

Madame J on Art

Art reviews of exhibitions in (NYC) Chelsea galleries and celebrity sightings (and some of their misbehavior).



Thursday, June 16, 2011

Past Exhibitions That Closed #2



Let's start with **Nathaniel Donnett's** *My Mind's Playing Tricks on Me* that closed on April 30th of this year; this show was a mind blowing experience. Who could be so creative enough and think up a way to use black plastic garbage and brown paper bags as a medium for their work. **Nathaniel** definitely made his point with this show which stuck with me and always will. In Black and Hispanic cultures "the lighter you are, the better you are" therefore the (smarter, good looking and more likely to succeed in life you'll be if your of "lighter skinned complexion"). A quick and cheap solution to the problem is **skin bleaching** by way of over the counter **skin "whitening" creams** and (for those of "color" who have financially succeeded in life and can afford those) expensive visits to the dermatologist and have a permanent solution to your "problems" it can be cleared up with a few sessions at the Docs office; these methods and "solutions" can be a distasteful reminder to people (of color of course) that social standing in your community and caring what other people think of you (and what shade of color you are) was and still is important and won't change. Also **"straightening" or "relaxing" hair**, (as if it's out of control in the first place), needs to be put in check (the hair of course and not society itself); because more times than none "straighter" hair which refracts more light therefore the bounciness and ease "looks better" than a "woolly" thick mane or a dull matte sheen to the hair; and this "dullness" or "kinkiness" may just may tank your possibilites of getting that job you just interviewed for. Sad but true we're slaves to the "brighter is better methodology." I loved Nathaniel's creative genius of the use of the brown paper bags as the skin color of his characters and the black garbage bags; they both have dual use for both hair "texture" and skin color. **Nathaniel's "Rorschach's Test"** made from black plastic bags that's some feat; in Nathaniel's "Session 1" I see a frog, "Session 3" I see a woman's pelvis and "Sessions 4" I see a crab.