

PARTIES GALORE Museum of Fine Arts' Grand Gala Ball, Domestic Art book launch party at Neiman Marcus, World AIDS Day Luncheon kickoff at Saks Fifth Avenue, Texas Children's Hospital at Ralph Lauren, UNICEF Gala, Theater District afternoon soirée, Silver at Glassell, Texan-French Alliance for the Arts, Deborah Colton's "A Time For Change." Whew.

at Savannah, Georgia's Telfair Museum (through January 11). The companion volume documents a time and a place in America that remains extremely relevant today (don't miss the images of Or. King) ... Texas man of granite Jesus Moroles has received the highest art honor: a National Medal of Arts, Rockport-based Moroles has sculpted granite monoliths from Houston to Beijing, and joins such greats as Agnes Martin and Louise Nevelson in receiving this accolade ... Internationally known, Houston Fifth Ward-based Bert Long Jr.'s eoic "Art/Life" canvas now resides at the Houston Public Library Looscan Neighborhood Library in River Oaks, funded by the City of Houston's percent-for-art grogram, managed by Houston Arts Alliance... Light and sound installationists Jeff Shore and Jon Fisher (repped by McClain Gallery) have taken over the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, Missouri (through January 11) ... Three hometown heroines are participating in Sculpture for New Orleans, a project that places public sculpture throughout the Crescent City for a two-year period: Sharon Kopriva's haunting Resurrection, 'Tara Conley's gargantuan bronze bunny and Michelle O'Michael's 18' steel spiral ... Wade Wilson-represented painter Joseph Marioni opens the McNay Museum in San Antonio's

documenting the Civil Rights movement is the subject of "Freedom's March," a major retrospective

Kudos and Congrats: Pioneering lensman and FotoFest chairman Fred Baldwin's work

new Jane and Arthur Stieren Center for Exhibition, designed by French architect Jean-Paul Viguier. Marioni, whose juminescent monochromes ally him with the Concrete movement, is the first living

American artist to solo in the museum's new wing (through January-18) ... Grande dame Jane Blaffer Owen received a prestigious National Trust for Historic Preservation honor, the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award, for revitalizing New Harmony, Indiana.