

The Village

Christopher Williams

A 3 Hour Display of Standard East German Rauhfaser

The Village, 1421 Echo Park Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90026

Sunday, December 14, 2025, 2 – 5 PM

A) *Rauhfaser*, or ingrain wallpaper, is a textured wall covering common in German domestic interiors. Made from recycled paper and woodchips, often wood waste from sawmills, it was invented in 1864 by Hugo Erfurt for Wupperthal-based wallpaper company Erfurt & Sohn and later popularized for interior use by the Bauhaus movement in the 1920s. Both the modesty and forgiving nature of its materials made it an economical and effective way to cover scars and cracks in the damaged buildings of postwar Germany. *Rauhfaser* was the standard wallpaper of the DDR, produced in state-owned factories and used in prefabricated Plattenbau housing projects. It is still considered the standard wall covering throughout Germany, and its functional, textured surface has become shorthand for conventional middle-and working-class tastes and social values.

B) 9 December, 2 hours work

Application of *Rauhfaser* to a single 15' x 8' wall at The Village, Los Angeles

Execution by Aleksander Starkov of TopNotch Wallpaper Installers, Los Angeles, CA

Materials: ingrain wallpaper, Roman Pro-880 Ultra Clear strippable wallpaper adhesive, scissors, roller, smoother

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