

JERRY BECK

In following Jerry Beck's work for several years, I have found myself in strange places at odd hours. Jerry is a traveller, and impresario of the overlooked, the inventor of alternative spaces and side shows for Boston-area artists.

He is all over the map, finding materials and meaning on the street and mountaintop, stirring up activity in abandoned basements and trainyards. His installations and sculptures locate the present in the past, and function as scrapbook in making coincidence seem inevitable. Afraid of neither sentiment nor overstatement, Jerry tells tall tales, full of feeling and place. A high school science teacher, Jerry's dad is a former Mr. Florida. His grandmother, who rose from teller to bank Vice-President, is said to be equally proud of her title as Chopped Liver Queen. When asked to divulge her secret ingredient, she touted, "love."

Kathy Halbreich

