

RODNEY LATOURELLE in Berlin 10/18/11
www.akimbo.ca/akimblog

Nina Rhode at Alex-4D



Nina Rhode, Brief Nr. 32

At Alex-4D, a temporary project space located in the central yet forlorn nest of shops at the base of the Tower at Alexanderplatz, Nina Rhode exhibited Brief Nr. 32, an immersive installation. Stage lights aimed horizontally establish a powerful horizon of light, dividing the gallery into “above” and “below”. A melted trash container and a circular spinning construction are located in the lower half, evoking a semi-apocalyptic scene that is accentuated by fog and an atmospheric soundtrack. The colour of the room is tinted a copper hue, emitted from a glowing Plexiglas wall piece that reflects into the space. This is certainly not an Olafur Eliasson-like manipulation of the physics of light, but a full-on environment: dramatic, eerie, and evocative. Thoughts are generated here by gut feelings. And while the installation is a clear extension of Rhode’s characteristic preoccupation with light, colour, and kinetic sculpture, the fantastic thing about a work such as this is that it seems to exist in a suspended space of living experience beyond time and cause. Rhode’s work can also be found on display as part of an exhibition of sculptural work curated by artist Kalin Lindena at KW69. (Next up at 4D - and not to be missed - is Juliane Solmsdorf.)