

Artist to showcase a video montage of TV violence

By Dan R. Goddard

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Houston video artist Laurie McDonald humorously combined scenes of violence culled from television in "Prime Time," a video montage that is being shown as part of "The Perfect World in Contemporary Texas Art" at the San Antonio Museum of Art.

McDonald will discuss her work at 7 p.m. Tuesday as part of the "Focus Series" at the Museum of Art, 200 W. Jones Ave. Admission is free.

Using images appropriated from television, ranging from cartoons to commer-

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— Laurie McDonald,
video artist

cials, McDonald created a fast-paced collage juxtaposing many different types of violence.

"I collected images off TV for months before putting 'Prime Time' together," McDonald said. "There's so much violence on TV most of us have become numb to it. Mainly, I'm just poking fun at TV. I use video and film just like other artists use a chisel or paint."

Her videos have been shown in major festivals around the world, including the 1990 New York Expo of Short Film and Video, the 1987 Moscow International Film Festival, the 1987 Berlin International Festival and the 1987 Hong Kong International Festival.

"When I started in art, I was doing painting, sculpture, dance and music. Then I dis-

covered that I could combine all these art forms in video. There's something about working with moving pictures and sound," said McDonald, who mainly works as a screenwriter of industrial films.

"I think about a lot of the same issues that concern most artists — color, form and line. But not texture so much because it's hard to get texture with only two dimensions. I see video as a way to synthesize several different art forms."

She's working on a new video called "Beyond the Shadow," based on a poem using the metaphor of falling out of an airplane. Often, she combines her videos with sculptural installations.