

the village

VOICE

Sexual Shape-Shifters

XX MARKS THE SPOT

BY ED HALTER

Another bittersweet medical tale unfolds in indie trailblazer Su Friedrich's *The Odds of Recovery*. A subtly lensed first-person account of Friedrich's own history of mysterious ailments and perennial surgeries, *Odds* includes sneaky DV footage of doctor's appointments that coyly illustrate universal discomforts ("What the fuck is this?" mutters Friedrich, an increasingly impatient patient, struggling with yet another confusingly designed paper gown.) What could have been a health-care screed becomes a middle-age meditation on mortality. "You frighten yourself with that fear of not being totally in control," says her longtime companion. "What would happen to you if you gave that up?" One answer is *Odds* itself, which settles down into its own engagingly crafted, smoothly mellow rhythm.

ShortList

'FLESH AND BONES' Women Make Movies marks its 30th anniversary with this series of films and videos on the female form by artists as varied as the structuralist-minimalist Yoko Ono (showing the legendary *Fly*) and the nudie-cutie queen Doris Wishman. The centerpiece is the world premiere of Su Friedrich's *The Odds of Recovery*—she's an avant-gardist whose oeuvre falls somewhere in between the two—although John Waters will be on hand to introduce the Friday show of Wishman's 1978 sex-change drama, *Let Me Die as a Woman*. THROUGH TUESDAY, Pioneer Theater, 155 East 3rd Street, 254-3300. (Hoberman)