

MATTHEW MARKS GALLERY

523 West 24th Street, New York, New York 10011 Tel: 212-243-0200 Fax: 212-243-0047

Art in America

EXHIBITIONS THE LOOKOUT

“What Nerve!”

at Matthew Marks,
through Aug. 14
502, 522 and 526 West 22nd Street



One of the biggest galleries in Chelsea is playing host to a survey of alternative art groups from the 1960s to the early 2000s. This is a story of American art minus New York and Los Angeles: body socks knit in neon psychedelic patterns by Providence's Forcefield; chunky ceramic sculptures from the Bay Area's Funk Artists; freaky comics published by Chicago's Hairy Who; and documentation of performances by Ann Arbor's Destroy All Monsters. A version of this show appeared earlier this year at Providence's Rhode Island School of Design Museum. Curator Dan Nadel's scholarly approach to mapping under-appreciated artistic subcultures has, for the most part, been stripped away for this gallery presentation, which amounts to an elegant display of unruly aesthetic objects.

Pictured: *The Portable Hairy Who!*, 1966; *The Hairy Who Sideshow*, 1967; *Hairy Who*, 1968; and *Hairy Who (cat-a-log)*, 1969.