
KENNETH BAKER

Art

May 11 '01

Sculptor Lynch's "Where Is Your Wheel?"

If a helmeted man emerges from among the walking wounded on San Francisco's streets this weekend, tugging a lumpy wooden wheel like a giant pull toy, it will be Bay Area sculptor Nathan Lynch, engaged in his Fluxus-inspired performance, "Where Is

Your Wheel?"

Lynch walks America's streets — he'll be in Washington next week — towing his hand-hewn wheel, symbol of primal human ingenuity and of the ball and chain that "wheels" can sometimes become to their owners.

Almost unnoticeable disruptions of everyday life are the prototypical practice of Fluxus, the diffuse international conceptual art movement named and personified by George Maciunas (1931-1978).

Whether Lynch's activity appears political, childish, absurdist or merely lunatic will probably depend on people's willingness to interact with him.

Fluxus work can withstand any misinterpretation. Only invisibility threatens it. To obtrude himself just enough will be Lynch's challenge.

E-mail Kenneth Baker at kenethbaker@schronicle.org.