

## **Psychedelic dudes: Keeping up with McMurtry, Kesey and Zap masters**

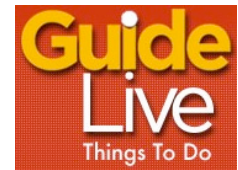
By  
Michael Granberry

So we learn this week that Pulitzer Prize winning novelist Larry McMurtry has married the widow of an old friend and fellow literary giant, Ken Kesey. Tom Wolfe's *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test* chronicled the adventures of Kesey and his band of Merry Pranksters. McMurtry and his bride, Norma Faye Kesey, to whom Kesey was married until his death in 2001, are mentioned frequently in Wolfe's book, which so cleverly captures the zaniness of the 1960s.

It's a zaniness that greatly intrigues Chris Byrne, co-founder of the recently concluded Dallas Art Fair. Byrne, who lives in Dallas, is co-curator of a hot new exhibition, "Zap: Masters of Psychedelic Art, 1965-74," which opens Thursday at the Andrew Edlin Gallery in New York.

"No plans for it to come to Dallas right now," Byrne says, "but we'd like to think of something like that, a version or a permutation of the show. The whole idea of psychedelic art has really been discussed in New York in the last few years. It's a classic approach to making images now. At the time, it *was* a little out there, but it's part of our visual culture now."





“Zap” will include works by Robert Crumb and those who joined him in the *Zap* underground comic anthology lineup: Robert Williams, Victor Moscoso, Rick Griffin, S. Clay Wilson, Spain Rodriguez and Gilbert Shelton.

The new show at McKinney Avenue Contemporary drew a crowd of more than 200 on opening night, April 23. “Starry, Starry Nights: Five Light-Filled Installations” heralds the work of five young artist and includes Chris Lattanzio’s *Lotus Room*.

From 5:45 to 8 Wednesday night, the MAC is hosting an evening of events surrounding the show. From 5:45 to 6:15, it’s *Color Therapy #1*, from 6:30 to 7:30 is a panel discussion; and from 7:30 to 8, it’s *Color Therapy #2*. “Starry, Starry Nights” closes Saturday.

The MAC is also staging artist Camilla Cowan’s “Mola” at the Mercantile Coffee House. And kudos to the MAC for having recently staged “Light a Fire,” an artistically fueled, anti-bullying effort.

Dallas Contemporary is hosting “Wish! Peek 2011” from 7 to 10 Thursday night. It’s labeled as an auction art preview” with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres and features Thai performance artist Surasi Kusolwong. Those putting it on say “bring \$1 bills. We’re serious.” From 7 to 11 Saturday night, Dallas Contemporary is hosting the “Wish! Art Auction 2011,” with musical entertainment by New York City DJ Jesse Marco.

The Geometric and MADI Museum of Art is hosting “Derivatives: Origins in Geometry” starting in July. It’s a juried competition to “recognize excellence in emerging visual artists deriving inspiration from geometric abstraction.” Artists selected as finalists will be featured in the summer exhibition. Deadline for submissions is May 31. Info: 214-855-7802 or go to [www.geometricmadimuseum.org](http://www.geometricmadimuseum.org).