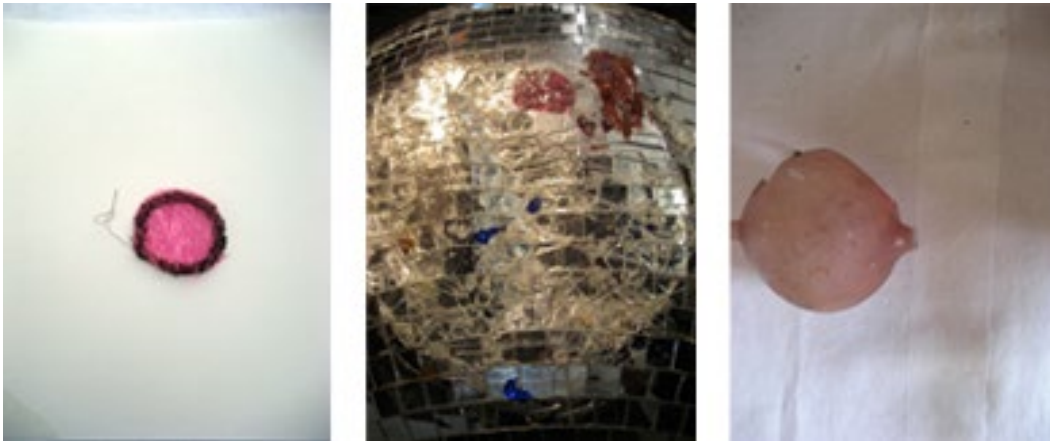


T The New York Times Style Magazine

Now Hanging | Helmut Lang's Artwork



By Horacio Silva
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Before stepping away from the fashion arena three years ago, the designer Helmut Lang was known for creating minimalist designs that were often treated with a reverence that suggested Donald Judd himself had sewn them. Fitting then that Lang, who is largely responsible for the current collusion between the worlds of fashion and art, is now being shown in a gallery.

Starting tomorrow through January 28, Lang's latest work, "Next Ever After," will be exhibited at the journal magazine's Williamsburg gallery of the same name. (Lang has also contributed a series of "art studies" to the current issue of the journal.)

The installation, an exclusive preview of which appears below (center), consists of a single object: a found disco ball. "The mirrored ball is a good object to work with," Lang tells the magazine, "because it has all these different reflections and at the same time it absorbs everything that is surrounding it. That angle of it was inspiring."

As with his deceptively simple fashion designs, Lang's installation is charged with a more abstruse meaning: "The idea relates to the Janus mythology, looking back and moving forward. It's also about transitions and new beginnings, representing time as one half respects the past and the other one looks into the future." What he said.

The art studies pictured and quotes, from an interview between Helmut Lang and Neville Wakefield, are published in the journal's winter 2007/Entry 21 issue.

All images courtesy the artist