

April 15-30, 1988 Volume 7 Number 10

# CALENDAR

## magazine

San Francisco Bay Area's Arts and Entertainment Paper

### Critic's CHOICE

**GALLERY/** The guard dogs bark fiercely, following you in their narrow cage that tubes through the gallery. Wayne Zebzda's installation "Rip Off: On The Nature of Security" puts the viewer on both sides of the line between the protected and the perpetrator.

I had to ring the doorbell to get into this show. Then in the hallway leading to the main space nine heads were skewered on a pole and hung on the wall. After that I was confronted by a vault painted with a reproduction of Mona Lisa and locked tight.

In the gallery the dogs move over your head in the catwalk cage that is built diagonally downward so the dogs can stalk you from their first surveillance point six feet above you until they are inches away from you at ground level.

Up against the far wall of the gallery there is a life sized mock-up of a studio apartment. Seeing this apartment on its side gives us the sensation that we are looking down on this cozy space from a look-out spot in the ceiling as a security agent or a burglar might do.

The images and fear of crime is juxtaposed with nostalgia for childhood in many of the pieces in this show suggesting that Zebzda is dealing with the fragility of an inner security as well as the crime threatening our households. Some of the best works in the show are an old tricycle weighted down with a ball and chain and a huge boyishly built box-trap held up by single thin piece of wood. By so well directing his subject matter Zebzda has created the most provocative installation I have seen in a long while.

At Artspace, 1286 Folsom, SF, phone 626-9100 for info. *Brent Sunderland*