

# Best of 2011: Part 7

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• **Davina Semo – Martos Gallery, New York, and Rawson Projects, Brooklyn / Andra Ursuta – Ramiken Crucible, New York**

Davina Semo and Andra Ursuta are two artists to watch. Both have a way with the physicality of objects, with material as subject matter, with the psychological trappings of sculpture and a kind of performative body-operating. The more narrative work of Andra Ursuta, a New Yorker by way of Romania, was also memorable in the 'Ostalgia' exhibition at the New Museum (one of their best thematic presentations and hopefully a sign of smarter, more rewarding shows to come). While Davina Semo's abstractions offer a distanced and implied violence, she is also capable of pure poetic gesture. If their individual sensibilities share any common ground it's a fatalism entwined with determination that seems emblematic of our times.