

GOOD NEWS for...

TNDC received a late-year boon from the Mayor's Office of Community Development to continue its Façade Improvement Program. The \$70,000, which must be used up by June 30, the end of the city's fiscal year, will pay for three façade projects and two historic neon sign restoration projects. Former FIP projects include façade fix-ups at Original Joe's, Cadillac Market and Faithful Fools Street Ministry, and sign restorations at the Jefferson and Senator hotels. Façade projects require the owner to make a 50% match to the grant, which have a \$9,500 maximum. Sign project grants have a \$7,500 limit, but are 1-1 matches. As of Jan. 24, all five grants were still up for grabs. It's a great opportunity — get new paint and new glass, restore brick, replace rotting wood, and much more — and it's there for the taking, says TNDC's Katie Mullin. Contact her: 776-2151.

Shih Yu-Lang Central YMCA joins the Bay Area's 14 other branches in celebrating the YMCA of San Francisco's 150th anniversary in 2003. (Central is a mere 93 years old.) Last September, Central Y was renamed to honor Shih Yu-Lang, a Silicon Valley college math professor who died in 1985 and whose family made a \$5 million capital donation to the Central Y. "[Shih Yu-Lang's] personal ethic of hard work and his optimistic and enterprising spirit set an ever-lasting role model for his children, family and students," said a September press release. "His life and values, through the generosity of his family, will inspire this diverse community in the Tenderloin." Watch for announcements of Shih Yu-Lang Central Y's open house to celebrate a century and a half of service.

Call for professional artists of all kinds. The Arts Commission, after a five-year hiatus, is again looking for ideas from local artists for "Art on Market Street." The Commission is putting up \$35,000 a year for the next five years to fund two or three art projects to be displayed temporarily on Market from the Embarcadero to Castro Street. These 10-15 projects will join the 47 works that appeared from 1992 to 1998. During that period, neighborhood artists performed "Talking Drums" (1996) and in 1997 the art work of San Chrisinta Hotel residents was displayed in Hallidie Plaza. Pretty much artists from any art form — film, sculpture, dance, theater, music and literature and more — can apply and the art can be presented on public or private property. "Temporary" varies with the art form: An installation might stay up a month; a theater piece might be performed only once or twice. Awards for the Art on Market Street Temporary Projects 2003 range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. Application deadline: March 3. More info: 252-2586 and <http://sfac.sfsu.edu/pubart>.

— MARJORIE BEGGS

This column needs regular infusions. If you have some good news (no events, please), send it to marjorie@studycenter.org.

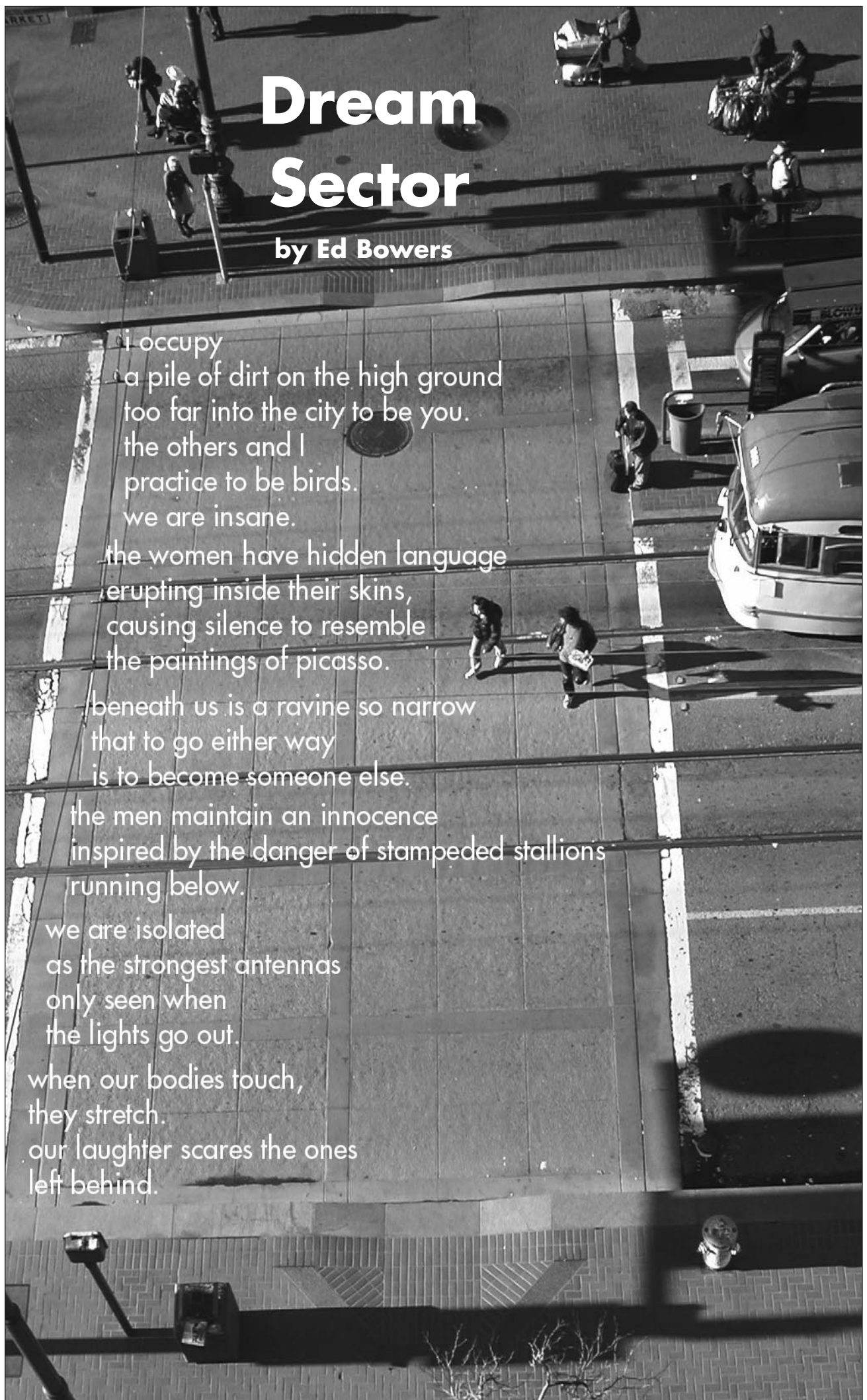


PHOTO BY CARL ANGEL

Dream Sector

by Ed Bowers

I occupy
a pile of dirt on the high ground
too far into the city to be you.
the others and I
practice to be birds.
we are insane.
the women have hidden language
erupting inside their skins,
causing silence to resemble
the paintings of picasso.
beneath us is a ravine so narrow
that to go either way
is to become someone else.
the men maintain an innocence
inspired by the danger of stampeded stallions
running below.
we are isolated
as the strongest antennas
only seen when
the lights go out.
when our bodies touch,
they stretch.
our laughter scares the ones
left behind.

Our new look

IN our continuing evolution as a community newspaper, *The Extra* turned to the top newspaper designer in the Bay Area for help.

Don McCartney, best known for his prize-winning *Examiner* page layouts and the *Chronicle* PM flag, has come up with this redesign.

McCartney has given *The Extra* a consistent look that capitalizes on our unique tabloid format and imparts a magazine-airy feel. It makes *The Extra* easier to read — and more fun.

This is a breakthrough in tabloid design. We hope you like it.

— Geoff Link, Publisher

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SAN FRANCISCO

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