

SF WEEKLY

Arts

"Leonardo Drew": Art Review

By **Jonathan Curiel** *Wednesday, Apr 13 2011*

If you gathered charred wood from a series of beach fires; mixed it with black sticks, twigs, and giant roots; then stuck it all on a 12-square-foot foundation and attached that to a wall, you'd get something that approximates **Leonardo Drew's** prodigious art. It wouldn't be a Drew, though. Nothing is quite like a work from the New York artist who forages outside elements to create inside sculptures that are dense, occasionally smelly, and altogether visionary. The natural world gets tossed around in his creations, so roots that are ordinarily below the ground jut outward and upward atop it. Of the seven works displayed in this untitled exhibit, three are oversized panoramas, two are framed triptychs featuring paint and earth, one is a baby version of a colossal work, and one integrates white toilet paper, white thread, and other white material into something resembling a surreal fungus. Handles, screws, and other manmade objects are sprinkled into Drew's creations, adding a further element of delightful surprise.

Through May 13 at Anthony Meier Fine Arts, 1969 California (at Gough), S.F. Free; 351-1400 or www.anthonymeierfinearts.com.