

LIFESCAPES

October 14, 2006

CULVER CITY: Chelsea West?

In only three years, the intersection of La Cienega and Washington Boulevard on the edge of Culver City has gone from the middle of nowhere to the center of the West Coast art world.

By George Melrod

Perhaps the most significant addition to the Culver art scene is its first non-profit alternate space, LAXART, which opened on La Cienega's gallery row in March and inaugurated its fall season with a memorable installation by Ruben Ochoa. Like many of her new neighbors, founder Lauri Firstenberg scoured the city, from Koreatown to MacArthur Park, before settling on Culver for its vitality. With its ambitious conceptual agenda and international curatorial scope, LAXART has already made its mark, attracting the sort of savvy, art-wise audiences commercial galleries crave.



"EXTRACTED," 2006, Ruben Ochoa, SITE SPECIFIC INSTALLATION, STEEL, WOOD, DIRT, BURLAP, WIRE MESH, EPS BONDING CEMENT, 12' x 20' x 28'