

## Talkin' Trash

By Maya Kroth



Chris Sollars drops off a *Pile of Trash* at "Three Solo Exhibitions."

Imagine you're a tourist visiting the city from some town in the flyover states, all geared up for a long day in the world-famous shopping mecca that is Union Square. You're toting bags from J.Crew and Macy's, dodging panhandlers, and desperately hoping you don't accidentally stumble down the wrong street and end up at a methadone clinic in the Tenderloin, when all of a sudden the dozen or so large black trash bags that had been lying on the corner *begin to get up and walk away*.

That's what hundreds of shoppers witnessed when local artist Chris Sollars dressed 11 people in Hefty bags and videotaped them parading through the city last year. The resulting piece, *Pile of Trash*, along with Sollars' full-size rubbing of a Ford Explorer — both of which demonstrate the artist's interest in consumerism and wastefulness — are on view at Southern Exposure's group show "**Three Solo Exhibitions**," also featuring S.F.-based artists Matthew Flegle and Sarah Smith.

Extreme Makeover: Home Edition junkies will dig Flegle's 3-D structures, which he makes from renovation materials like drywall and plastic sheeting. Smith drew on her decade of experience as a scenic painter to create *Overture to Memory's Passage*, a theatrical-looking mixed-media installation that explores mortality and nature's tendency to be both ephemeral and permanent. All three artists gather for a talk and an opening reception at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 13. Jan. 13-Feb. 18. **Southern Exposure**, 401 Alabama (at 17th St.), San Francisco, 415-863-2141, <http://www.soex.org>.

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