

Entertainment

ART EXHIBITION

Treasures from trash

'Reclaiming Miami' features sculptures made from landfill-bound objects

By COLLEEN DOUGHER
Correspondent

Artist Lucinda Linderman occasionally wraps a giant skirt of blue and clear plastic bags around herself and, while wearing a life preserver ring, goggles and swim cap, sits down and swims ... No water needed. Other times she dons a poofy Marie Antoinette-style dress and headpiece and becomes "the queen of excess."

This captures people's attention and, once she's got that, she'll chat informally about her real passion: collecting trash and transforming landfill-bound objects into outfits and sculptures, many of which will hang in "Reclaiming Miami," her solo exhibition at Cafeina's Wynwood Exhibition Center.

The show, which features new works Linderman created from materials — mostly industrial waste — collected around Miami, will include a sculpture made from a 20-foot piece of construction fencing.

"I work as a technician for a conservation group," she says. "We redid the frieze on the Wolfsonian last year and I collected a lot of the debris that was going to get thrown away and took it back to my studio."

The fencing, which Linderman stretched, cut apart and fused back together with heat, will be exhibited as "De Construcción," a 7-by-10-foot sculpture.

"Labyrinth" is a large-scale installation made from plastic that's been wound or knitted as well as dry cleaning bags collected from a trash bin at a Miami tuxedo shop and donated by caterers at Deering Estate, where she is a resident artist.

"When caterers come in to set up for weddings, they bring the tablecloths in dry cleaning bags and on hangers," she says. "So I bring the bucket out and make them put [the bags] in, or ask them kindly to put it in or save them for me."

While Linderman regularly hits certain Miami trash containers for shrink wrap, bike tire tubes, golf club grips and other materials, trash hasn't always played such a large role in her work. She once created metal sculptures as high as 20 feet and also worked with concrete, ceramic and found objects. In 2008, frustrated by overconsumption and plastic waste, she decided to stop sending garbage to a landfill.

"It was a [two-year] project I did as a way to try to reduce my carbon footprint and see if I could do it," she says.

She bought less packaged things and separated her trash into compost, recyclables and the troublesome unrecyclables she began incorporating into her art. After two years, five paper grocery bags of trash remained, so the Tennessee-born artist began cutting up those items and using them to stuff sculptures.

Those works have included "Timeline of



COURTESY

Lucinda Linderman gets down on the floor and pretends to swim in her outfit made from trash. She designs costumes and sculptures made from items the rest of the world has discarded. Below, is her piece titled "Caution."

"Digestion" a large intestine-like sculpture made from worn-out clothes wound in plastic food packaging, and "Digest Yourself," which incorporates 900 plastic heat-fused bags in a 120-foot-long inflatable walk-through sculpture of intestines.

Linderman, who has a bachelor degree in biology and a master of fine arts in sculpture, says her initial digestion-related works referenced earthworms.

"Worms can go through a ridiculous amount of trash and produce this very rich black soil that anything will grow in," says Linderman, who calls them the ultimate

upcyclers. Recycling lowers the quality of plastic, but upcycling increases its value by adding energy, she says. "So as an artist I'm taking a material that's not very highly valued and turning it into fine art."

Colleen Dougher operates the South Florida arts blog, Arterpillar.

If you go

What: "Reclaiming Miami"

When: Saturday through April 29, with an artist reception 7-9 p.m. April 12 and a "swimming" performance by Linderman at 9 p.m. April 27

Where: Wynwood Exhibition Center, 297 NW 23rd St., Miami

Cost: Free, except for \$5 cover charge after 10 p.m. during April 14 Second Saturday Art Walk

Contact: Cafeinamiami.com/wec-wynwood-exhibition-center, 305-438-0792

TELEVISION Q&A

'Revenge' will be back on ABC

By RICH HELDENFELS
Akron Beacon Journal

Q: Has "Revenge" been taken off TV?

A: If you mean canceled, the answer is no. The show has been on hiatus but will return to ABC on April 11. The television season has far more weeks than TV series have new episodes. Some shows do not repeat well because the audience already knows the plot twists. So they often take breaks instead of repeating.

Q: One night I saw a movie with Melanie Griffith as a cop going undercover in a Hasidic household in Brooklyn. I know my husband would love it but I don't know its name or if it's available.

A: That is "A Stranger Among Us," from 1992. It was released on DVD; although it does not appear to be in current release, I have seen old copies for sale on Amazon.com. That site also has it available on streaming video.

Q: A friend and I are each watching the new show "Awake." My friend believes that the son is the only one who died in the crash. I have a feeling that both his wife and son died. There are scenes that show the wife interacting with others when the husband isn't present. So my friend is probably correct. Also is the male psychotherapist real and the female one a dream? I think the storyline is almost too difficult to follow. I may lose interest if I can't figure out the basics.

A: Based on a line in the premiere, I, too, suspected the wife and son died. But I don't have an answer for you, as frustrating as that may be for some; "Lost" always arises as an example of a show demanding a lot from its viewers as it unfolded.

"Awake" continues to work with the idea that the detective is coping with loss by moving between the different mental landscapes, one where his wife died and son survived a car crash, the other with the son dead and the wife surviving. I can't even tell you where this is headed.

As my friend, Alan Sepinwall on Hitfix.com, asked: Is it "a mythology-driven sci-fi show about a man living in a fantastic circumstance where the explanation will be of paramount importance? Or is it a character-driven police procedural with a fantastic twist that's better left unexamined as anything but a source of plot twists and heartwarming moments?"

Q: Has the last part of "The Closer" aired yet? Please tell me I have not missed it.

A: TNT will begin airing the remaining episodes of the Kyra Sedgwick drama on July 9, leading up to the series finale on Aug. 13. That same night, TNT will premiere "Major Crimes," sequel to "The Closer."