

New Century Group Show Aspires to the Highline

Frequent exhibitor Kathryn Hart has been attracting considerable attention lately for her tactile, mostly black and white (sometimes with glistening splashes of red added to increase the visceral effect), found object assemblages, featuring tumourously bulging stuffed and wrinkled forms and brashly torn, distressed, and otherwise violated surfaces that lend abstraction a unique new shock value.

Like the burnt dolls and other atrocities of the Beat generation California funk sculptor Bruce Conner, Hart's pieces, such as "Invisible Fissure," in which a ragged black shape resembling an animal carcass is tethered to an empty black frame by an intricate spiderweb of black thread, have a queasy seductiveness, sending out intimations of mortality and other distress signals that grip the viewer in the pit of the stomach and refuse to let go.

--- Maurice Taplinger



"Imaginary Fissure" Detail

"Deux Visages"



"Imaginary Fissure"



Highline Art show, New Century Artists
Gallery, 530 West 25th Street,
March 11 - 29, 2014.
Reception: Saturday, March 15, 3 - 6 pm.