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In New York: Opening this Weekend



© Ursula von Rydingsvard, courtesy Galerie Lelong, New York Ursula von Rydingsvard, "Droga," 2009. Cedar, graphite, 54 x 115 x 219 in.

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NEW YORK— It is a week of sharp contrasts and eerie similarities on the New York art-opening beat. On the Upper East Side, newcomer Alex Zachary hosts his second show, Jeff Koons puts in his sophomore curatorial effort, and Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn's Salon 94 hosts two performances by Tamy Ben-Tor. Meanwhile, Chelsea plays hosts to two German women of different generations and temperaments, who are each marking their sixth show at their respective galleries.

<u>Ursula von Rydingsvard</u>, "ERRĀTUS," at <u>Galerie Lelong</u>, 528 West 26th Street, on view through May 1, opening Thursday, March 18, 6–8 p.m.

Solid wood oozes, flows, and crawls in Ursula von Rydingsvard's work. Weaving together massive cedar blocks into uncannily organic forms that are alluringly tactile yet a bit dark and unsettling, she has dominated public sculpture gardens for decades. Children rush to touch and climb the works, as parents stand back, a little troubled. For her first show in New York City in four years, von Rydingsvard presents three large-scale cedar pieces. The six-foot-tall *Blackened Word*, 2008, stretches in ripples across more than 20 feet of floor, while *Unraveling*, 2007, climbs a gallery wall like dense, weighty moss — it would seem to be enacting the show's title, the Latin for "wandering," though one has the sense the piece knows exactly where it is going. Devotees will also want to head upstate to the **Storm King Art Center** on June 5, when a new work by von Rydingsvard will be unveiled, along with works by nine other artists, to celebrate the park's 50th anniversary.