



ART WORLD

At Matsumiya, Rainer Ganahl Reveals Art's Underpinnings

Blake Gopnik, Tuesday, October 27, 2015

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THE DAILY PIC (#1420): This photograph by the Austrian artist Rainer Ganahl is from his show at [Kai Matsumiya](#) gallery in New York. It is part of a five-photo work with the nicely explanatory title of *AA Bronson, The Institute for Art, Religion and Social Justice, Union Theological Seminary, New York 10/6/2010*, which points to the people and places and moments it depicts – in this case, a talk by a Canadian-born artist who was once part of the important gay collective known as General Idea, whose two other members died from AIDS.

Like similar works from Ganahl's new *Seminar/Lecture* series, this one reveals something that's mostly ignored: That art is as much about the art world's social contexts, connections and conversations – on display at events such as lectures and seminars – as it is about the finished works we all profess to love. This isn't a paranoid or even particularly critical position: *All* human creations depend upon the cultures and contexts that give birth to them; they also reflect them, one way or another. Ganahl just makes that act of reflection the central motor for his art.

Now I want him to make another body of images that show people like yours truly standing around in Matsumiya's gallery taking in Ganahl's own *Seminar/Lecture* photos, and talking them through. After all, without that moment of appreciation and assimilation, no artwork truly exists.

#blake gopnik #exhibitions #galleries #photography



[Blake Gopnik](#)



ART WORLD

Rodin Museum Awards \$7.25 Million to Engineer Who Fell Through Ceiling

Rain Embuscado, Thursday, May 12, 2016

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Worker falls through glass floor in Philly's Rodin Museum



The [Rodin Museum](#) in Philadelphia has settled a \$7.25 million lawsuit leveled by an engineer who fell through the building's glass ceiling in 2012 during an energy inspection. The total amount awarded will be shared by AlliedBarton Security Services and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which runs the Rodin Museum's operations.

According to [CBS Philly](#), an unfortunate misstep sent engineer Phani Guthula crashing through the attic's ceiling and falling 38 feet to the floor below. Guthula's request to step onto the glass ceiling was allegedly cleared by a security guard.

The fall nearly killed Guthula, leaving him in the hospital for three months with \$1.9 million in medical bills to show for it.



Interior view of the Rodin Museum in Philadelphia. Courtesy of Google Maps.

According to the *Daily Mail*, Guthula was on assignment by ICF International, the engineering firm the museum hired to run an energy audit of the building. Guthula's attorneys, Larry Bendesky, David Kwass, and David Langsam, told the publication that the victim's life has been "a living hell every day since his fall."

AlliedBarton Security attempted to shift the blame in a court filing, according to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, arguing that their guard was not "properly warned about the safety risks by the museum."

In a statement to the *Inquirer*, spokesperson Norman Keyes stated that the museum "has always adhered to the highest safety standards and complied with all legal requirements," but did not mention any plans to bolster these measures.

The Rodin Museum and the Philadelphia Museum of Art did not respond to artnet News' immediate request for comment.

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