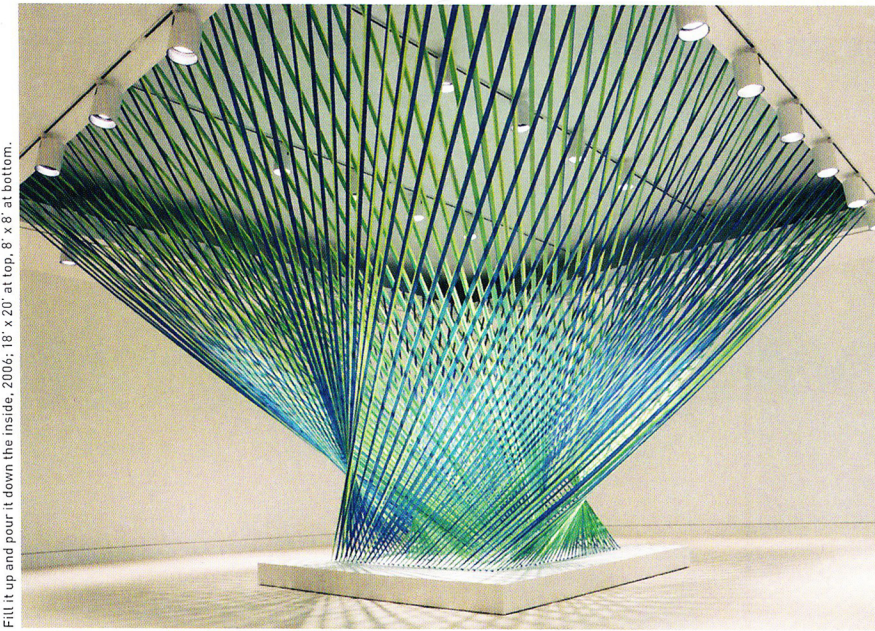


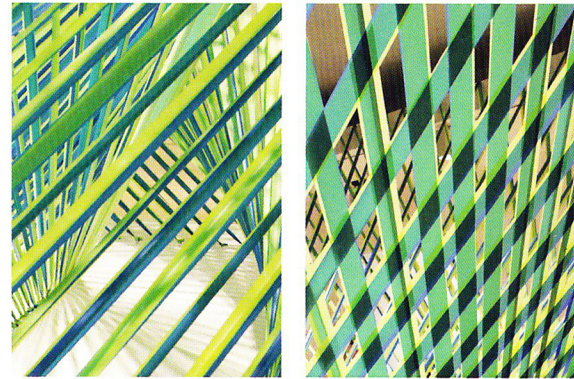
## TRIBEZA Pick

a selection of events &amp; exhibitions to attend in may

**“STRADDLE THE LINE IN DISCORD AND RHYME,”****BY MEGAN GECKLER**

Women &amp; Their Work Gallery

Through May 28



We have all heard of the pioneers of minimalism—Donald Judd, Sol Lewitt, and Dan Flavin—and their works, which were essentially created to mesmerize and involve us, the spectator. Well, 33-year-old Megan Geckler has put a new spin on the minimalist theme with her eye-popping and engaging installations.

Even though as a kid she constantly drew and crafted projects, Geckler chose the pre-med path in college. After the second half of her first year, however, she realized that her true passion was creating works of art, and that is what she continues doing to this day. She creates installations in direct response to the architecture of the individual spaces in which they will exist.

Geckler describes her first Texas exhibition, “Straddle the line in discord and rhyme,” at Women & Their Work Gallery as “brightly colored, large-scale, site-specific light plus space installations that become seemingly kinetic as the viewer travels through the space they inhabit.” She chose the name of the exhibition, a line from Duran Duran’s “Hungry Like the Wolf,” because of the combination of using clashing colors with a symmetrical design. “I am straddling the line between levels of taste and color choices. The colors are in discord, but the symmetry functions like rhyme.” In order to create her web-like geometric installations, Geckler primarily uses recycled

plastic from construction, electrical, plumbing, or sign-making companies. For this installation, she will use colorful flagging tape. “Taking something that we see every day and elevating it into a fine-art environment gives it a new life and helps us appreciate it for what it is—a colorful transparent material,” she says.

Before she even visited Women & Their Work, Geckler created preliminary computer-aided 3-D drawings. “Since I have never visited the space, these drawings allowed me to ‘walk through’ the space and have a sense of how to direct the pathway of the viewers throughout the installation space,” she says. During the transformation from gallery to work of art, she made sure to highlight each and every architectural quirk. This installation features a duo of overlapping tilted planes in space, constructed by hundreds of neon plastic ribbon.

Geckler planned her installation with an eye to what the spectator will experience at any given point while progressing through the space of the gallery. The viewer’s experience is a result of his or her own movement. “If the viewer stops moving, the piece appears to stop moving as well,” Geckler says. “So in essence the viewer’s curiosity and movement are what fuel the installation.” Experience this innovative installation for yourself at Women & Their Work Gallery through May 28. **M. Kaldis**