



THINGS TO DO

ON

The fourth "Nuclear Sundays" film series, presented by the Pittsburgh chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, opens tomorrow at the Regent Square Theater with "The Beginning of the End." All films begin at 7:30 p.m. For ticket information: 412-682-4111.

NIGHT

The Hempfield Area Marching Band was invited to next year's Rose Bowl Parade. But the band has to raise \$450,000 for the five-day trip. The school's Rose Bowl campaign kicks off today with a black-tie ball at the Greensburg Country Club, featuring dinner, dancing and an appearance by the president of the Rose Bowl. Tickets are \$95 per person. Contact Debbie Baughman, 724-837-0559, or Michele Romano, 724-836-3121, for information.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

FILMS, TV, STAGE, DANCE, BOOKS, ARCHITECTURE

ART REVIEW

Installations give viewer room to think

By Barry Hannegan



The Mattress Factory's current show of installations by eight resident artists holds true to the museum's form in that it generates a long aftertaste of thought and reflection. However, the thinking comes only after immersion in the installations; the initial reaction is not cerebral at all but rather a straightforward delight, albeit tinged with uncertainty, a state of mind perhaps akin to one's first time eating snails.

Installations are evenly divided between the Mattress Factory's two sites, the original, large structure and its annex at the corner of Monterey Street. Sharing this second venue are Lynne Yamamoto's "Smooth Cayenne" in two rooms, Margo Sawyer's "Lux Lucis Lumen," Liza McConnell's "Diorama Obscura: Riding Fences," and "The Studio Project" by Jeremy Boyle, the only Pittsburgh resident in the show.

The factory building houses Rebecca Holland's "Glaze" in the large cellar gallery, Curtis Mitchell's "Track" in a suite of three rooms, "Bizarre Love Triangle," a collaboration of the Providence trio of Ara Peterson, Jim Drain and Eamon Brown, and, finally, Ann Reichlin's "Schism."

Two of the three rooms assigned to Mitchell's "Track" suggest abandoned residential interiors. They are, in fact, filled with evidence of the

materials common to contemporary American consumerist lifestyles. Wall text panels tell (warn?) us what it is we're in fact looking at, i.e., pulverized trash and detritus of household origins spread as a three-inch layer on the floor, or a bustier oozing Nivea moisturizer. The wit is wry, to say the least, while the point of view behind these painstaking constructions seems both scathing and accommodating. The aura throughout the rooms is redolent of decay, some realized, some anticipated. Admirers of Edward Gorey's drawings will recognize the disquieting sense of something not at all right but also acceptable, as long as it doesn't get out of hand.

But, then, isn't getting out of hand what the Mattress Factory is (thankfully) all about?

"New Installations: Artists in Residence" continues through June 27 at the Mattress Factory, 500 Sampsonia Way, North Side. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays (subject to change for special events), and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays. Suggested admission is \$8; free on Thursdays. For information, call 412-231-3169 or visit www.mattress.org.

Barry Hannegan is a freelance writer and the former director of historic design programs for Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation.