



A MONTHLY
CULTURE MATRIX
FOR THE COSMOPOLITAN TRAVELER



An installation shot of *Twilight in the Garden of Hope*.

Kathy Ruttenberg: *Twilight in the Garden of Hope*

UNTIL AUGUST 12
LYLES & KING / NEW YORK / ART

On the terrace of the Chinatown gallery Lyles & King looms Kathy Ruttenberg's mesmerizing sculpture of a 16-foot ceramic tree and the small pond it grows over. The tree's nose—yes, it has a nose, and eyes and a mouth, too—is a short branch from which water pours into the pool, cooling a naked woman who floats there. On the circular bank around her there are flowers and cattails, a snake, and skunk, and a fox. In the water with her is what looks like a large human heart. Is she alive or dead? Is this an end or a beginning? Her position—palms up, eyes glazed open—recalls the John Everett Millais painting *Ophelia*. Walk around the tree and on its backside is a carved scene: Eve offering Adam the apple. A forest, a fall, a fountain. Don't miss Ruttenberg's mysteriously sentient vision of nature. —C.M.