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Shape of the Universe

"The Universe is built from a simple form. That form is commonly understood to be an atom and the shape of that form is commonly understood to be a sphere. For my purposes, I would prefer to see that shape as a beard..." And so begins Greg Smith's statement about his current exhibition at Susan Inglett Gallery, a fun and colorful amalgamation of absurdity that makes you wonder ... why beards?

That explanation is **given**, but as I recently read somewhere 'the world is full of explanations and I'm tired of them.' It's much more fun and interesting to *experience* the new universe and in this exhibition the artist presents the objects and backdrops from the film he created (part of which is on view in the sidebar at the right).

In it, moments such as a roll of tape stuck to a clear plastic bag being blown by a fan become a cosmic landscape containing a lone spaceship or a white blood cell drifting through the biological interior. A single human figure plays the 'alien' part, eating his plastic meal with relish.

Is this work science fiction? Abstraction? Surrealism? All of the above? It certainly is a reflection on our human condition, the objects that surround us on a daily basis, and creative use of exterior lighting.

Greg Smith
Bearded

Susan Inglett Gallery - 522 West 24th Street
until May 29, 2010

