

Florence Monk exhibits at international show

Florence Monk, a Farmington resident and teacher of porcelain art for 25 years, will be a lecturer and exhibitor for the 11th biennial International Porcelain Art Teachers Convention.

More than 2,000 pieces of porcelain pieces will be on display from quality artists in 21 countries from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, July 1-5 in Detroit Plaza's Mackinaw Ballroom during the convention.

Ms. Monk is a founding member of the International Porcelain Art Teachers, a charter member of Michigan China Teachers, and is active in Federation of China Painters and Miniature Art Society of Florida.

She paints in oils, and watercolors but has always specialized in painting on porcelain.

"Porcelain art is being recognized in some states as a fine art now," said the award winner.

One of the highlights of the convention for members as well as visitors will be a benefit auction conducted by Du Mouchelle Art Galleries in the Plaza's Renaissance Ballroom.

Painted porcelain, donated by world famous artists, have been donated for the auction which gets under way with a preview at 6 p.m. Thursday. The auction begins at 8 p.m.

THE CONVENTION is hosted by Michigan Porcelain Art Teachers, headed by Delores Moorhead, a Birmingham resident, who has been painting porcelain professionally for 20 years.

The international society is headed by Gladys Galloway, a resident of Caro, Michigan, who said of the show, "It is an opportunity for all peoples in Michigan to see a fabulous collection of contemporary art by famous artists from around the world."

"Art transcends all languages. It is a way of communicating with all people, bringing better understanding and a sharing of talent and beauty."

"The art of painting on porcelain requires great skill, intensive training and artistic ability. The world's great civilizations have recognized the art of porcelain painting as a fine art and a means of preserving history and culture."

Ice cream social set

Nardin Park United Methodist Church's Old-time Ice Cream Social gets under way at 6:30 p.m. tonight. There is no admission charge for the event that will begin, rain or shine, in the church on 11 Mile Road, west of Middlebelt Road.

The Shawassoe Strutters, a jazz band led by Dan Lochrie, furnishes the music, along with games and cart rides for children, popcorn, cotton candy, and a wide variety of ice cream and ice cream sundae.

May initiated

Cynthia May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford May, 29208 Glenarden, Farmington Hills, was initiated into the Missouri Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Chi at Columbia College. She is majoring in travel and Spanish at the college.

Alpha Chi is a national honor society recognizing academic excellence and community service among students who are juniors or seniors at four-year colleges. Members are selected from among the top 10 percent of their classes.

Six Rms Riv Vu

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"Six Rms Riv Vu."

WHILE THE SHOW is in the last stages of rehearsal, Ms. Gurwin's company simultaneously is preparing for "Annie Get Your Gun" auditions.

The musical will open in September with an open-end run in the Detroit cafe the company now calls home. It has never been produced for dinner theater audiences before.

"We could have gotten a lot more mileage out of 'Funny Girl' or 'Guys and Dolls,'" Ms. Gurwin said of the last two winter musicals at Paradise, "so we're going to play 'Annie' until it dies its own death."

Farmington, notably Botsford Inn, has been the stage for many of the company's productions. Farmington's Knights of Columbus Hall has been used for any number of rehearsals.

Ms. Gurwin's company is comprised of those who have been with her from the onset, whose aim has always been a finished and polished product. Her director, more often than not, has been Edgar Guest. Dolores Shevlin, another Farmington resident and member of the Farmington Players, has been her publicist since the formation of the company.

Ms. Gurwin muses about casting her first show when she was calling up friends begging them to come out and try for a part.

Now, she said, "We're in the beautiful position of being able to pick and choose."

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