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By Vince Aletti

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

Art - Galleries - Chelsea

Jeff Bark

These big color photographs of a handsome young dude sunbathing in what looks like a neglected, trash-strewn back yard in L.A. were actually made in the artist’s New York garage—an installation that is partially re-created in the gallery, complete with dead palms and live parakeets. If there’s a narrative here, it’s deliberately vague. Is the guy (seen counting cash and wearing nothing but a towel) a hustler, a dealer, or just a bored slacker? Bark is more interested in atmosphere than psychology, bathing his scenes in a sticky, golden light and relishing every pungent detail, from the scorched grass to the dripping sweat. Through June 14.