

■ Edited by Vince Aletti

Choices

An Opinionated Survey of the Week's Events

Art

A Group Show: Eight men and no women? Shame. But it's August and if you're desperate for art, there's a handsome LeWitt wall, a couple of imposing Boltanskis, an almost interesting Oldenburg, a heap of spuds by Penone, a negative dwarf by Muñoz, and a Tony Cragg that looks like a separated-at-birth twin

of Louise Bourgeois. Through August 30, Marian Goodman Gallery, 24 West 57th Street, 977-7160. (Levin)

'Letters': Eleven men and no women? Shame, shame, shame. Wish you were here, as they used to say. Jeffrey Vallance makes a work out of Connie Chung's correspondence. Raymond Pettibon makes mincemeat out of belletrist clichés. Chris Burden uses a traffic summons, Sean Landers pens a defective ransom note, and Ernst Caramelle hangs his letterwork too high to read, even with the stepladder. Through August 30, Christine Burgin Gallery, 130 Prince Street, 219-8379. (Levin)

'Rethinking Space II': Sponsored by Deutsche Bank in midsummer in a midtown lobby, this 14-artist sculpture show is an unexpectedly adventurous roundup of art "about the random and uncertain unfolding of events." Devon Dikeou's *The News* dispenses errant practicality. Willie Cole's gas nozzles do charmed snake tricks. Janine Antoni's *Deficit* slipcovers a bank manager's desk. Kerri Scharlin's *Reader, Advisor* reads and advises (between 12:30 and 5 p.m. for the next week or two). Hanging from on high are Vulto's smoked shrouds and Fred Tomaselli's four-tiered beer-can chandelier, and Kirsten Mosher's *Toxic Mutant Trash Can* is exactly what it says it is. Through September 13, the Lobby Gallery, 31 West 52nd Street, 767-2666. (Levin)