Retrospective examines Midener's life work

Story: CORINNE ABATT
Photos: STEPHEN CANTRELL

In the midst of the constantly changing approaches to sculpture, it is comforting to see a sampling of Walter Midener's retrospective exhibit. It opens at the Pontiac Art Center Saturday, Sept. 9.

Midener, who holds the title of president emeritus of the Center for Creative Studies as well as that of artist-in-residence, is starting his 33rd year there this fall. He joined the faculty of what was then Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts in 1946 as head of the sculpture department.

He later moved into a variety of administrative posts, assistant director, associate director, acting director when Sarkis Sarkesian became ill, and finally director and last year, president.

Yet, all the time he was helping to establish the school as a fully accredited, degree-granting institution, he continued his own career as a sculptor and won many prizes in the process.

EVEN AS HE WALKED around the storage room at the Pontiac Art Center where some of his pieces were kept while the main gallery was being refurbished for the show, he could find many on loan that had won prizes—at the Whitney, the Detroit Institute of Arts and other major museums.

He approached them as one would old, dear friends and commented about them in his rather matter-of-fact, low-key style.

In all there will be 41 pieces in the exhibit—14 wood, five Muntzmetal, nine terra cotta, three bronzes, two Dunsite and eight portrait busts. For obvious reasons, those long distances away, very large or permanently installed, won't be in the show. However, one of those in the retrospective won a Founders' prize at the Detroit Institute of Arts and was exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

MIDENER AGREED to describing his work as "abstract realism." He works almost exclusively with the human figure and said simply, "I don't believe in amorphic forms."

When he returned from five years with the American Army after World War II, Henry Moore and Jacques Litschitz were the big, international names in sculpture.

"Now, they are practically considered fuddy-duddies," Midener said.

"The kind of sculpture I am interested in is organic forms." Almost apologetically, he added, "I hope I have developed and have grown in my work, but I can't change like a chameleon, and I believe very much in developing my own material. I couldn't develop a mock up and have someone else do it."

He ran a hand along the curves of several of his pieces in the storage area. "I enjoy the tactile quality in sculpture.

The human figure has always been Walter Midener's choice of subject matter for his sculpture.

Racquetball lessons offered in October

The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department in cooperation with the Racquetball Courts of Farmington is offering a fall racquetball program.

Lessons will be geared for the beginner and wil consist of four one-hour lessons on a weekly basis. There will be a maximum of four students in each class.

Lessons will be offered at the following times: from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays and from 10:30-a.m.- 11:30 a.m. on those days.

Lessons on Sundays will be from 3-4 p.m. from 4-5 p.m.

Lessons will begin the week of Oct. 1.

Racquets and balls are furnished by the courts if needed. The participant can make arrangements for child care during weekdays with the courts.

CITY OF FARMINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS (Summary)

A Regular Meeting of the Farmington City Council was held September 5, 1978 in the Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty St., Farmington, Michigan. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by Councilman Yoder.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Councilman Bennett, Buckler, Yoder.
ABSENT: Councilman Hartsock, Mayor Tupper.

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: City Manager Deadman, Director Byrnes, Director Billing, City Clerk Viane, City Engineer Papke.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
Minutes of other boards were received and/or filed.

A Public Hearing on necessity for street improvements to the cul-de-sac portion of Cass Court was held. Action was tabled to the next regular meeting.

Council granted approval to:

Robert F. Christ, Executive Office Supply, 33004 Grand River to continue use of non-conforming sign.

John Clappison, Farmington Center Company, to continue use of sign at 33025 Grand River.

Council reviewed the garbage and rubbish pick-up service to the Heritage Village Condominiums as requested by Mrs. M. Crane, resident.

The following resolutions were adopted:

-Accepting the quote of Belefonte Insurance Company for Police Professional Liability Insurance.

-Authorizing the City Manager and City Clerk to sign contract with Orchard, Papke, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. as Consulting Engineers for the City's Water System Improvement Project.

-Accepting the bid of Visi-Flash of Michigan, Inc. for one Dietz Model Target Arrow in the amount of $2,250.00.

-Requesting the Attorney General's Office in Lansing to give priority to the review of bond applications presently pending in that office.

-Authorizing payment to Best Asphalt, Inc. in the amount of $9,719.55 for work completed on the State Street Parking Lot; and to Brick Faced Concrete Walls Company in the amount of $2,850.00 for work completed on the screening wall.

City Manager Deadman reported on the effects of the proposed Headlee and Tisch Amendments on local government.

The following ordinances were adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. C-432-78
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 5.133 SUB-SECTION (1) OF CHAPTER 39 ZONING, TITLE V, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON ORDAINS:

5.133 Appeals, How Taken:

(1) Appeals for Interpretation, Special Exception, or Variance shall be commenced by the appellant filing with the Board of Zoning Appeals, through the City Clerk, a notice of appeal in which are specified with particularity the grounds upon which the appeal is based. A fee of $30.00 shall be paid the City Clerk at the time the notice of appeal is filed. The City Clerk shall forward the notice of appeal to the Building Inspector, Board of Zoning Appeals and the City Planning Commission as an interested public party.

This ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Farmington City Council on August 21, 1978; was adopted and enacted at a regular meeting on September 5, 1978; and will become effective ten days after publication.

RICHARD L. TUPPER, MAYOR
NEDRA VIANE, CITY CLERK

AYES: Bennett, Buckler, Yoder
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Hartsock, Tupper.

ORDINANCE NO. C-433-78
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON BY ADDING A NEW SUB-SECTION 1(a) TO SECTION 5.15 OF THE UNIFORM TRAFFIC CODE FOR CITIES, VILLAGES AND TOWNSHIPS, AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 105, TRAFFICE, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON.

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON ORDAINS:

5.15 Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or Controlled Substances

ADD: 1 (a) A peace officer may, without a warrant, arrest a person when the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person was, at the time of an accident, the driver of a motor vehicle involved in the accident and was driving the vehicle upon a public highway of this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

This ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Farmington City Council on August 21, 1978; was adopted and enacted at a regular meeting on September 5, 1978; and will become effective ten days after publication.

RICHARD L. TUPPER, MAYOR
NEDRA VIANE, CITY CLERK

AYES: Bennett, Buckler, Yoder.
NAYS: Hartsock, Tupper

The following Resolution authorizing issuance of $1,000,000 General Obligation Water Bonds was adopted:

WHEREAS, the qualified electors of the Issuer, at the August Primary Election duly called and held on August 8, 1978, did by more than the required majority of those voting approve the following proposition:

GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER PROPOSITION
Shall the City of Farmington borrow the sum of not to exceed One Million ($1,000,000.00) Dollars and issue its unlimited tax general obligation bonds therefor in the principal amount of not to exceed $1,000,000.00 for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring and constructing additions to the City's Water System consisting of water mains and controls, together with all attachments and appurtenances?

AND WHEREAS, it is the determination of the City Council that at this time bonds in the principal amount of One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.00) should be issued for the foregoing purpose:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Bonds of the Issuer designated GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER BONDS be issued in the aggregate principal sum of One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.00) for the purpose of paying the cost of the above-described project. Said issue shall consist of Two Hundred (200) bonds of the denomination of $5,000.00 each, numbered consecutively in direct order of maturity from 1 upwards, dated as of December 1, 1978. The bonds shall bear interest, mature, and be payable at the time and in the manner set forth in Sections 4 and 6 hereof.

2. The Mayor and Clerk be, and they are hereby authorized to execute and sign the aforesaid bonds in conformity with specifications herein set forth, and the Mayor and Clerk shall execute the interest coupons to be attached to said bonds by causing to be affixed thereto their facsimile signatures, and there shall be affixed to said bonds the Issuer's seal, and that upon due and legal execution of said bonds, the Treasurer be, and is hereby authorized and directed to deliver said bonds to the purchaser thereof upon receipt of the purchase price therefor.

3. The Treasurer shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to open a separate depositary account with a bank or trust company designated by the City Council, to be designated GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER DEBT RETIREMENT FUND (hereinafter sometimes referred to, for brevity, as the "Debt Retirement Fund"), the moneys to be deposited into said fund to be specifically earmarked and used solely for the purpose of paying principal and interest on the bonds herein authorized as they mature. All proceeds from taxes levied for said Debt Retirement Fund shall be deposited as collected into said fund. Commencing with the year 1979, there shall be levied upon the tax rolls of the Issuer for the purpose of the Debt Retirement Fund each year, in the manner required by the provisions of Act 202, Public Acts of Michigan, 1943, as amended, an amount sufficient so that the estimated collection therefrom will be sufficient to promptly pay, when due, the principal and interest on the bonds becoming due next following the levy: Provided, however, that if at the time of making any such annual tax levy there shall be surplus moneys on hand in the Debt Retirement Fund for the payment of principal of and interest on the bonds, then credit therefor may be taken against such annual levy for said fund.

4. The said bonds and coupons shall be in substantially the following form:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
CITY OF FARMINGTON
GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER BOND

No. ——— $5,000.00

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the City of Farmington, County of Oakland, State of Michigan (the "City"), acknowledges itself to owe and, for value received, hereby promises to pay to the bearer hereof, or if registered to the registered owner, the sum of

FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS

lawful money of the United States of America, on the first day of October, A.D., 19———, with interest thereon from the date hereof until paid at the rate of ——— ——— percent (———%) per annum, payable on October 1, 1979, and semi-annually thereafter on the first day of April and October of each year, upon presentation and surrender of the proper interest coupons hereto attached as they severally become due. Both principal of and interest on this bond are hereby made payable at the principal office of ———————, and for prompt payment of this bond, both principal and interest, the full faith, credit and resources of the Issuer are hereby irrevocably pledged.

This bond is one of a series of two hundred (200) bonds of even date and like tenor, except as to rate of interest, and date of maturity, aggregating the principal sum of $1,000,000.00 numbered consecutively in direct order of maturity from 1 upwards, issued for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring and constructing additions to the Issuer's Water System in pursuance of a vote of the qualified electors of the Issuer voting thereon at an election duly called and held on August 8, 1978.

Bonds maturing in the years 1981 and 1989, inclusive, shall not be subject to redemption prior to maturity.

Bonds maturing in the years 1990 to 2000, inclusive, shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the Issuer, in inverse numerical order, on any interest payment date on or after October 1, 1989, at 103% of par if redeemed prior to October 1, 1994, at 102% of par if redeemed on or after October 1, 1994, but prior to October 1, 1997, at 101% of par if redeemed on or after October 1, 1997 but prior to maturity.

Thirty days notice of the call of any bonds for redemption shall be given by publication in a paper circulated in the State of Michigan which carries, as part of its regular service, notices of sale of municipal bonds, and in case of registered bonds thirty days notice shall be given by mail to the registered holder at the registered address. Bonds so called for redemption shall not bear interest after the date fixed for redemption provided funds are on hand with the paying agent to redeem said bonds.

This bond may be registered as to principal only on the books of the City kept by the paying agent in the name of the holder and such registration noted on the back hereof by the paying agent, after which no transfer shall be valid unless made on the books and noted on the back hereof in like manner, but transferability by delivery may be restored by registration to bearer. Such registration shall not affect the negotiability of the interest coupons.

This bond is payable out of the City's Debt Retirement Fund, and it is hereby certified and recited that all acts, conditions and things required by law to be done, precedent to and in the issuance of this bond and the series of bonds of which this is one, exist and have been done and performed in regular and due form and time as required by law, and that the total indebtedness of said Issuer, including this bond, does not exceed any constitutional, statutory or charter limitation.

IT WITNESS WHEREOF, the City, by its legislative body, has caused this bond to be signed in the name of the Issuer, by its Mayor and to be countersigned by its Clerk and its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed, and has caused the annexed interest coupons to be signed by the facsimile signatures of its Mayor and Clerk, all as of the first day of December, A.D., 1978.

City of Farmington

By———————
Its Mayor

(Seal)
Countersigned:

———————
Its Clerk

(Form of Coupon)

No. ——— $———

On the first day of ——————— A.D., 19———, the City of Farmington, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, promises to pay the sum shown hereon at the principal office of ——————— being the interest due that date on its GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER BOND, dated December 1, 1978, No. ———.

———————
Mayor

———————
Clerk

REGISTRATION
NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN HEREON EXCEPT BY THE PAYING AGENT

Date of Registration:	Name of Registered Owner:	Registrar

5. The Clerk shall make requisite application to the Municipal Finance Commission for an order granting permission for the issuance of said bonds; upon receipt of said order fix a date of sale for said bonds; and publish notice of sale of the bonds in the Bond Buyer, New York, New York, and in the Farmington Observer, Farmington, a newspaper of general circulation in the Issuer, which notice of sale shall be in substantially the following form:

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF SALE
$1,000,000.00
CITY OF FARMINGTON
COUNTY OF OAKLAND, STATE OF MICHIGAN
GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER BONDS

SEALED BIDS for the purchase of the above bonds will be received by the undersigned at the City's offices located at 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan 48024, on ———, the ——— day of ———, 197———, until ——— ——— o'clock ———.m., Eastern Standard Time, at which time and place said bids will be publicly opened and read.

BOND DETAILS: Said bonds will be coupon bonds of the denomination of $5,000.00 each, registrable as to principal only dated December 1, 1978, numbered in direct order of maturity from 1 upwards and will bear interest from their date payable on October 1, 1979, and semiannually thereafter.

Said bonds will mature on the 1st day of October, as follows:

$25,000	1981, 1982 and 1983	
35,000	1984 through 1988, inclusive	
50,000	1989 through 1994, inclusive	
75,000	1995 through 2000, inclusive	

PRIOR REDEMPTION: Bonds maturing in the years 1981 to 1989, inclusive, shall not be subject to redemption prior to maturity.

Bonds maturing in the years 1990 to 2000, inclusive, shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the City, in inverse numerical order, on any interest payment date on or after October 1, 1989 at 103% of par if redeemed prior to October 1, 1994, at 102% of part if redeemed on or after October 1, 1994, but prior to October 1, 1977; at 101% of par if redeemed on or after October 1, 1997, but prior to maturity.

Thirty days notice of the call of any bonds for redemption shall be given by publication in a paper circulated in the State of Michigan which carries, as part of its regular service, notices of sale of municipal bonds, and in case of registered bonds thirty days notice shall be given by mail to the registered holder at the registered address. Bonds so called for redemption shall not bear interest after the date fixed for redemption provided funds are on hand with the paying agent to redeem said bonds.

INTEREST RATE AND BIDDING DETAILS: The bonds shall bear interest at a rate or rates not exceeding 7% per annum, to be fixed by the bids therefor, expressed in multiples of 1/8 or 1/20 of 1%, or both. The interest on any one bond shall be at one rate only, all bonds maturing in any one year must carry the same interest rate and each coupon period will be represented by one interest coupon. The difference between the highest and lowest interest rates bid shall not exceed 2%. No proposal for the purchase of less than all of the bonds or at a price less than 100% of their par value will be considered.

PAYING AGENT: Both principal and interest shall be payable at a bank or trust company located in Michigan qualified to act as paying agent under State or United States law to be designated by the original purchaser of the bonds, who may also designate a co-paying agent, which may be located outside of Michigan, qualified to act as paying agent under the law of the State in which located or of the United States, both of which shall be subject to approval of the undersigned.

PURPOSE AND SECURITY: The bonds were authorized at an election held August 8, 1978, and are issued for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring and constructing improvements to the City's Water System. The bonds will pledge the full faith and credit of the City for payment from ad valorem taxes, which may be levied without limitation as to rate or amount. The rights or remedies of bondholders may be affected by bankruptcy laws or other creditor's rights legislation now existing or hereafter enacted.

GOOD FAITH: A certified or cashier's check in the amount of $20,000, drawn upon an incorporated bank or trust company and payable to the order of the City Treasurer must accompany each bid as a guarantee of good faith on the part of the bidder, to be forfeited as liquidated damages if such bid be accepted and the bidder fails to take up and pay for the bonds. No interest shall be allowed on the good faith checks and checks of the unsuccessful bidders will be promptly returned to each bidder's representative or by registered mail. The good faith check of the successful bidder may be immediately cashed in which even payment for the balance of the purchase price of the bonds shall be made at the closing.

AWARD OF BONDS: The bonds will be awarded to the bidder whose bid produces the lowest interest cost computed by determining, at the rate or rates specified in the bid, the total dollar value of all interest on the bonds from ———, to their maturity and deducting therefrom any premium.

LEGAL OPINION: Bids shall be conditioned upon the unqualified approving opinion of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, attorneys of Detroit, Michigan, a copy of which opinion will be printed on the reverse side of each bond and the original of which will be furnished without expense to the purchaser of the bonds at the delivery thereof. The fees of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone for services rendered in connection with such approving opinion are expected to be paid from bond proceeds. Except to the extent necessary to issue their unqualified approving opinion as to validity of the above bonds, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone has not been requested to examine or review and has not examined or reviewed any financial documents, statements or materials that have been or may be furnished in connection with the authorization, issuance or marketing of the bonds, and accordingly will not express any opinion with respect to the accuracy or completeness of any such financial documents, statements or materials.

DELIVERY OF BONDS: The City shall furnish bonds ready for execution at its expense. Bonds will be delivered without expense to the purchaser at a place to be agreed upon. The usual closing documents, including a certificate that no litigation is pending affecting the issuance of the bonds, will be delivered at the time of the delivery of the bonds. If the bonds are not tendered for delivery by twelve o'clock noon, Eastern Standard Time, on the 45th day following the date of sale, or the first business day thereafter if said 45th day is not a business day, the successful bidder may on that day, or any time thereafter until delivery of the bonds, withdraw his proposal by serving notice of cancellation, in writing, on the undersigned in which event the City shall promptly return the good faith deposit. Payment for the bonds shall be made in Federal Reserve Funds. Accrued interest to the date of delivery of the bonds shall be paid by the purchaser at the time of delivery.

CUSIP NUMBERS: It is anticipated that CUSIP identification numbers will be printed on said bonds, but neither the failure to print such numbers on any bonds nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for a failure or refusal by the purchaser thereof to accept delivery of and pay for said bonds in accordance with terms of the purchase contract. All expenses in relation to the printing of CUSIP numbers on said bonds shall be paid for by the issuer; provided, however, that the CUSIP Service Bureau charge for the assignment of said numbers shall be the responsibility of and shall be paid for by the purchaser.

THE RIGHT IS RESERVED TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.

ENVELOPES containing the bids should be plainly marked "Proposal for General Obligation Bonds."

———————
Clerk

APPROVED: ———————
STATE OF MICHIGAN
MUNICIPAL FINANCE COMMISSION

6. The estimated period of usefulness of the proposed improvement is hereby declared to be not less than forty (40) years and its total cost is estimated to be One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.)

7. All resolutions and parts of resolution insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

AYES: Councilman Bennett, Buckler, Yoder.
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Councilman Hartsock, Tupper.
RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.
September 5, 1978

NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk

Monthly bills were approved for payment.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

RALPH D. YODER, Acting Mayor
NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk

Publish: September 14, 1978