

The Don't Miss List



Five Artful Options to Wile Away the Summer

① **Kara Walker's** shadow dramas are made up of dark silhouettes, a genre that used to be available for purchase at mall kiosks and country fairs. But Walker's figures engage in adult acts — birth and sex among them — and tell stories. Her new installation at **REDCAT**, *Song of the South*, combines film, overhead projections and a shadow puppet performance. Walker will be on hand for the Sept. 2 opening to manipulate the shadow puppets herself. At 631 W. Second St., (213) 237-2800 or redcat.org.

② In conjunction with *Latin Jazz: La Combinación Perfecta* at the **California African American Museum**, the documentary *Machito: A Latin Jazz Legacy* screens Sept. 3 at 1 and 3 p.m. The film explores Cuban bandleader Frank "Machito" Grillo, and includes interviews with jazz greats Dizzy Gillespie, Tito Puente, Ray Barreto and Dexter Gordon, as well as Hollywood production numbers and rarely seen street performances from the 1920s. At 600 State Dr., (213) 744-7432 or caamuseum.org.

③ **Niche.LA** and **Lounge 441**, two adjoining mini-galleries in the Spring Arts Tower, share *Digital World: Oz*, a show featuring art from four emerging artists. Of the quartet's inspiration, *Art Forum* put it best: "...*Dungeons and Dragons* figurines, '80s 'mythic' heavy-metal album covers, cyberpunk paperback art, and the kinds of paintings of Vikings and missile-breasted Amazons found on the side of VW vans." Show runs through Sept. 8. at 453 S. Spring St., #443, or niche.la.

④ In the ongoing and very cool **Night Vision** series at **MOCA**, DJs Michael Stork and Benjamin White (they of nightclub the Echo's Part Time Punks club on Sunday nights) spin tracks

Sept. 3 at 6 p.m. In conjunction with the museum's Jean-Michel Basquiat retrospective, the music comes from the great haunts of Manhattan, from 1979 to 1987. At 8 p.m., Sonic Youth's Thurston Moore takes over the deck, and at 9 p.m., there's a screening of *Downtown 81*, in which Basquiat appears. At 250 S. Grand Ave., (213) 621-1734 or moca.org/nightvision.

⑤ Preservationist organization the **Los Angeles Conservancy's** summer evening walking tour this week has an **Art Deco** focus. The Aug. 31 stroll starts at 5:30 p.m., and highlights the architecture and ornamentation of buildings from the 1920s, '30s and '40s. They were big growth years for Downtown, and the walk includes many landmarks, including, of course, Olive Street's Oviatt Building. Tours are \$10 for non-members. Call (213) 623-2489.



Digital World: Oz is at **Niche.LA** and **Lounge 441**.