



Art

Ester Partegàs, "More World"

In Partegàs's work, nature, culture and mysticism intersect. *By Paul Laster*



Installation view
Mark Woods

Ester Partegàs, a Barcelona-born Brooklyn artist, has constructed objects, images and installations over the past 11 years that pack a seductive visual punch. Her third solo show for Foxy Production, "More World," appears fast on the heels of her last solo outing, "Less World," at Christopher Grimes Gallery in Los Angeles, and in it, Partegàs presents a dozen works in a variety of mediums, exploring ideas of nature, taxonomy and mystical possibilities within an urban realm.

Several of the works on view—a lightbox image of a forest that's actually a photomural concealing a construction site, wallpaper imagery of chain-link fences clashing with trees in an overgrown industrial park, and a video of a trash-strewn puddle reflecting an iPod billboard—have had superior iterations in other Partegàs exhibitions. Still, there are some standout pieces in this disparate display.

Three brightly colored works on paper present blown-up versions of candy packaging without any type. Whimsically created using stencils and an airbrush, they accentuate the cosmic quality of the products' graphic design. Likewise, four sculptures depicting potted plants covered with plastic bags for the winter convey an otherworldly aspect. These works, along with two colorful prints of french fries arranged in playful patterns, reveal the artist's characteristic quirkiness at its best.