

Artist's fascination with light shines through work

By Carol Azizian
staff writer

A pale, blond woman reclines on a lawn chair in languorous ease. Bathed in sunlight and surrounded by the lush greenery of her garden, Rozlyn is wistfully pensive.

Scantily dressed, Laura slouches in a chair in her boudoir, apparently reflecting about the day's events. Light filters into the dark, dreary room, casting shadows upon her face.

Surrounded by bright red begonias,

Klin pines for her portrait in a studio. A spotlight shines on her face, capturing her youthful, innocent looks.

The three portraits by Farmington Hills artist Jerinne Habsburg represent her continual experimentation with light. They are part of an exhibit which runs through Sunday at the Southfield Parks and Recreation Center Gallery, 26000 Rivergreen.

"I'm concerned with what happens to things (and people) when light shines on them," Habsburg said. "What light does to a group of objects is pretty mystical,

totally unexpected."

IN BOTH her realistic portraits and still lifes, her fascination with light shines through.

"Still lifes bore a lot of people," she admitted. "But an artist can take simple objects and glorify them by dealing with light."

Her attempts to elevate the mundane are evident in numerous still lifes such as "Still Life with Hydrangeas," portraying a stucco turtle next to potted flowers.

"God knows, we pass a million things

in our everyday life," she reflected. "We take many thousands of things in a light, off-handed way. We dismiss most of the information."

"But once you focus in on something and paint it, you become intimate with it. For example, you can become intimate with a bowl of flowers in a way that goes far beyond admiring it on a table in your home."

A painter for 35 years, Habsburg tries to convey this message to her art students. A former instructor at Oakland Community College, she now

teaches classes for the Visual Arts Association of Livonia.

"I stress honesty and the willingness to deal with the subject matter at hand," she explained. "I believe strongly in working from real life. Nobody ever learned anything by painting from photographs."

Although she occasionally paints from photographs, Habsburg thoroughly enjoys spending hours with her subjects to capture the right mood.

"But, she cautions, a painter 'can't aim at a mood. It happens because you respond to a particular model.'"

HABSBURG follows the same logic when painting landscapes. The warmth and joy she felt absorbing the beauty of historic Hill House and its gardens in Livonia is clearly portrayed in her painting of the site.

"There are levels of interest in that work," she noted. "The filtering of sunlight in the trees gives you the feeling

that you can walk right into it. It's a restful, lovely place."

A member of the Michigan Watercolor Society and Farmington Artists Club, Habsburg has exhibited her work throughout the Detroit area. She has won several awards, including "best of show" for Farmington Artists Club exhibitions in 1971, 1977, 1979 and 1982.

Others include a merit award in a competitive exhibit at First United Methodist Church of Birmingham; special award, "The Artist Speaks," for a juried exhibition at the American Center and second place in a Palette and Brush Club's show at Pontiac Art Center.

Habsburg continues to find new challenges in her art. She has never stopped painting — except when her five children were very young.

"We all need opposition and challenge in our lives," she said. "I love setting up a problem and solving it."

"I find I keep getting better at it all the time."



Jerinne Habsburg of Farmington Hills discusses her painting "Languor," one of several of her works on display through Sunday at Southfield Parks and Recreation.



"Still Life with Hydrangeas," another work by Habsburg, is a realistic still life.

INSIDE ANGLES

Know someone doing something notable? Let us know. Write: Inside Angles, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024.

WXYZ NEWSTALK Radio will air the classic drama "War of the Worlds" at 11 p.m. Halloween night. Orson Welles and John Housman star in this drama which panicked many listeners across the U.S. who believed the horror story of a Martian invasion to be fact instead of fiction. H.G. Wells' story first aired Oct. 30, 1938 on the Mercury Theater Radio Program. Forty-four years later, it continues to be a gripping and intense tale in the convincing and chilling voice of Welles.

KATHY RICHARDSON of Farmington is one of four Albion College students learning the basics of public relations by working in the college office of public information as a student writer. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Richardson and a 1981 Farmington High School graduate.

KEVIN BERSCHKE, a Farmington Hills fireman, used his fire extinguisher and gave tips on emergency aid before help arrives at Honeywell Inc. The demonstration was suggested by Rick Deys of Building Services Department to make employees more aware of fire safety and knowledgeable in first aid at work.

HENRY FORD HOSPITAL offers free screenings for hypertension (high blood pressure) each month at Henry Ford Hospital West Bloomfield Center (Module 1B), first floor, 8777 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield, from 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. No appointment is necessary.

MARY BONNER and LAURIE MANCUSO, both of Farmington Hills, have been named to the Albion 1983 women's field hockey team. Mary is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bonner and a 1983 graduate of Academy of the Sacred Heart. Laurie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Mancuso and a 1980 graduate of Farmington High School.

KAREN DENNISTON, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donn H. Denniston of Farmington Hills, has been accepted as a pledge to Phi Beta Phi Sorority at Hillsdale College.

THE FARMINGTON HILLS Fire Department is reminding residents that the local ordinance prohibits any open burning of leaves, brush, twigs or branches. For information or requirements of disposing of debris, call the DPW facility at 553-8380.

STEVEN MAJOROS of Farmington Hills, a 1983 graduate of North Farmington High School, has been initiated into the Phi Chapter of Psi Upsilon

Fraternity. Steven attends the University of Michigan studying a degree in business administration.

MICHAEL HOWLEY of Farmington Hills was named to the dean's academic honor list for the 1983 summer semester at Baylor University, Waco, Texas. To be named to the dean's list, a student must be an undergraduate with a minimum grade point average of 3.5, be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours, and rank in the top third to seventh percentile of his or her school or college.

THIS NOVEMBER share your Thanksgiving with the sick and injured in your community by giving blood. And bring a friend or relative along to donate with you. A Red Cross Bloodmobile will be located at the Finnish Cultural Center, 35500 Eight Mile Road from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5. For an appointment, call Shirley Kempainen at 478-6939.

BE A SHOPPER! The Booster Club of North Farmington High School is sponsoring a Great Scott Day Wednesday, Nov. 2, from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. at the Great Scott Supermarket, Orchard Lake and 13 Mile Road. Five percent of the total sales will be donated to support all sports, music, drama and clubs at North Farmington High School. While shopping enjoy a hot dog and coke for 75 cents. Proceeds donated to the Booster Club.

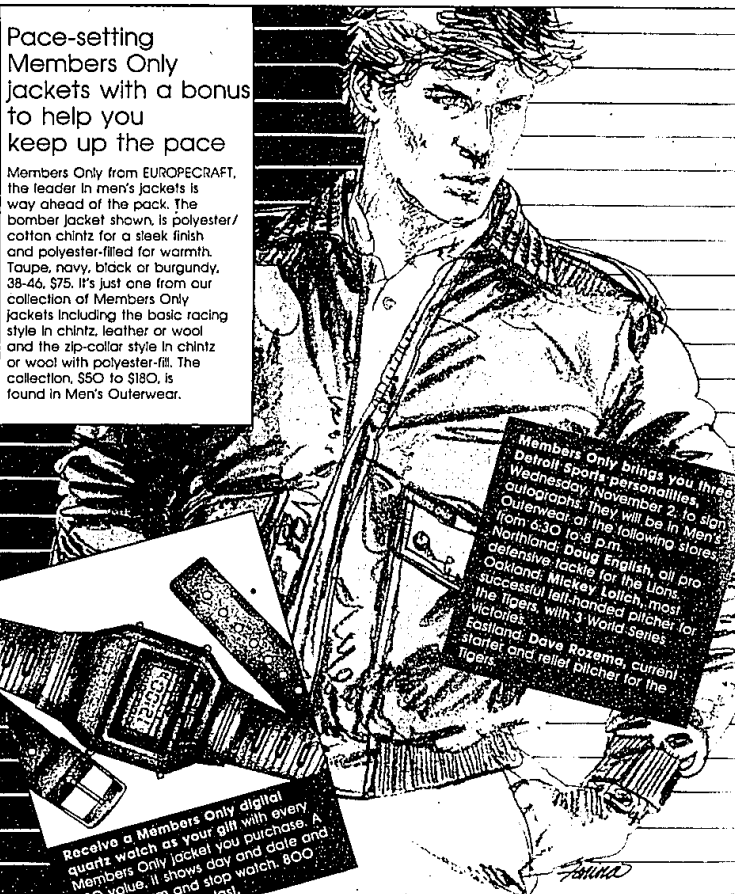
THE SCOOPERMARKET, a bulk food store, kicks off its fall gala baking event with the National Council of Jewish Women of Greater Detroit baking recipes from the Fiddler in the Kitchen cook book for free sampling. It takes place from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 2 and 3. Scoopermarket is located in the Orchard Place Center, Orchard Lake Road between 13 and 14 Mile road in Farmington Hills. For further information, call Nancy Kautamaki, 855-3440.

CIDER AND DOUGHNUTS will be served on the grounds of Mill Race Historical Village when women of Bushnell Congregational Church's new congregation in Novi host their first Christmas bazaar, Friday, Nov. 4. Farmington area women who will be manning booths offering holiday items and foods are Patricia Canfield, Shirley Campeau and Pamela Poinon. Sale hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the village on Griswold near Main Street in Northville.

GOLDEN FITNESS, an hour exercise geared to the 35-plus women, is given in the exercise room in Bel-Aire Lakes twice a week. New people can join the group anytime. For information or to pre-register, call Marilyn Essex, 477-0390.

Pace-setting Members Only jackets with a bonus to help you keep up the pace

Members Only from EUROPECRAFT, the leader in men's jackets is way ahead of the pack. The bomber jacket shown, is polyester/cotton chintz for a sleek finish and polyester-filled for warmth. Taupe, navy, black or burgundy. 38-46, \$75. It's just one from our collection of Members Only jackets including the basic racing style in chintz, leather or wool and the zip-collar style in chintz or wool with polyester-fill. The collection, \$50 to \$180, is found in Men's Outerwear.



Receive a Members Only digital quartz watch as your gift with every Members Only jacket you purchase. A \$20 value. It shows day and date and has an alarm and stop watch. 800 gift units while they last.

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