

## Full blown Minimalism

By Andreas Hansen

*It is a bit of a coup that Sam Jedig from Stalke has succeeded in bringing some of the top Minimalist artists from the U.S. to Copenhagen in cooperation with the Esbjerg Art Museum, where a solo show with William Anastasi opens later this month.*

Currently you can see the exhibition *ONE Copenhagen* at Stalke Up North in Gothersgade. Sam Jedig and Dove Bradshaw have curated the exhibition. Sam Jedig invited the Danish artists Kristian Hornsleth, Soren Dahlgaard, Lone Mertz, Torben Ebbesen, Nikolaj Recke and himself. Dove Bradshaw has besides herself, invited the American artists William Anastasi, Carl Andre, Robert Barry, Melissa Kretschmer and Janet Passehl.

### New meanings

The idea of the exhibition is that each artist shows one work done in only one material. The artists have thrown themselves with gusto at the challenge and used all sorts of materials from bronze to fat, William Anastasi makes due with scratching a rectangular frame into the wall.

While minimalism is a known expression in relation to how it defines itself and ask questions of the more conventional arts, the exhibition is guaranteed to provoke many, and raise questions about "the Emperor's new clothes..." Most visitors will probably leave it to the thought, in view of the important names on show.

I was at the opening and could not help but observe some of the artists present. For example, if you have traveled across the Atlantic just to create a triangle of plaster on the wall, you must take yourself very seriously, or have a humorous approach to the matter. Dove Bradshaw was very serious by the looks of her.

Carl Andre sailed into the room, conscious of his position as one of the founders of Minimal art.

William Anastasi seems like a man of humor. This is confirmed by his art, the playful and experimental approach is one of its essential qualities. I will not here in detail

analyze whether it is healthy to be a minimalist, simply note that the latter gentlemen, his relatively great age taken into account, seemed amazingly vital.

No matter what you feel about the exhibition, it certainly started something. You will take another view of art, things you have not seen before will suddenly seem important. Is the pretty heater in the gallery in reality an installation, or could it just as well be?

Stalke Up North, Gothersgade 5, 1, København K

Until 11 July 2009.