58 VILLAGE VOICE AUGUST 23-29, 2006

Best in Show

Recommendations by R.C. Baker

Partial Recall

Lehmann Maupin Gallery 540 West 26th Street Through August 25

Beauties and Beastliness

In one corner is Juergen Teller's 2005 color photo of Hitler's Nuremburg podium, the concrete now uneven and stained, and his shot of an animal—stripped to orange ribs and carbonized pelvis—on a rotis-



ash Snow/Lehmann Maupin Galle

serie spit at a German festival. This theme of regimented, mechanized beastliness is countered by Dash Snow's digital prints of what look like enlarged Polaroids; although taken in recent years, these shaggy guys fighting with feather pillows or thrusting out of water with bare-breasted beauties on their shoulders radiate hippie hijinks. Jeffrey Vallance stakes out the middle ground in this show of nine diverse artists, constructing witty reliquaries that range from a standard collection of religious medals and dice (representing lots cast by Roman soldiers at the foot of the cross) to The Gods of Las Vegas, a black box containing rhinestone pins spelling out "Elvis," "Nixon," "Liberace," and "Jesus." There's also Lenin in a red cupboard, basking in the glow of lacquer pins from the Soviet era, and a *Coral in the Shape of* Connie Chung. All await your veneration.

