in memoriam sol lewitt
curator: dove bradshaw

ANASTASI
ANDRE
BARRY
BRADSHAW
HAFIF
HIGHSTEIN
LEWITT
KRETSCHMER
NONAS
WAGNER

björn ressle • 16 east 79 • new york • 12/18/07-1/26/08
Sol LeWitt
Wall Drawing #134, 1972
A not straight line from the left side to the right, drawn at a convenient height
Black pencil
Private Collection, USA
Each work and its presentation is constructed of one material. The materials chosen by the artists are pencil, graphite, aluminum, vinyl, plaster, porcelain, bronze, beeswax, steel, and watercolor. The invited artists are known for their customary tendency towards reduction.
In 2005, I was asked by Sam Jedig, my Danish dealer, to curate an exhibition of fellow American artists. The artists I had in mind were founders or advocates of Minimal and Conceptual Art — Anastasi, Andre, Barry, Hafif, Highstein, Kretschmer, LeWitt, Nonas, Wagner, and myself. All are members of a tight group who live in New York City and have known each other for decades. In the fall of 2007 I mentioned this list to my New York dealer, Björn Ressle. He very much liked the dynamic and asked if it would be possible to have his gallery as the first venue. The concept of the exhibition continued to evolve. It became ONE — one work by each of the artists to be made from a single material. Therefore, the works could only be executed directly on the walls, floor and windows of the gallery. The selection was made the spring before Sol LeWitt died. The exhibition opened in December 2007. I had the great honor of executing his 1972 work, “A not straight line from the left side to the right, drawn at a convenient height.” One reviewer commented that it read like an abstract, posthumous signature. Each artist had known him well and deeply mourned his absence. Our exhibition is dedicated to his memory.

The exhibition will travel with a new title, ONE More, from May 31 – August 31, 2007 at the Esbjerg Museum of Art, Esbjerg, Denmark. It will echo this exhibition, but the constraint of a single material has been lifted. Four more artists have been added Lawrence Anastasi, Janet Passehl, Cordy Ryman and Robert Ryman. The works by each artist are juxtaposed to create meaningful pairings.

Dove Bradshaw

ONE

ten artists / ten materials

Andre, Hafif, Kretschmer, Highstein, Bradshaw, Anastasi, Nonas
Not seen: LeWitt, Wagner, Barry

ONE

ten artists / ten materials

Hafif, Barry, Kretschmer, Highstein
Not seen: Anastasi, Bradshaw, Nonas, LeWitt, Wagner, Andre

ONE

ten artists / ten materials

Nonas, LeWitt, Wagner, Andre
Not seen: Anastasi, Barry, Bradshaw, Hafif, Highstein, Kretschmer
William Anastasi
One hour blind drawing / Vide Vitruvian Man
1998 / 2008
Lead
Circa 60 to 62 inches
Carl Andre
2(2H x 65) Aluminum Double Twelver, 1999
24 aluminum blocks each 2 x 7 5/8 x inches
4 x 45 7/8 x 8 inches overall
Collection of Michael Straus
SOMETHING WHICH CAN ONLY BE KNOWN AS SOMETHING ELSE

Robert Barry
Wallpiece, 2007
Vinyl
Size variable
Dove Bradshaw
Edition of 3
Zero Space, Zero Time, Infinite Heat, 1988
Plaster on wall
21 inches each side
Number 1 of the Edition:
Ingreja do Convento de Santo Antonio, Trancoso, Portugal
Marcia Hafif
White, 1984
Porcelain
9 x 10 x 4 inches variable
Jene Highstein
Small Mound, 1993
Cast bronze
12 x 16 inches diameter
Melissa Kretschmer
Sol’s Light
2002
Beeswax
74 x 22 inches
Richard Nonas
Untitled, 1980
Steel, eleven units
24" x 30" x 3"
Merrill Wagner
Indian Red, 2002
Water base paint
39 x 57 inches
Björn Ressle Gallery
16 East 79th Street
New York

ONE

Curator: Dove Bradshaw

In memoriam Sol LeWitt

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Wall Drawing #134
1972
A not straight line from the left side to the right, drawn at a convenient height
Black pencil
Size variable
Private collection

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One hour blind drawing / Vide Vitruvian Man
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Lead
Circa 60 to 62 inches

Carl Andre
2(2H x 65) Aluminum Double Twelver
1999
24 aluminum blocks
2 x 7 5/8 x inches; 4 x 45 7/8 x 8 inches overall
Collection of Michael Straus

Robert Barry
Wallpiece
2007…and continuing
Vinyl, unique
Size variable

Dove Bradshaw
Zero Space, Zero Time, Infinite Heat
2007
Edition of 3
Edition Number I: Ingreja do Convento de Santo António
Apply a skim coat of plaster in the shape of an equilateral triangle
21 inches each side to a wall
Marcia Hafif  
*White*  
1984  
Porcelain  
9 x 10 x 4 inches variable  
$40,000

Jene Highstein  
*Small Mound*  
1993  
Cast bronze with black patina, unique  
12 x 16 inches diameter  
$45,000

Melissa Kretschmer  
*Sol’s Light*  
2002  
Beeswax  
74 x 22 inches  
$8,000

Richard Nonas  
*Untitled*  
1980  
Steel, eleven units, unique  
24 x 30 x 3 inches  
$35,000

Merrill Wagner  
*Four Brands Indian Red*  
2002/2008  
Watercolor paint  
48 x 43 ¾ inches  
$12,000
Hunting a Tribe of Minimalists on the Streets of the Upper East Side
By Ken Johnson, Published: January 5, 2008

Unlike the sleek white boxes of Chelsea, the town house galleries of the upper East Side tend to be small, odd and charmingly idiosyncratic. Wooden floors creak, antique moldings and multiple doorways eat up wall space, and ghosts of residents past lurk in the shadows.

Just for those reasons these galleries can be curiously refreshing settings for contemporary art, especially for ultramodern genres marked by abstract purity and timelessness. Right now three notable exhibitions in the neighborhood pivot around Minimalism, one of modern art’s most enduringly popular styles.

On 79th Street, Mr. LeWitt appears in yet another Upper East Side show, as a contributor to, and the subject of a memorial exhibition organized by the sculptor Dove Bradshaw. Title “One – Ten Artists/Ten Materials.” It is at the Bjorn Ressle Gallery, a bright and narrow high-ceilinged second – floor compartment whose most conspicuous feature is its hideous brown wall-to-wall carpet.

Mr. LeWitt is represented by an endearingly simple wall drawing penciled according to his 1972 instructions, which read, “A not straight line from the left side to the right, drawn at a convenient height.”

Appropriately, given Mr. LeWitt’s role as a father of Conceptualism, the exhibition includes a text piece
from 1970 by Robert Barry. Mirrored vinyl letters applied to one wall spell out “Something which can only be known as something else,” which becomes more interesting the more you think about it.

There’s also a LeWitt-like wall drawing of radiating lines by William Anastasi, who made it while blindfolded. In another LeWittish gesture, Merrill Wagner used four different brands of a color called Indian Red to create a washy wall painting of four horizontal bands.

Other works here have to do with seriality. They include a set of aluminum blocks by Mr. Andre, a collection of pod-shaped palm size white porcelain forms by Marcia Hafif, a set of heavy iron bars with angled ends by Richard Nonas, and geometric patterns by Melissa Kretschmer executed in pale yellow wax on the gridded panes of the gallery’s front windows.

Vitruvian Man, William Anastasi

Some monolithic forms are on hand too. A dark, mound shaped cast-bronze sculpture on the floor, by Jene Highstein, and a flat white plaster triangle in slight relief on the wall, by Ms. Bradshaw, converse about heaviness and lightness. They might also discuss the mind-spinning intersection of past, present and future that happens regularly in art galleries all over the upper East Side.

One Ten Artists/Ten Materials, continues through January 26th at Bjorn Ressle Gallery, 16 East 79th St.
http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/05/arts/design/05mini.html?ref-design
“1: DEDICATED TO SOL LEWITT”

The artist-curater Dove Bradshaw solves the problem of how best to memorialize the hard-to-peg LeWitt (an artist who was identified as both a conceptualist and a minimalist) by emphasizing materials. Ten artists present ten works, each created from a single substance. Carl Andre’s aluminum blocks sit near Marcia Hafif’s pileup of porcelain pods; Jene Highstein’s “Small Mound” is bronze; Melissa Kretschmer’s geometric forms are painted in beeswax on the windows; Bradshaw’s contribution is a simple plaster triangle. LeWitt’s easily overlooked line, drawn in pencil on the wall, reads like an abstract, posthumous signature. Through Jan. 26 (Ressle, 16 E 79th St. 212 -744 2266.)
ONE: TEN ARTISTS / TEN MATERIALS – IN MEMORIAM TO SOL LEWITT

A homage to Sol LeWitt organized by the sculptor Dove Bradshaw, this finely tuned show features Minimalist and Conceptualist works by Robert Barry, Marcia Hafif, Jene Highstein and seven others. A piece by Mr. LeWitt is included: a single roughly horizontal line penciled across one wall according to instructions that read, “A not straight line from the left drawn at a convenient height. Björn Ressle, 16 East 79th Street, 212 744 2266, ressleart.com, closes on Saturday. (Johnson)