester, N. Y.*

Sunday, January 19, 1958 in the galleries of the Joe and Emily Lowe Art Center, University Place and Walnut

The Exhibition continues through February 7th



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY EXHIBITIONS

MESTROVIC

309 UNIVERSITY PLACE, SYRACUSE, N. Y.

Syracuse University Art Galleries