JESSICA SILVERMAN GALLERY

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The Tenderloin Gets Some Sparkle

Long an enclave of drug dealing, soup kitchens and S.R.O.s, but also live theater, Asian immigrant families and bargain Vietnamese restaurants, the Tenderloin remains a mean-streets anomaly in a city awash in tech dollars. These days, lured by a cache of handsome historic architecture, a central location and moderate rents (at least compared with stratospheric prices elsewhere in San Francisco), pioneering galleries, small performance venues, niche boutiques and trendy watering holes are joining the mix, drawing young urbanites to this neighborhood southwest of the upscale Union Square shopping district. CHRISTOPHER HALL

