Flash Art News 141

Kristin Oppenheim Nicole Klagsbrun Frederico Guzman Brooke Alexander Simon Ungers Sandra Gering, New York



SIMON UNGERS, INSTALLATION VIEW, 1992.

The communicative relation between sonic and physical reality which makes for a state of latent schizophrenia within our day-today presence is summed up profoundly and concisely in three works presented at the twilight of what has proved to be a traumatic and amazing season-a season which has deranged the perspective of the American galleries. Kristin Oppenheim's Cry Me a River sound piece, presented alongside Kirstin Mosher and Christine Lidrbauch in a show curated by collector Alain Clairet at Nicole Klagsbrun, affords the listener the luxury of standing within what is gradually transformed into

a true vocal sculpture. The repetition of the chant appears to be the intransitive element in the act, cutting across the word in a dimension which disappears as it is being constituted.

Simon Ungers, in a one-person outing at Sandra Gering, occupies the space at his disposal with vertical structures—stairs which are traversed by a movement which is luminous in depth and which, rather than compel the spectator into abandoning his own mental weight, moves him to a singular point which lies not beyond but within, toward a distance which assumes the importance of the purpose. Our vertical relation with existence fossilizes the possibility of transformation which comes about exclusively by means of a shift in our own

Meanwhile, Brooke Alexander has turned over a space within a broader group show to Frederico Guzman, who synthetizes, in his *TipografialTopografia* (Typography/Topography) the physical relation wherein our communication is transformed while remaining still within the perimeters of a given space. Places accumulate in their own body only to spread through the filter of our voice toward other places, over other bodies, and through other voices.

Francesco Bonami

(Translated from Italian by Chris Martin)