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New Solo Art Show: “ri-FLEKT” at WE Artspace

By Nastia Voynovskaya *October 6, 2010 | 5:19 am*
Posted in: Art, Events

Ever walk around and notice odd, discarded objects on the side of the road? So does San Francisco artist Chris Sollars, and he’s arranged some of them into found-object sculptures that have inspired a new series of drawings, photography, videos and installations. His new solo show at WE Artspace, titled “ri-FLEKT,” adventurously explores (and alters) the ways the small Oakland venue interacts with the surrounding urban landscape.

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this sounds awesome. post more blogposts with links in them! then I can listen to music while I read and get a more "hands-on" experience ...

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re: "Sorry Lady Gaga, but you’re meat dress doesn’t cut it." Huh? Try: "Sorry Lady Gaga, but your meat dress doesn’t cut it."...

DOMINIQUE
very well done! I wish I could've been there!!...

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Breaking down the barriers between interior and exterior spaces, Sollars’ outdoor works take the spirit of WE Artspace out to the surrounding blocks as much as they reflect the outside environment within the enclosure of the space. The artist swapped the bus stop bench outside the venue with the couch that usually occupies the inside, augmenting each object to bring out the elements of each respective environment. A blanket with the portrait of Charlie, the WE Artspace dog, lays on the outdoor couch while Charlie herself can be found inside, a few feet away. Meanwhile, the bus stop bench occupies the bulk of the interior’s floor, a sheet of shiny plastic reflecting the walls while a recording of traffic sounds plays on a stack of speakers.

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Chris Sollars with a photocopied flyer of “Blind Seal Front.”

Playing with other methods of inversion, Sollars turns the urban landscape surrouding WE into the subject matter of his two-dimensional works, which he then inserts into the outdoor landscape in return. His photography and minimalistic graphite drawings, displayed in the space’s interior, document his found-object sculptures that can be found on the street in the surrounding blocks. Meanwhile, his documentation of objects from space’s interior make their way into the outside as facetious photocopied flyers stapled to the surrounding poles.

“ri-FLEKT” will be at WE Artspace (768 40th St, by MacArthur BART) until November 20. The venue is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays from 12-3 pm, so go check out how Sollars takes his art into the street and the street into his art for this innovative, sometimes humorous exhibit.

Images: Nastia Voynovskaya, *Video:* Chris Sollars

Tags: Chris Sollars, Oakland, WE Artspace



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