

OUT OF THE ORDINARY

Jim Growden - SCULPTURE From Waterfront Areas

Jo Hanson - ART FROM STREET TRASH

Fran Martin - DRAWINGS AND SLIDES From Walls and Signs

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The word abstract is derived from the Latin "to draw from". JIM GROWDEN, JO HANSON and FRAN MARTIN abstract the environment in which they live and work. The three artists explore the art potential of ordinary objects that they have collected, salvaged or observed. Each artist abstracts a different esthetic - pursues a different activity and attitude. There is a progression toward greater abstraction as you view the art counterclockwise around the gallery. Hanson collects, catalogs and displays trash she gathers during her anthropological sweeps. Growden assembles waterfront objects that still smell of the elements. Welding and shaping, he fabricates intriguing structures which develop into larger completed sculptures. Martin advances the abstraction which culminates in her drawings derived from city environs. She actively transforms what she views into beautiful works of luscious color and texture.

Jo Hanson works with the street trash that she has been sweeping up for ten years outside her San Francisco home. She selects papers (gathered into notebooks), film and three dimensional objects, and delves into their social context. No longer content with simple esthetic transformation, she employs a strong visual sensitivity to the larger problem of making her art a more effective part of life. Results vary from working with bureaucracy on trash problems, to making a wall of "tiles" from xeroxed paper trash, to gorgeous rubbings of patched and repatched San Francisco sidewalks.

Hanson exhibits nationally and is best known for her re-creation of "Crab Orchard Cemetery", a graveyard in Southern Illinois. She is active in the community and art world, lecturing on topics as diverse as burial imagery and Mexican women artists.

Jim Growden is a step removed in his abstraction. Drawing from his waterfront environment, he transforms nautical objects into active elements of metal and mixed media sculpture. His constructions vary from the sexually suggestive, to the animalistic/anthropomorphic, to the ritualistic, to the playful. Growden's larger sculptures, composed of timbers, pulleys, cords and rusted metal are on