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Bay Street Gallery

Artist spends summer talking
'about my favorite subject'By Loraine McClish
staff writer

Eddee Joppich, who was named artist in residence for the Farmington area in 1978, is now artist in residence in the town of Northport on Michigan's Leelanau Peninsula.

She's spending her summers there now in Joppich's Bay Street Gallery, a year-old enterprise owned and operated by the artist, her husband Ed and brother-in-law Herb Joppich.

Eddee Joppich was guest of honor at a reception given for her one-woman show by Bendix Corp. early in June. While that show is traveling a coparticipation circuit in Southfield, she is spending 10-hour days in the gallery in the northwest lower peninsula.

She is known throughout southern Michigan as artist, lecturer, art juror and teacher to many.

"In the summers I talk," she said. "I am surrounded by beautiful art in the gallery, and I talk all day long about it, which is my favorite subject. I've talked to many old friends who've visited from the Detroit suburbs. And it's been a beautiful experience selling a painting to a foreign traveler that you know is going to be seen in a home in Germany or England or Korea."

HERB JOPPICH works as a commercial artist from a studio in Royal Oak. Ed Joppich is an architect and self-employed as a salesman of architectural products.

Together they purchased a home on Bay Street on an impulse, then spent a year transforming it into a gallery while shopping the art shows for artists to stock the new business.

"Every artist represented has some connection with Michigan," Eddee Joppich said. "They were either born, live or were educated here. And we were very selective."

Some of the familiar names that are represented in Joppich's Bay Street are Sue Young, an art teacher at Mercy College; Dorothy Sheiman, president of Artists Equity; Marcie Kitch, a perennial winner of awards from Farmington Hills; James Lawton, head of the sculpture department at Michigan State University; Igor Beginin, nationally known watercolorist from Plymouth.

"We've been selling to people who are either art-educated or have intuitive good taste. I keep talking, educating where I can to the tourists who come to browse or shop," Eddee Joppich said.

Best known for her abstract collage works, the artist said the eclectic collection put together for last summer was received with appreciation. The trio used the same format in gathering this summer's collection.

The artist who doesn't get much painting done in the summer while she's holding away over Joppich's Bay Street Gallery, completed the picture at right of herself after a winter visit to Northport. Eddee Joppich calls the watercolor "My Winter Swan."

"IT TAKES a bit of courage to be unconventional, to innovate, to be controversial, but a gallery must be open to new ideas and new thinking. A break with routine and tradition encourages greater creativity," Joppich said referring to the number of avant garde pieces that will go up for sale this summer.

"When I make myself available to talk about techniques, styles and the artists we represent, I don't get much painting done, but I'm adding to someone's knowledge of good art. I'm touching someone's sensitivity," she said.

As easy listening is applied to good music, Joppich calls Bay Street Gallery easy viewing.

An addition to the one-time family cottage on Bay Street has a 17-foot ceiling for spacious display of paintings and fine prints.

Margaret Kellenher of Bloomfield Hills and Sonia Molner of Troy, both teachers for Pontiac Creative Art Center, will be represented on those walls this summer.

Other local artists they'll share space with are Sr. Edith Kinney, art

professor at Marygrove College; Marjorie Cbellstorp, instructor for Birmingham Village Women's Club; and Barb Turney and Judy Greaser, prominent members of Farmington Artists Club.

MARGARET VALPEY, whose sculpture is in President Ronald Reagan's collection, brings work for Bay Street's summer collection.

Pottery will come from Barb Dalton and Ellen O'Sullivan, both Birmingham residents. Jewelry will come from Bob Fisher, an instructor for Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association.

Bay Street Gallery overlooks Grand Traverse Bay "in a very charming and quaint town," Joppich said.

"We've met the neighbors, and the summer home owners. We continue to meet the family who docks their yacht up there and the travelers from all over the world visiting Michigan for the first time."

Paintings in the collection run "from photo realism to just plain imagination," Joppich said, "and every one of

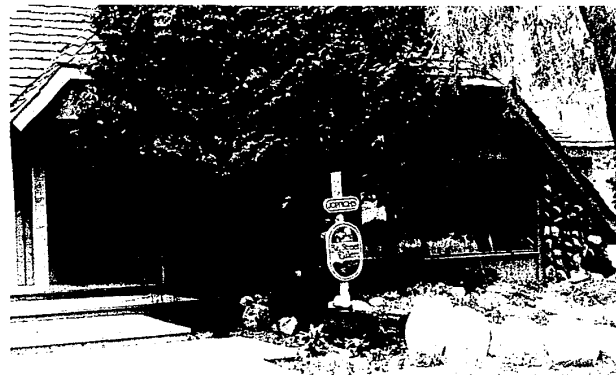
our artists has national and international credits."

As for the prints, collectors will find originals, etchings, lithographs and collagraphs, personally executed, numbered and signed by the artists in editions of 100 or less.

After the summer collection was put together, Joppich summed up her feelings by saying she was "frankly a bit overwhelmed by the amount of quality art that is being done in Michigan."

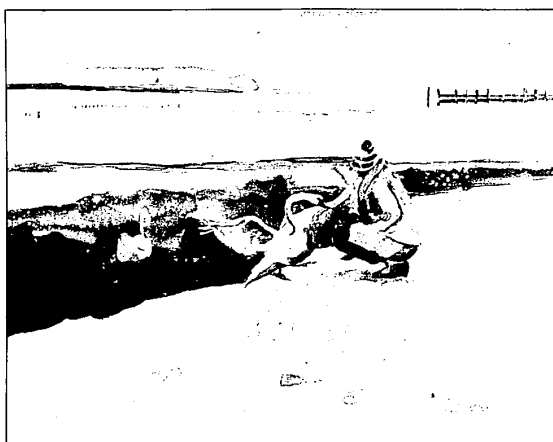


Scouting around the Grand Traverse Bay area for a good place to paint, Eddee Joppich found a cottage for sale. With help from her husband and brother-in-law, the one-time summer cottage is now Joppich's Bay Street Gallery.



Joppich's Bay Street Gallery will have original sculpture in the front yard this summer completing the new field stone facade and renovations.

"Belanger's Barn" (left) is a centennial landmark in the Grand Traverse Bay area that was painted by Herb Joppich of Joppich's Bay Street Gallery.



Brothers Herb (left) and Ed Joppich, their children, their daughters- and sons-in-law, all had a part in the building and remodeling project that culminated with the opening of Joppich's Bay Street Gallery.

Sumi-E artist stops here on tour

Kuniko Hirayama, a teacher of sumi-e painting in Tokyo, will be the house guest of Mary Bowman for several days on a lecture and demonstration tour with stops in major cities in the eastern part of the United States and Canada.

Bowman is a Farmington Hills resident who has introduced the Zen art of brush painting to students throughout southern Michigan.

Hirayama will critique the sumi-e show of paintings that are now on display.

play in the county seat offices, lecture and demonstrate from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday. This event is open to the public for \$6 a person. Reservations are not necessary.

Bowman, who is acting as Hirayama's agent and arranging her schedule in the Detroit area, said persons wishing to hear the Japanese master of sumi-e are to enter the Oakland County government complex from 1200 N. Telegraph Road and proceed to the County Executive Office Building. The lecture room is on the second floor of the building.

Later that night, Hirayama will lead a private class for advanced students only in Bowman's home.

During Hirayama's schedule on Thursday she will make two public appearances in I. Browne, on Northwest Highway, east of Orchard Lake Road.

She will meet informally with visitors at the bookstore at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m.

I. Browne is hosting her appearance in conjunction with her new book, "Sumi-E Just for You."

After a year of practicing new eating and exercise habits she said "Keeping thin is now a favorite hobby."

Scherl is a soccer player, a journalist and political science student, writes poetry and is adept at crows work.

With her title of Ms. Farmington Hills, she is now eligible to compete in state competition for the grand prize, a trip to the Bahama Islands.

Keeping thin is her hobby

Elaine Scherl won the Before and After Beauty Contest that culminated Elaine Powers Figure Salon's 19th birthday party. The all-day celebration was staged in the salon on Orchard Lake, near 12 Mile Road.

The Farmington Hills housewife and now sweet mother of five children took the title of Ms. Farmington Hills, a for long-stemmed roses and a Lord and Taylor gift certificate.

Now weighing 105 pounds, the petite

winner has lost 50 pounds and about 28 inches in the past year through a diet and exercise program.

"They assisted me in an individualized and healthy program and checked on me regularly," Scherl said of the Elaine Powers staff.

"They made us all care enough to do these things for ourselves. There are no gimmicks here, just good eating habits and a wonderful exercise program. I love it."

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