

Valley Arts District presents its monthly Art Loop tour Friday

Several activities are planned within next two weekends in the Valley Arts District of Orange and West Orange:

- The monthly Art Loop tour begins Friday at 5 p.m. On the last Friday of each month, the Art Loop rotates to a different art organization in order to highlight each venue within the district.

Friday's tour will include a reception for the Summer Sculpture Garden, an effort by Valley Arts to continue to make visible the work of emerging and mid-career artists working in sculpture, to a local audience. Artists will use the unique site-specific con-

text of the garden as inspiration for their work, or integrate existing work into the physical location of the sculpture garden.

The Summer Sculpture Garden will be located along Mitchell Street between South Jefferson and Stockman streets.

- "Window Dressing IV: Re'Tracked" is the summer installment of the Window Dressing series at the Oualie Art gallery.

The works in this series by Jerry Gant uses a number of different media to examine the history of the chain gang, the birth of the blues as well as the relationship between contemporary graffiti and hobo culture.

Some reviewers have stated the quality of his imagery allows it to move between the street and the gallery and that visitors to his exhibitions notice design motifs they may have seen on the back of a jacket, on the side of a building or epitomized in sculpture.

Gant also will present "Loud Speaker," from his theatrical performance series. A reception is scheduled for Friday at 8:30 p.m. in the gallery, 540 Freeman St. The exhibit also can be seen during the gallery's summer schedule, Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mature content will be presented during the exhibit.

- The Valley Arts District welcomed new member artist Marty Kahnle as his exhibit began last week inside the IronWorks Gallery.

"I'm either making serious paintings about ridiculous things or I am painting whimsical subjects seriously. Either way, the work is intended to be thought-provoking and light-hearted simultaneously," said Kahnle. "I usually work on several paintings concurrently, so the paintings themselves tend to dialog into one another."

Kahnle's works will be presented in the gallery weekdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.