

TRADITION

SWEET CHARITY







Clockwise from top left: "tzedakah" box of walnut, brass and lead on wood by Salo Rawet; "G Is for Giving," in wood, by Beth Grossman; "tzedakah" box of found objects and paint, by Willis Bing Davis; "Money Is Better than Poverty, If Only for Financial Reasons," sewn dollar bills by Ray Beldner; Echinacea spice box for Hanukkah by Paula J. Newman; Marc Chagall's "Carmen," 1966, a color lithograph poster for Metropolitan Opera performance; "Strings Attached," in mixed media, by Lisa Kokin.

In the Jewish tradition, charity is called *tzedakab*. Money, food and other offerings to the needed are put into containers called a *tzedakab* box in homes, synagogues and other places where Jews gather.

"Making Change: 100 Artists Interpret the Tzedakah Box" is an unusual exhibition being mounted by the Jewish Museum of San Francisco through Jan. 23, 2000. It is the first exhibition that bears the stamp of the Museum's new director, Connie Wolf, since she came from the Whitney Museum earlier this year.

"The exhibit is not about a box," Wolf has said. "We chose the ritual object because it represents a tradition that embodies community outreach, service and empowerment."

Some 23 curators and museum professionals from across the country assisted in compiling a list of eclectic artists from across the country. In addition, artist/educator Tim Rollins + K.O.S. (Kids of Survival) will head an outreach workshop of children creating artwork based on readings from the Old Testament and the words of Dr. Martin

Luther King, the work from that project will be incorporated into the exhibit.

The Jewish Museum is located at 121 Steuart Street (between Mission and Howard) in San Francisco. Hours are Sunday-Wednesday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Admission is \$4 adults; \$2 students and seniors (62 and older). Information: (415) 543-8880. ◆



Berkeley's Judah L. Magnes Museum also has a worthwhile holiday exhibition. "Chagall: Master Prints and Posters — Selections from the Magnes Museum Collection" offers a rare look at Marc Chagall's graphic works; it is up through March 26, 2000.

Selected works include etchings from his early portfolio, "Mein Leben," works from Chagall's series of 105 hand-colored etchings illustrating the Bible and five color-litho-

graph maquettes for his Jerusalem windows.

Also on exhibit: recent acquisitions from former San Francisco Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver's "Jewish Power" hat to illustrated Haggadahs and Op Art paintings.

Located at 921 Russell Street, the Magnes Museum is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays-Thursdays. Information: (510) 549-6950.



