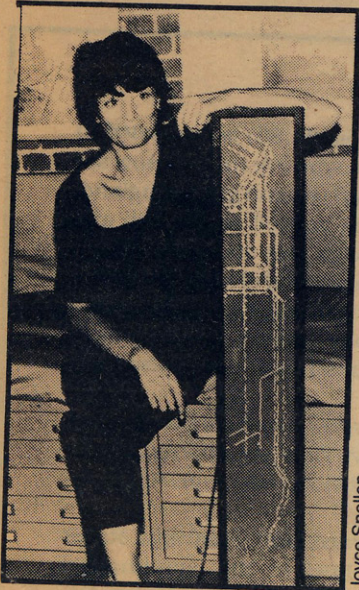


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WASHINGTON MARKET REVIEW

Newsclips



Francoise Schein

Joyce Snellen

Soho's Sidewalk Subway

The Manhattan subway system may soon be immortalized in stainless steel—with lights marking appropriate stops—on a sidewalk in Soho.

Artist Francoise Schein got the nod in June from the Community Board Two Landmarks Committee for her proposal to imbed a schematic of the subway system in a new sidewalk in front of 110 Greene Street between Spring and Prince Streets.

The map will consist of half-inch wide stainless steel strips implanted two inches deep into the concrete, with lights indicating Soho area subway stops.

Schein says the project will be "multi-functional"—an artwork consistent with her concentration on themes of "networking, cities, and stuff like that," and an information service for visitors looking for the nearest IRT stop.

When Schein presented her "Project for a Subway Floating on a New York Sidewalk" on June 19, the Board Two Landmarks Committee—not generally known for its leniency or sense of humor—declared it "fun" and "appropriate to the Soho Cast Iron District" before approving it unanimously.

Schein is still awaiting final action on the project by the city Landmarks Preservation

Commission, which staffer Don Plotts says may come during the next month as the Commission meets in executive session to deal with its substantial backlog of pending applications.

Meanwhile, Schein is attempting to flesh out the "donation package" she needs to complete the project if approved. Both the owner of 110 Greene Street and the sidewalk construction contractor have promised support, she says, but contributions are still needed for materials and other expenses.

—Mickey Revenaugh