

THE SCOUT

Paper forest

By DAVID A. KEEPS
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WHEN he isn't designing downtown greenbelts or public gardens, Calvin Abe considers his place in the paper shuffle. The result is the art installation "Shreddings 2: So What," a forest of tree-like forms made from shredded drawings and documents from the urban landscape architecture firm Ah'be in Culver City. "We normally recycle paper in the blue bin," says Abe, right. "The premise is to intervene in that process and create something that questions how we use things." Last year, the firm created a 1,600-square-foot, 18-inch-high carpet made from six weeks' worth of office paper. "People said they were saddened by it," he says. "The amount of waste that we generate caused a surprising and powerful emotion." This year, Abe hopes that turning three months' worth of office waste into 20 trees will be educational and uplifting, the result a garden of Earth-friendly delight. "Shreddings 2" opens Tuesday, after this weekend's Earth Day celebrations, and runs through May 18 at the MODAA Gallery, Museum of Design Art + Architecture, 8609 Washington Blvd., Culver City; (310) 558-0902; www.ahbe.com.



GENARO MOLINA *Los Angeles Times*