

Tradition and innovation make a winning mix

By Corinne Abett
staff writer

In amongst the Baccarat, Lalique and Orrefors crystal, sterling silver, and accessories for more casual living and dining are attractive works by local artists.

This interesting combination is certainly partly responsible for the success of "The Inner Circle," the store within a store at Gorman's Southfield. Although it has only been open a short time, Muriel and Bernie Moray, Gorman's owners, already have a good idea of what gift buyers want and like. And that's really what "The Inner Circle" is, a place to find unusual and beautiful gifts — even if the recipient is only yourself.

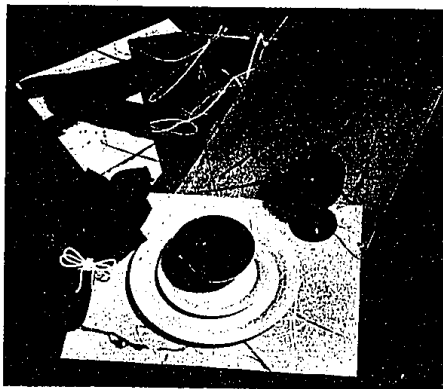
The popularity of the single handle, double umbrella (\$40), developed as quickly as a cloudburst on an August afternoon.

THE GADGET which attaches to a cane and with suction allows it to be attached to a table, counter or other stationary object when not in use, is another overdue invention which has received rave reviews.

The handpainted placemats, really contemporary paintings on canvas with four layers of lacquer, have proved themselves many times. They are the work of local artist Linda Soberman who will do them to match any type of china or decorating scheme.

And hard to distinguish from the beautiful crystal (until you lift them) are Lucite sculptures by John Bloem of Rochester who has developed his unusual works in with conjunction B.F. Shaw Corporation of Rochester. Said Muriel Moray, "We will continue to use Michigan artists as much as we can."

And, of course, there's a bridal registry and some wonderful new things such as a neatly packaged electric



Southfield artist Linda Soberman applies her many talents to a lot of functional as well as fine arts. Shown here are some of her one-of-a-kind place mats. She also does rugs and other larger pieces. The place setting is black and white, all items available at the Inner Circle.

Staff photos by Mindy Saunders



The "Inner Circle" at Gorman's Southfield has the intimacy of a specialty shop but with the resources of a large company. It's the variety of offerings and the charming atmosphere which make it a fun place to shop for wedding or other gifts.

exhibitions

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COLLECTOR'S ART GALLERY

Original prints by Joan Brace are on display at the gallery. This artist who was born and educated in California has had a number of shows in Michigan where she now lives and works. Her works at the gallery are limited edition etchings, 421 Walnut, Rochester. For hours, call 625-9015.

ROBERT L. KIDD

A group exhibition featuring work by Lyman Kipp, Harry Bertola, Lowell Nesbitt, Lamar Briggs, Chuang Che and Gary Davidek, and a one-man exhibition of sculptural fiber wallhangings by Robert L. Kidd, will be on display at the Kidd Gallery, 107 Townsend, Birmingham, Friday through Sept. 3. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

AAAA

A series of drawings on paper by art-

ist Mary King will be on display in the Exhibit Gallery of the Ann Arbor Art Association, 117 W. Liberty, starting Friday through Aug. 20. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

HABATAT GALLERIES

Architectural sculptures in glass by David Hochhausen will be on display at the Habatat Galleries, 3225 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, through Sept. 3. Summer hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.

Selected works by gallery artists in ceramics, glass, wood, handmade paper, paintings and hand-crafted jewelry will be on display throughout August at the Carol Hooberman Gallery, 155 S. Bates, Birmingham. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and by appointment. The gallery is closed until Monday.



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IN THE SWIM? Spectacular custom Colonial on treed ravine setting features heated Miami blue water pool. Superbly appointed interior includes family room with brick fireplace, family kitchen, central air, excellent storage. Termal 625-9100. \$154,900.



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MAINTENANCE FREE exterior highlights quality built Farmington Ranch on spectacular setting. Includes central air, elegant fireplace living room, separate dining room. Land Contract. 625-9100. \$183,900.



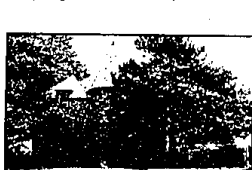
ENJOY UPPER STRAITS Lake Privileges in spotless updated Ranch on large, private lot. New kitchen and master bedroom, central air. West Bloomfield schools. Termal 651-8100. \$112,900.



FARMINGTON HILLS Spacious 3 bedroom Ranch with den, newer family room with free standing fireplace, extra insulation. Great buy! 625-9100. \$97,900.



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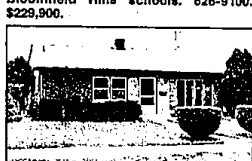
SIMPLE ASSUMPTION! \$5,700 assumes mortgage on cute starter or retirement home. Includes 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, family room with fireplace. Great buy! 651-8100. \$57,500.



BLOOMFIELD ON THE LAKE! Beautiful Frankel built home on treed lot includes central air, patio, decking. Big five bedroom plan with private library. Bloomfield Hills schools. 625-9100. \$229,900.



SOUTHFIELD. One bedroom brick Ranch, 12 Mile area. Decorators own home, formal dining room, neutral decor. Mint condition. 625-9100. Asking \$46,900.



PRIVATE TREED SETTING frames delightful Ranch including Birmingham schools. Many newer improvements including roof, low maintenance aluminum siding, quality decor. 625-9100. \$89,900.



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