

●●ORANGE SHOW NEWS ●●
2402 MUNGER ● HOUSTON, TEXAS ● 77023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(713) 926-6368

CONTACT: CHRISTY COX-SILBERNAGEL
OR BETH SECOR

THE SEASON OPENING CELEBRATION AND SIDE SHOW BONANZA
Saturday, March 12, 7-11 pm at The Orange Show
members \$3, nonmembers \$5
RAIN LOCATION: Old Oak Farms Dairy, 2000 Westheimer

In 1956, Houston postman Jeff McKissack obtained a building permit for a beauty parlor. Sometime later, he added to the bottom of the permit the words "Beauty parlors going out of style -- have better idea -- The Orange Show."

McKissack's "better idea" is a concrete fantasy land created of found objects by the late postman over a twenty-five year period. The hand-made structure illustrates the importance of McKissack's favorite fruit, good health and hard work. It is recognized as one of the great monuments to the human drive to create art. The Foundation, which grew from a diverse and massive grassroots effort, was formed in 1980 to preserve The Orange Show and utilize it as a cultural and educational resource.

Each Spring The Orange Show is repainted, replastered, repaired and then reopened with an extra special event. This year The Orange Show puts on its dancing shoes and rolls out the orange carpet for you to join us as we celebrate the continued preservation of the visionary landmark with the ever surreal band, LITTLE JACK MELODY AND HIS YOUNG TURKS, death-defying stunts by ALEXANDRIA AND RED TROWER, and fertility dances from the HOUSTON MEN OF MORRIS DANCERS.

LITTLE JACK MELODY AND HIS YOUNG TURKS has received rave reviews in a wide array of national publications like Rolling Stone, Esquire, the Village Voice and NPR's "All Things Considered" featured a story on the group. Once introduced as the Mambo Kings of Weimer Germany, Little Jack Melody's original compositions are intelligent, sardonic, full of metaphor and club-footed rhythms. Little Jack frequently suggests that he has a live feed to the spirit of Kurt Weill and the band's covers include a smattering of Herr Weill's works like "Alabama Song," "Mack the Knife" auf Deutsch, and "Buddy Can You Spare a Dime" (with an intro of a minor-keyed "Happy Days Are Here Again"). Other covers include the Bernstein/Sondheim "America" interrupted by klezmer breaks. Frank Sinatra's "French Foreign Legion," Perry Como's "Hot Diggety" and the ultimate "Is That All There Is?" are all played with an intensity bordering on the demonic. This band creates a visual and auditory mayhem that remains just barely under control; Little Jack Melody, banging cymbals out of shape and emitting the occasional howl from the depths of a soul, is a consummate, charismatic showman. The combination is utterly captivating.

To top the evening off Houston's most famous stuntmasters ALEXANDRIA and RED TROWER take center ring in The Show for awe inspiring evening of thrills and chills and audience participation stunts. These professional dare-devils will perform The Ladder of Death, Bed of Nails, Knife Throwing, Fire Spitting, Sword Swallowing and other stunts. And remember kids, don't try this at home.

Equally thrilling are the Celtic fertility dances performed by the HOUSTON MEN OF MORRIS DANCERS, who will gently wake Spring from its slumber and start this night off on the right foot.

The Orange Show will be open to the public: Weekends and Holidays - Noon to 5 pm and Weekdays 9-1 pm (between Memorial Day and Labor Day). Admission is \$1 for adults and free for children 12 or younger. Group tours of 10 or more are given during the week by appointment. The Orange Show is located at 2401 Munger, one block off the feeder of I-45 South at the Telephone Road exit ramp.

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ART CAR BALL

Thursday, April 28, 7-11 pm
\$25 members, \$35 nonmembers, \$40 at door
\$100 Donor Dinner
for tickets call - 926-6368

It's not only the cheapest and best party in town but a fundraiser for the world's only Orange Show. Everyone is invited to the roof top of 1600 Smith Parking Garage for this art car celebration as we showcase over 100 wildly decorated art cars. It's still a secret but several of Houston's top bands will be working the crowd into a dancing frenzy and Houston's best restaurants will be providing food for this rolling, costumed, freeflowing event. Before joining the crowd, donors will be wined, dined and entertained downstairs from the Ball.

MAIN STREET DRAG

Friday, April 29, Noon
Beginning at The Orange Show

Art Cars gather at The Orange Show for an impromptu parade that travels from one end of Main Street to the other with a special stop at the Texas Children's Hospital.

ART CAR LECTURE

Friday, April 29, 7-9 pm

Out-of-town art car artists give slide lectures on this public art medium with Harrod Blank, filmmaker and author of Wild Wheels, leading the group.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS: THE ARTISTS PARADE

Saturday, April 30, 1 pm
Downtown Houston on Houston International Festival Grounds

Roadside Attractions: The Artists Parade* is the world's largest procession of augmented automobiles, wheeled wonders, transformed vehicles, and other sorts of rolling sculptures. The seventh annual Artists Parade promises to be the grandest, greatest and grooviest, with an expected attendance of over 200,000 gape mouthed spectators eyeing more than 300 entries. The procession begins on Allen Parkway at 1 pm and doesn't stop until the last entry rolls by an hour later. When the engines are cut, all fingers are crossed, and everyone waits breathless as the judges make their final decisions to be announced during Awards Ceremony. This year's awards categories include: top prize, Judges Choice, and Best Art Car, the best Attention to Detail, the Best Rolling Sculpture, the Best Folk Art/Found Object, the Best Social Commentary, Best Small Vehicle, Best Roller Blade/Skate Costume, Best Bi/Tricycle, Best Motorcycle, Best Lowrider, Best Musical Entry, and last but not least, Best Classic Car. And be sure to get your vote in for the People's Choice Award.

To enter your wheeled wonder in the Artists Parade, just telephone the ART CAR HOTLINE at 926-CARS and request an entry application, leaving your name, address and telephone. Remember, the deadline for entries is NO LATER than Sunday, March 27 at 5 pm.

For more information on the Art Car Weekend Events call the ART CAR HOTLINE: 926-CARS(2277)

*Roadside Attractions: The Artists Parade is a joint project of The Orange Show Foundation and the Houston International Festival.

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ORANGE SHOW TOURS FOR CHILDREN'S GROUPS AND SCHOOLS

Beginning March 14th

Reservations required

Call Beth at 926-6368 for more information and reservations

Tours of the Orange Show allow children to experience art as they have never have before -- as a creation of a "real" person like Jeff McKissack. They can walk on The Orange Show, climb the stairs, touch it, listen to the whirligigs. Our art workshops encourage children to appreciate their own creative vision, give them the skills to share that vision with the world and give them an empowering belief in themselves. Please call Beth at 926-6368 for more information about types of tours available.

EASTER ORANGE HUNT

Sunday, April 3, 1-2:30 pm

\$1 Hunting Fee

Well known children's performing artist, Luisa Amaral-Smith and the infamous Easter Bunny hop by The Orange Show for an afternoon of entertainment, oranges and sugar-free goodies. Kids ten and younger are invited to participate in the hunt.

THE BROWN LECTURES - REBECCA HOFFBERGER

Thursday, April 7, 7-9 pm

Brown Auditorium at the Museum of Fine Arts

Free for members and students, \$5 nonmembers

The first guest lecturer in this series funded by the Brown Foundation is Rebecca Hoffberger, founding director of the American Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore, Maryland. She address the development and necessity of this museum with slides and a short film "The Art of Tressa Prisbrey," creator of Grandma's Bottle Village in Simi Valley, California. The American Visionary Art Museum is the first museum in North America to be wholly dedicated to assembling a comprehensive national collection of the finest and most original examples of American visionary art. This lecture is co-sponsored by The Orange Show Foundation and the Museum of Fine Arts.

EYEOPENERS TOUR WITH REBECCA HOFFBERGER

Saturday, April 9

In conjunction with Rebecca Hoffberger's lecture, The Orange Show has put together a special tour that visits the studios, environments and works of visionary artists in Houston. The tour includes a brochure, lunch and plenty of libations on the way.

1994 ART CAR WEEKEND: APRIL 23 - MAY 30

CHILDREN'S ART CAR WORKSHOP

Saturday and Sunday, April 23 & 24, 11-6 pm

at the KID'S BLOCK on the HOUSTON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL GROUNDS

Have you ever wanted to stick something on your parents' car, or paint all over it? Well, here's your chance! Bring your thinking cap to the KID'S BLOCK at the Houston International Festival and help us transform a boring car into an Art Car. And you can be in the parade, too! This event is sponsored by the Junior League.