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**EXHIBITION** "Open Doors Downtown", group show of six artists  
**LOCATION** AMLI Downtown, Corner of Lavaca and 3rd Street, Austin, Texas  
**OPENING** Saturday, March 12, 2005, 7- 11 P.M.  
**HOURS** March 13 through March 19, 2005, 6-10 P.M.  
**WEBSITE** [www.complicateverthing.com/opendoors/](http://www.complicateverthing.com/opendoors/)

**Open Doors Downtown** is the second major exhibition for the Open Doors art group and will showcase 6 new works at the AMLI Downtown during the week of SXSW, March 12-19, 2005. The exhibition focusses on sculptural and spatial works that encourage audience interaction and visual submersion. The show concludes with an artist panel engaging with the central Texas community on the topic of "Installation art's definition and role in contemporary artist practice."

**Cole Thompson's** large weather balloons swell into the space, creating temporary plastic protrusions that exhale their motorized breath. Lit from within, these massive fleshy bulbs contract into drooping bulges of glowing plastic. Cyclical inflations give the work movement and emphasizes the ever-changing nature of life itself.

With the arrival of Aidan Alexander, **Cesar Alexander Villareal** uses this show to reflect on his newborn child and his family's preparations, creating a large nest that invites the viewer to explore it's interior. Once inside, the visitor feels protected by the large walls of the thatched nest which rise above their heads and hears muted discussions between the two parents, as if their conversational history was gathered stick by stick to strengthen this beautiful and intimate structure.

**Terra Goolsby** works with synthetic materials to aestheticize organic systems, raising questions about the relationship between inner and outer beauty. Her conscious use of nail polish, plexi and manufactured MDF heightens this divide between synthetic materials and their blossoming sensuousness because of Goolsby's brilliant organic sensibility. The subtlety of patinas that change with the viewer's perspective and the use of nail polish as an 'inner paint' or blood surrogate proves that conceptual art need not debase beauty or femininity to maintain it's revolutionary cache.

**Jacob Villanueva's** unique combination of Victorian furniture and interactive digital projections encourages audience play, rewarding the curious with moments of serendipitous discovery. Viewers approach two vanities on opposite sides of a large carpet. By sitting in front of the would-be mirror, Villanueva twists the viewer's expectations and projects an affected image of the viewer upon the mirror-space of the opposite vanity. Once the objects' paired effect is discovered a range of visual possibilities opens while the audience investigates the mysterious setting.

**Sandra Martinez** juxtaposes industrial and domestic materials into a group of 28 floor-based sculptures by binding the ends of precision cut car tires with common white yarn. This juxtaposition of twisting form reminds the viewer of each material's function and history, raising questions about consumption, road waste and the durability of manufactured goods.

Recalling his interest in the emergent behaviour of natural populations, **Hunter Cross**, uses stacked layers of transparent acetate and repurposed organizational stickers, to build undulating forms that emerge from his process. These suspended boxes use flat planes and well-positioned colored dots to give the illusion of three dimensional form, encouraging the viewer to stare up in delight at their delicate receding edges.

### **About Open Doors Art Group**

**Open Doors** is a community of artists currently working in central Texas. By empowering artists with full control of a space lacking the commercial constraints of a traditional gallery, these artists create works that merge and challenge traditional forms of art.

For more information, please contact Hunter Cross at (512) 970-9763.