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### John Connelly Presents, through Wed 30

By Time Out editors Thu Aug 24 2006



Installation view of "Kamp K48" Photograph courtesy John Connelly Presents

Time Out Ratings :

The pocket-sized indie art magazine *K48*, which artist Scott Hug has published semiregularly since 1999, is also well known for organizing exuberant group shows. In the latest one (conceived in 2005 for San Francisco's Yerba Buena Center for the Arts), 51 artists ponder Boy Scout homoeroticism and the great outdoors, and mankind's ravaging of the environment. Much of the work suggests by-products of an arts-and-crafts class—after campers have snacked on hallucinatory mushrooms. John Rappleye's fanciful sculpture *Faireriewood*, with its phallic flowers, belongs in the gay-cruising area of an enchanted forest. In Suzanne Ackerman's miniature, scruffy campground scene, *Boyskouts of Amerika*, a pair of black Ken-like dolls shed their fur getups for a little cabin hanky-panky. *The Hairy Hunchback* by Hrafnhildur Arnardottir (a.k.a. Shoplifter) is a towering silhouette made out of dozens of brown wigs and a cutout face (perfect for goofy photo ops at the opening). Things get even more twisted in the gallery's annex. Ghostly space aliens (ever notice how they show up only in the boondocks?) painted by Bill Saylor peer down from the walls. Crushed Dr Pepper cans and old issues of *Boys' Life* litter the AstroTurf floor. The disorienting sounds of mechanical noise and children singing emit from DVD installations by LoVid and Grant Worth, and a pitched tent serves as a canvas for Dominic McGill's raging political slogans accompanied by illustrations of skulls and hanged priests. This woody setting, hardly an oasis, is more like Mother Nature's funny farm. — *Les Simpson*

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