

Art

DAVID CARRINO: "Gifts From Nepal" is Carrino's response to the death of a friend. The series of stitched and sutured dysfunctional words, out of control and groping for sense on stretched canvases of wrinkling yellow silk, is perfectly simple, humbly transcendent. In the other room, "Les Enfants Terribles" explores the less-than-innocent charms of childhood: among the artists are Robert Mapplethorpe, Robert Gober, Sally Webster, Margaret Curtis, and Lewis Carroll. Through August 1, Wooster Gardens, 40 Wooster Street, 941-6210. (Levin)

GROUP EXHIBITION: One viewer dubbed it "the how-repulsive-can-you-get show." But this appealing, appalling, and problematic group of eight artists may be onto some larger truth. It includes Samm Kunce's trio of tattooed skin-colored armchairs, Janet Biggs's *One in Every Fourteen* (the unbronzed baby shoes proportional to infant births with deformities), Michael Minelli's truncated figural game pieces, and Andrew Krasnow's leathery flag made of human skin. Through July 24, Josh Baer Gallery, 476 Broome Street, 431-4774. (Levin)

'MORALITY CAFE': Riot handcuffs, tapes that measure the height of robbers, and an "original copy" of Jeff Koons's trial placard decorate this fresh, 10-artist show about making art and ethical decisions. Rachel Harrison's poles dangle a variety of bagged objects (a stolen can of tuna, a Bible), Robert Chambers's construction breathes, **Devon Dikeou's air bag has been blown.** But John Lekay's wrecked installation, with typed text about an altercation with curator Kenny Schachter, really takes the subject seriously. Through July 25, Postmasters Gallery, 80 Greene Street, 941-5711. (Levin)

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