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ART

HAVE ART, WILL TRAVEL

Food trucks may have jumped the shark, but the art truck is a phenomenon that's just getting in gear.

HAT DOES ONE DO WITH A RENOVATED Hostess delivery truck? "The idea is to get art out into the world in a way that surprises people," says Santa Fe artist Jerry Wellman, who, with Matthew Chase-Daniel, runs Axle Contemporary, a modern gallery on wheels. Each day Axle stations itself at Santa Fe's shopping malls, parking lots, or other spots not typically known for artistic awareness to showcase and sell the work of dozens of artists, from video art pioneers and Kitchen founders Steina and Woody Vasulka to

sculptor Paula Castillo. In May, Axle will present Jungle, an installation by emerging Santa Fe artists Lara Nickel and Brandon Soder that will transform the truck into a tropical greenhouse—themed space. "We encourage experimentation," says Chase-Daniel, a sculptor and photographer. He says he and Wellman are considering putting the truck on a train and shipping "her" to L.A. or New York for a tour. They also have a fantasy of taking the gallery to Venice for the Biennale "and floating it on a barge on a canal for the summer." KRISTAN SCHILLER



No gyros here. Paintings, sculptures, installations, and performance pieces are on offer inside the mobile Axle Contemporary art gallery.