

Art is brought out of the gallery and placed into a home setting

By Corinne Abett
staff writer

The "Living With Art" Designer Showhouse sponsored by Artrain takes art out of the gallery and puts it in a elegant home setting.

Probably more elegant and contemporary than what many of us return to in the evening, but that's what a showhouse is supposed to be — a three-dimensional, living color version of the pictures we drool over in the slick home furnishings magazines.

In this showhouse, 2934 Chambord Drive, West Bloomfield, the paintings, sculpture, weavings, glass and other art objects, are well integrated into the settings by the decorators who did the individual rooms.

Beverly Cricow of Southfield, who coordinated the project, said she set up an overall color plan — neutral background, large as a base with purples and mauves as accent colors — so there would be flow and continuity from room to room.

AND SHE ACHIEVED her goal nicely, except for the mini gallery on the lower level which seems slightly out of place in what otherwise is a home for living with art. It appears to be an after-thought on how to use some left-over space. But, it does provide an exhibit area for some outstanding works that otherwise wouldn't have been used.

The purpose of the showhouse, besides being a benefit for Artrain, one of

our state's best goodwill ambassadors, is to illustrate how art fits into daily life.

And the way Jim Gilbert's free hanging textiles compliment the living room, done by Gorman's of Southfield and Troy, is a stunning example. And you might wonder, too, how a shaped canvas by Charles Hinman (Donald Morris Gallery), would work in the same setting.

And you might be equally curious about displaying a collection of African and Pre-Columbian sculpture in the kitchen and breakfast room along with some kilims with their wonderful geometric designs.

This area, done by Paul D. Canvasser is one of the most interesting in the house because of the way the art is used and displayed. It's the secret of making breakfast one of the most fascinating times of the day. There's also African and Pre-Columbian art in the library designed by Howard Davidson and Soley Zinger of Hudsons.

One expects to see fine art such as the Ray Fleming painting and the Robert Kidd weaving in the entry way and on the stairway wall (done by George Williams Ltd. of Bloomfield Hills), but not necessarily in the upstairs laundry room where there are two Carrulas from Schreyer-Galido Gallery.

GEORGE WILLIAMS used a huge Helen Covesky abstract in the master bedroom and it is handsome there. It is one of Covesky's paintings that has a light touch incorporating a gentle flow

of movement. Against white wicker and laminate, custom designed furniture, it adds sparks of color. Williams designs closets and dressing rooms that are pure joy, creating permanent homes for all kinds of personal belongings, guaranteed to organize even the most hapazard person — willingly.

THE OTHER THREE bedrooms are like cameos — each is a separate work of art with a highly, individual personality — an Oriental motif room by Decorative Interiors, a plainly romantic room by Mary Ann Seyfried which happily uses paintings by Diez-Bencomo and a smashing good one by Belmont Spornel and a fourth with first-run Art Deco furnishings by Gary Flowers.

Among the ongoing special events scheduled is an "Artist's Afternoon" 2-4 p.m. next Wednesday when the artists from the metro area whose work is displayed will be there to talk to visitors — Marshall Fredericks, Richard Kozlow, Bertha Cohen, Glen Muntz, Louise Nobil, Robert Kidd, Ray Fleming, Samuel Pope, Coleen Pearce and Jay Lefkowitz.

The house will built by Marc Rosen of Sherry Homes, Inc. of Birmingham. It is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 6-9 p.m. Thursday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, through May 31. Admission is \$5 per person, \$3.50 for senior citizens and groups of 20 or more. Chambord Drive is just off Middlebelt between Walnut Lake and Lone Pine, West Bloomfield.

Thursday, May 20, 1982 O&E (F)19A

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