

REH Kunst

This space unites a number of very compatible concepts: art, mobile architecture and GDR nostalgia, though that last aspect is one that art historian, consultant and curator Valeska Hageney would rather not over-emphasise. The name is an acronym of the tongue-twisting but aptly descriptive word Raumerweiterungshalle (space extension hall), a mass-produced temporary structure that served all kinds of purposes in East Germany, from school extensions to wedding venues. At the height of production in the 1970s, thousands of REHs – which are extended through an accordion-esque mechanism and can be transported on the back of a truck – dotted the country. Hageney's REH, hauled to Berlin after having served as a GDR nostalgia store, is the perfect place to stage versatile solo exhibitions and group shows. The curved aluminium walls force artists and curators to engage with the space itself rather than simply positioning their work in a white cube.

S U Schönhauser Allee | Kopenhagener Str. 17, Prenzlauer Berg | check website for exhibitions and times | valeskahageney.com/about-2/reh-kunst



Autocenter

When practising artists Maik Schierloh and Joep Liefland opened an art gallery in an unused auto mechanic workshop in Friedrichshain, they didn't expect that a decade later it would be this city's longest running nonprofit project space. The duo wanted to do something different, something more extreme and, perhaps most importantly, something outside of the traditional structures of the art world. They're still sticking to their guns. With inexhaustible enthusiasm, the pair has channelled many now-established painters, sculptors, photographers and video artists, often from abroad, through their space on a high-frequency roster (no show is longer than three weeks). Until September 2012, the gallery was perched above a discount supermarket at the far end of Friedrichshain, but was on the move to a yet unknown location as this book went to print.

autocenterart.de



THAT BAR ON THE BOULEVARD

— Maik Schierloh runs a second venture on Karl-Marx-Allee. Kosmetiksalon **Bar Babette** (no 36) used to be former East Berlin's most glamorous beauty parlour, situated in a purpose-built pavilion opposite the magnificent **Kino International** (no 33). Besides being a great place for a drink, the bar, is also a well-known art spot, featuring temporary exhibitions in its gallery space.

Left photo Roman März

Far left Installation view, Janine Eggert & Philipp Ricklefs: The Dynamic Sublime Device, REH KUNST, 2012.