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Duke Riley at White Box



Paul Piers design



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The window read "CHANEL" but almost obscuring the merchandise inside was **Duke Riley's** large drawing of a burning Greenpoint shoreline crowned with a huge cloud of smoke. Inside **White Box** the night of August 17 Riley was introducing his own line of upscale, burnt-look fashion under the brand "Paul Piers".

The crowd was wonderful, and wonderfully appreciative, I think, of both their own hip and the show's smooth rips.

Juan Puentes, the show's co-curator and with Judith Souriau the director of the non-profit space which hosted it, seems to agree with Riley that Chelsea has waited far too long for the arrival of the boutique phase in the timeline of the gallery district phenomenon. Now, with the dramatic and suspicious disappearance of its own most interesting and historic commercial building stock (including warehouses storing tons of old clothes) the Greenpoint neighborhood may have missed it altogether - and hastened the arrival of the successor stage, "luxury highrise condominiums".

Riley's art is **built on the East River** and the historical relics of New York real estate.



history (and fashion) up in smoke



the charred warehouse remains



gathering around the cinders



crowd scene



crowd seeing



the artist checking his own tag

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By [Hans](#) on [August 31, 2006 5:08 PM](#)

Cool stuff, but the folks at the show I find rather weird.
