

The Black Butterfly
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LeMieux GALLERIES

Representing
 Louisiana &
 Gulf Coast artists

209 METAIRIE RD. (837-6014)
 332 JULIA ST. (522-5988)

**JAMES VELLA
 GLASS SCULPTURE**

What: Glass versions of New Orleans food and litter rendered in a woody pop style.

Where: New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, Contemporary Craft tent G. When: Through Sunday. Price: From \$100 to \$2,000.

VELLA, from A-16

too Vella sculpts: glass beer cans (crushed while still malleable hot), custom-blown beer bottles in glass paper sacks (because, he says, you can't carry an unwrapped bottle in the streets) and plastic go-cups with red plastic



James Vella

straws (rendered in glass, of course).

"I think of trash as a sign of the strength of the city."

Vella said with remarkable irony. "Great tourism, wonderful parties, they're going to leave trash behind."

And speaking of trash, Hurricane Katrina trashed Vella's second-story glass studio in Bywater. Rain poured through a missing wall and ruined crucial glass-making equipment. Vella was forced to evacuate, and returned to his Marigny home two months later. Though he plans to restore the studio, it remains unusable. Many of the glass objects dis-

played at Jazzfest were made during his evacuation as a visiting artist at glass studios in North Carolina and Ohio.

Though there are other places to make glass sculpture, Nebraska-born Vella, who's lived in New Orleans for 12 years, plans to stay. "If my evacuation taught me nothing else," he said, "it's that I could not live in another city. This is truly my home."

exhibitions

Note: Exhibitions having openings this week are indicated with a ♦

The **Historic New Orleans Collection** 635 Royal St., 525-4682. Jacob Lawrence's complete 1938 Toussaint L'Ouverture Series, part of the "Common Routes" exhibit, through June 30. Tues-Sat, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30; additional hours Wed 4:30 to 7:30. Lawrence exhibit free.

Ogden Museum of Southern Art 825 Camp St., 538-9900. "Designing the Future of New Orleans," plans for post-Katrina homes: "Common Hall and High Water," photos of storm victims by Thomas Neri and "Art and Life in Louisiana: Elmore Morgan Sr. and Elmore Morgan Jr.," Thurs 6-8; Fri-Sun, 11 a.m. to 4. Admission \$5.

New Orleans Museum of Art and the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden City Park, 806-4712. "Seen in Solitude," landscapes by Robert Rauschenberg; "A Keen Eye: Louisiana Art from the Martin Aron and Ray Samuel Collection," "Reflections of the Storm," and the permanent exhibits. Fri-Sun, 10 a.m. to 4:30. Free.

GALLERIES

A **Gallery for Film Photography** 241 Charrier St., 568-1035. "A Geometry of Echoes," works by Josephine Sacabo, through June 2. Thurs-Mon, noon to 4.

A.G. Wagner Studio and Gallery 813 Royal St., 561-7440. Works by Edith Scheff, with a reception, 6-9 tonight through May 31. Mon-Sat, 11 a.m. to 6.

Academy Gallery 6256 Magazine St., 899-8111. "A Response to Katrina," group show, through May 12. Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. to 4; Sat, 10 a.m. to 4.

Amazing Gallery 906 Royal St., 525-7272. "Survived: The Art of the Storm"

Seuss," opening, 6 tonight, through May 14. Open daily, 10 a.m.-6.

Arthur Roger Gallery 432 Julia St., 522-1898. Paintings by David Bates, Mon-Sat, 10 a.m. to 5.

The Big Top (5-Ring Circus Gallery) 838 Cho St., 569-2700. "PRO-WARNING" sculpture by Jimmy Descant, through May 13. Thurs-Sat, 3 to 7 p.

Carol Robinson Gallery 840 Napoleon Ave., 895-6130. "Still Life in New Orleans," work by Masahiro Arai, through Sat. Tues-Fri, 10 a.m. to 2; Sat, 11 a.m. to 4.

Cole Pratt Gallery 3900 Magazine St., 891-6768. Paintings by Paul Turner; and "Boats," works by John Evans, through Sat. Tues-Sat, 10 a.m. to 5.

The Derivatives: New Orleans Center for the Photographic Arts 1927 Sophie Wright Place, 522-3211. "Light on Music," music-themed photography through May. Mon-Tues, 10 a.m. to 5; Thurs-Sun, 10 a.m. to 5.

♦ **Gallery 811** 811 Royal St., 524-7510. Works Michael Fedor; with a reception, 6-9 Sat., through June. Open daily, 9:30 a.m.-5:30.

Gallery Sallet 229 Royal St., 525-6312. Paintings and photography by New Orleans artists Barry Melurus, Melinda Gandy, Don Rhoads, Don Pittman, Jim Ward and Mia Kaplan, through July. Sun-Wed, 11 a.m.-7; Thurs-Sat, 11 a.m.-8:30.

♦ **Hansen/Kling Gallery** 523 Royal St., 556-9240. Works by Gary Patterson and Markon Barnes, opening Fri. Paintings by surrealists Raymond Douillet and Jean Pierre Sarnier, through Sun. Mon-Sat, 10 a.m. to 5; Sun 11 a.m. to 5.

Jenkins Connolly Gallery 402a Julia St., 522-8111. "Focal Portraits" by Meredith Parole. Tues, through June. 30. 10 a.m.-5 Mon-Sat.

Joestha Ferrara 643 Carondelet St., Suite 1, 522-5471. "Daylight Right" landscapes by Miranda Laig, through May 31. Tues-Sat, noon to 6.

Lelieux Galleries 332 Julia St., 562-8988. "New Orleans Our Hometown: Photographs from a World of Admirers," a benefit photo exhibit. Tues-Sat, 10 a.m. to 6.

Martin Lawrence Gallery 433 Royal St., 239-9065. "Hello Dail," works by Dail and modern masters, through Sun. Fine art auction, Fri-Sat. Open daily, 10 a.m. to 6.

♦ **Michalopoulos Gallery** 617 Glenville St., 558-0005. Sketches and studies from JazzFest by James Michalopoulos with a

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