Susan Hague creates sculpture from neon signs and parts of signs. Strung together with copper wire and powered by a transformer, the sculptures combine soft angles and vivid colors.

Susan Hague's brush is an electrical transformer. Her canvas is an inert gas. Her paint is an electrical current through the atom. Her sculptures are neon signs — old, dead signs that people had thrown away, or no longer worked, or most of the pieces weren't working and there was just one piece left.

Hague already liked to turn found objects into art. One room of her downtown apartment is full of shells, driftwood, pieces of leather, and other things that she wants to turn into sculpture someday. If she hasn't already.

Hague, volunteer president of the Acadiana Arts Alliance, likes to work with neon signs. She takes a sign, or part of a sign, and combines it with other pieces of neon. And when it works, it shines.

"I caught neon fever about 10 years ago," said Hague, who moved to Lafayette from Mississippi. "A friend had a beer sign.

"We started finding old, dead signs that people had thrown away, or no longer worked, or most of the pieces weren't working and there was just one piece left."

Hague already liked to turn "found" objects into art. One room of her downtown apartment is full of shells, driftwood.