

“Greater New York at PS1,” *Accessible Art*, September 2010.

Greater New York at PS1



Liz Magic Laser, Mine, 2009, video

Greater New York is a show at PS 1, MoMA's satellite space in Long Island City, Queens, that occurs every five years. This exhibition was originally intended to showcase up and coming talent in works by local artists. In its third iteration, organized by Klaus Biesenbach, the director of PS 1, around 68 artists have work on view. While the show has some interesting work and I enjoyed my visit, the majority of the works on view were uninspiring. Highlights of the show and works I enjoyed most were: Alisha Kerlin's photographs; Franklin Evan's colorful and visually stimulating room installation; Tala Madini's violent Kentridge-like videos; Deana Lawson's "Assemblage" –a powerful grouping of glossy 4 x 6 photos of black people hung in a corner of one gallery; Liz Magic Laser's "Mine" -a video of a surgical exploration of the artist's purse, and a vitrine close by that displays the contents and the ripped open bag; Zipora Fried's wardrobe of knives is reminiscent of Doris Salcedo's use of household items; David Adamo's *The Rite of Spring* made up of a floor of baseball bats; Eric Shirreff's compressed ash/plaster work that is like a mixture of Serra, Tuttle, and Kelly all wrapped up in one; and Naama Tsabar's *Speaker Wall* in which multiple speakers are wired together to make an instrument that viewers can play.

Adamo's work, made up of baseball bats, allows visitors to walk precariously over the unlevel surface which will wear down over the course of the show. In this way, the viewer very much becomes a part of the work.

Laser's video work is a surgery in progress—albeit one of a purse and its contents, shown on view in the vitrine that stands in the middle of the gallery like an anthropological study.

I have mentioned Evans in a previous blog after I saw his show at Sue Scott Gallery. I love carefully looking around his installations at the papers taped to the floor and walls as well as the balls of tape and scraps of press releases and art articles. The tape hangs from floor to ceiling like colorful bars of a prison cell which form a path through the room.

85% of all deforestation in Brazil has happened within 30 km of one official road. With a new road being built, the equivalent of 9 football fields of forest will be destroyed every minute. Brooks has “preserved” this section of the forest in concrete as a statement about human’s impact on the environment.