The ultimate in environmental art...

"Trash," a multi-media exhibit prepared by the Center for Advanced Visual Studies (CAVS) and the Lobby 7 Committee which explores various aspects of garbage, excrement, and waste products, will be offered in the Building 7 Lobby for the next three weeks. The exhibit "will attempt to approach the subject of trash in an artistic way, exploiting the social and societal roles of waste products in our system of life," according to Auto Pieny, director of CAVS.

"We believe that garbage is probably one of the most important influences on our lives today," Pieny explained. "'Trash' is designed to exploit that influence."

The exhibit, which was inspired by a recent sanitation workers’ strike in New York City, will feature more than five tons of garbage, litter, and sewage brought to the Building 7 Lobby to lend realism to the showing, Pieny said. Fellow CAVS have been working with the waste products, or "effluent material," for about ten days, converting it into "hard" and "soft" sculpture, interactive displays, and garbage cans.

"Interdisciplinary" "Trash" will be a truly interdisciplinary, interdepartmental, interprofessional, and intelectual experience," Pieny said, pointing out that researchers from such diverse fields as Chemical Engineering, Urban Planning, Materials Science and Engineering, and Biology had been involved in the planning of the exhibit.

Many displays which were offered for the exhibit had to be refused due to space limitations, Pieny said, citing an efficient material display offered by the Department of Nuclear Engineering as an example. In addition to the efficient material, "Trash" will feature the large inflatable sheets of plastic and video tape monitors that have been the trademark of CAVS displays in the past. In "Trash," however, CAVS "is going up all that artistic bullshit about 'meaning' and running them (the videotapes) as what they are — trash," Pieny said.

The inflatable centerpiece of the exhibit will be a 200-foot-tall inflatable garbage can, Pieny said, similar to those found in many discount stores. The plastic type of can was chosen over the more common metal can, he said, because "plastic more fully represents the throwaway nature of our society which 'Trash' attempts to deal with."

Large exhibit yet "Trash" will be the largest exhibit ever to take over the Building 7 Lobby, according to Lobby 7 Coordinator Suzanne Winberg. "When it starts out, it will just occupy the Lobby," Winberg explained. "But 'Trash' will be an organic, vital, living exhibit, and we expect it will grow throughout many of the nearby halls and rooms."

Plans have been made, Winberg said, to evacuate any rooms where the occupants "aren't in sympathy with the satirically of the exhibit."

Winberg said that, despite its size, "Trash" would not inconvenience members of the community who use Lobby 7 as an entrance to the main buildings. "As the exhibit progresses, we will make every effort to help people who need to get into the building."

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"Trash," however, can be said, for track 3 is in the material and cleaning, or exterminating, and fumigating forthwith, but that cost, estimated at about $2,5 million, was termed "trivial."

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