

Deborah Colton Gallery finds second home

■ The real estate shuffle means more to see, such as this weekend's interactive project

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Starting Saturday night, art junkies who want to keep up with Deborah Colton Gallery will have to add a stop to their itineraries.

For the past five years, Colton's gallery has been at 2500 Summer, home to David Adickes' SculpturWorx and about 25 artists' studios. With the future of the former warehouse just west of downtown uncertain, Colton is leasing artist Molly Gochman's Commune on North Boulevard for the gallery's lineup of exhibits through 2010.

But Colton says she's hanging on to her space on the third floor of the Summer Street building "at least" through the end of the year — and beyond, she hopes.

"We're hopeful that the art community will be able to save the building," which Adickes has put up for sale, she says. "We'd like to keep this space as a project space."

After he sells the Summer Street building, Adickes, who's known for creating giant presidential busts and other public-scale works, says he plans to build a building specifically for the creation of monumental sculptures at 2400 Nance, east



JOHNNY HANSON: CHRONICLE
ON NORTH: Molly Gochman's project Saturday at Deborah Colton Gallery on North depends on interaction with whoever shows up.

TWO STOPS

■ *Release: Give-Away III* by Molly Gochman. Opening interactive event, 6-9 p.m. Saturday; exhibit continues 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday. Deborah Colton Gallery on North, 2445 North; 713-869-5151.

■ *Reflections: A Survey From Select Exhibitions at 2500 Summer Street* and *Marianne Vitale: Tryst at Urn Stye*. 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Aug. 30. Deborah Colton Gallery on Summer, 2500 Summer; 713-864-2364.

of downtown.

The new building would have higher ceilings than the



DEBORAH COLTON GALLERY
ON SUMMER: The *Reflections* survey at Deborah Colton Gallery on Summer brings together the works of 20 artists, including Lowell Boyers, whose work includes *The Reach*.

Summer Street space, where ceilings are only 14 feet, he says.

Additionally, Adickes plans to convert a building that used to house Huntsville High School, from which he graduated in 1943, to an art space that would include a museum, gal-

lery and studio.

"That's the plan, in any case," he says. "Until the building happens, nothing will happen."

Visitors play their part

Colton's current exhibitions work, and the audience becomes part of the project. It's a surprise for everyone."

Works created in the course of Saturday's event will be on view at the new Deborah Colton Gallery on North through Thursday.

Summer Street through Aug. 30. The gallery's portion of all sales will be donated to Aurora Picture Show and DiverseWorks.

Meanwhile, Gochman, who describes herself as "an experiential, inter-sensory artist," is holding what will double as Commune's final event and the debut of Deborah Colton Gallery on North at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Release: Give-Away III is the latest installment of a project that began in 2002 with an invitation to visitors to "take home free clothes by modeling what you love." Participants picked their favorite garments from those on display and were photographed with their chosen items.

The photos were exhibited in 2003 during *Give-Away Project II* at DiverseWorks. Saturday's event, in turn, will build on the previous one, though Colton, whose gallery now represents Gochman, can't say exactly how.

"I don't think Molly even knows," Colton says. "That's the beauty of this type of work. She's going to be totally pure with it and not try to sway (the outcome) in one way or the other."

Because Gochman's process depends on interaction with whoever shows up, "you can't really determine what's going to happen," Colton says. "That's the magic and the beauty of it ... you don't really know how people will interact with the work, and the audience becomes part of the project. It's a surprise for everyone."

Summer Street

At Summer Street, the *Reflections* survey includes works by 20 artists, including Ultra Violet, Jonas Mekas, Lowell Boyers, Suzanne Anker and Jerry Kearns.

Starting in September, Liutauras Psibilskis, who curated *Chemical City*, one of Colton's 2007 group shows, will work for the gallery out of New York "on a freelance, consultative basis under the auspices of starting a project space," Colton says.

The project space could be in the Summer Street building if efforts to keep it as an arts space succeed, she says.

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