

hat Tejano crooner Fred-dy Fender and 15th-century Flemish painter Jan van Eyck would find themselves in the same sentence is surreal enough. That they are heroic figures within the fraught self-identity of a local artist is the irresistible stuff of art.

Ripon artist Rafael Francisco Salas



Mary Louise Schumacher

The title of the show is inspired by the famous Fender hit, and snippets from country and blues songs serve as accompanying "rural poetry," says

Salas.

has created a metaphoric self-portrait inspired by his Mexican-American roots, his farming line age in rural Wisconsin, van Eyck's singular Ghent Altarpiece and the archetypal Fender song.

"Wasted Days and Wasted Nights" is a major solo show for Salas spanning two galleries, Walker's Point Center

for the Arts, 839 S. 5th St., and the Portrait Society Gallery, 207 E. Buffalo St., fifth floor.

These installations represent two stops of several that I'm especially recommending for this Gallery Night & Day, the quarterly art crawl when arts venues hold special receptions. It takes place Friday evening and Saturday

In Salas' Walker's Point installation, he considers the landscapes from both art history and his upbringing. A detail from van Eyck's altarpiece, a lamb and stand-in for Christ, is related to the lifeor-death of farm animals, for instance. Salas also merges a mother and father figure as well as personal signifiers for faith and culture. The installation includes paintings, sculpture, drawings and other objects that tease out the ideas.

For the corresponding Portrait Society installation, Salas recalls his family's roadhouse restaurant in Wautoma, and transforms a small back gallery into a theater of sorts. The title of the show is inspired by the famous Fender hit, and snippets of titles and lyrics from country and blues songs serve as accompanying "ru-ral poetry," says Salas, who is a regular Art City contributor. Both galleries will be open Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. Salas will give a talk at Walker's Point on Friday at 6 p.m

Here are some other worthy stops to consider this Gallery Night & Day.

'Coaching Ourselves' Comb

832 S. 5th St.

Artist Wes Tank is trying to change his life by doing



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

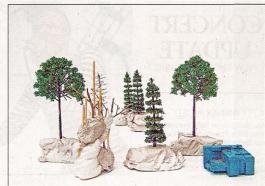
"Allegorical Portrait of Freddy Fender 2015" by Rafael Francisco Salas is part of the "Wasted Days and Wasted Nights" exhibits at the Walker's Point Center for the Arts and Portrait Society Gallery.





COURTESY OF TORY FOLLIARD GALLERY

Doug Hatch's photorealistic oil painting "Patience" is at the Tory Folliard Gallery.



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST Salas' "Snow and Sky and Pine 2014" is also on display.



COURTESY OF MIAD



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND MOXY STUDIO

Maeve Jackson carefully pours milk in a video that will be or view at Moxy Studio.



COLLECTION OF THE HAGGERTY MUSEUM OF ART

Stephen Shames' photo of Bobby Seale at a Free Huey rally in Oakland, Calif., 1968, is on display at the Haggerty Museum of Art.

illnesses. The show will be open Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Clack-a-thon

Pfister Hotel 424 E Wisconsin Ave.

The insistent desire to spit out prose in bright, hot, sparkling bursts can be like a disease for some of us. If we're not clicking and clacking away, we're falling behind somehow, particularly in the tsunami of content so many of are swimming in.

Embracing this absurdity,

space, will exhibit drawings and paintings inspired by the Billy Collins poem "Vanishing Point." The space will be open Friday 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday noon to 4 p.m.

'Clear Picture,' Mila Teshaieva and 'States of Uncertainty'

Haggerty Museum of Art 13th and Clybourn streets

Should a museum turn over its gallery walls and its curatorial authority to undergraduate journalism and Spanish students? An experi-