

Artist seek revelations in line, color, shape

This is another in a series of lessons on art and drawing by special columnist David Messing. He has taught for eight years and operates an art store, Art Store and More, 18774 Middlebelt, Livonia. Messing encourages questions and comments from readers. You may write him at his store or c/o Observer Newspapers, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington MI 48024.



artifacts

Our car never stopped spinning and spinning and spinning. Within minutes I had the all-too-late revelation that, "I cannot take this ride." I felt a bobbling in my stomach as a previously eaten corn dog threatened to rise and haunt me. Everything was a blur, but pride forced me to smile as if I was having a great time.

FINALLY MY son said, "Man, I wish this car would stop spinning!" With that opportunity I thought I would try to get him to stop this torturous ride.

Completely disoriented and stammering, I yelled, "Misher could you please stop this ride and let us off? My shin is getting very thick."

With an Impish smile the man finally stopped the ride to let us off.

Scott was instantly better but I looked like Casper the Ghoul. A mere shadow of a man, I left that ride as about one half the population of Livonia

watched and laughed. I actually heard people giggle and say "Look how white that man is." Oh what a revelation.

Every day offers us revelations as by circumstances or learning we become aware of things that were formerly unknown to us. I feel that artists not only happen onto revelation, but they seek them out.

EVERY TIME an artist attempts to draw something he or she searches for the lines, shapes and colors that were most likely unknown to them. The word "revelation" means to become aware of the previously unknown, so artists not only happen upon revelations, they look for them.

Even people as close to you as your own family members, offer fantastic revelation as you attempt to draw them. The subtle little bump that a 3-year-old has for a nose, the strength in your father's furrowed brow or maybe you never noticed the beauty and look of concern in your mother's eyes.

How blue is your parakeet? What shade of green is your umbrella plant? How fascinating it is to be an artist. Some need to fly to far away places to

find beauty. But the watchful eye of an artist finds beauty in the common place such as the folded and cracked leather of a high top work boot — the free-flowing lines of the untied laces and the shiny brass of the worn eyelets.

SOME NEED to "get away from it all" and the artist seeks to understand what was always there. "Go do so in to look at your surroundings wherever you are. Revelation will come to you as you look and study the lines, shapes and colors of all you attempt to draw.

Donna Juras is my right arm when it comes to teaching my older and advanced students. When Donna is looking for something to draw it always amazes me how she will flip through a magazine.

Imagine a beautiful prong-horned elk standing on a small hill . . . she flips right past it to find a chicken standing next to some farmer.

"Oh, I'd love to draw this," she says.

"Well whatever . . ." is my usual comment.

But everything she selects offers her new revelation even in the common place. I remember after viewing her beautifully drawn, technically perfect



scratch board drawing, I said, "I never knew a chicken could look this good."

So instead of getting away "from" it all, try getting "into" it all. Find revelation in the common place and by not forgetting to explore the uncommon. Along with exotic animals and faraway places look for the beauty of those things available and often overlooked.

Question: I am painting my garage doors and would like to do a graphic

design or something floral on them. What is the most suitable paint to use?

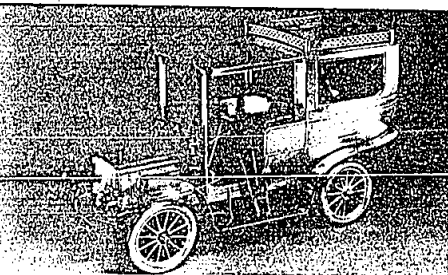
Answer: I also do wall graphics and enjoy them as a break from painting and commercial art work. I have found that outdoor latex is the best paint for graphics whether indoors or outdoors. Exterior latex is also suitable for use on aluminum siding and doors. I believe you can even buy latex in small quantities as a pint.

By David Messing special writer

"Oh what a revelation," I thought to myself as Scott, my oldest son, and I boarded the Octopus ride at the Livonia Spree. Trying to prove that just because I'm thirtyish speeding towards fortyish doesn't mean I ride at a carnival.

Just as the ride began, the "miss" fell low that was operating the ride decided to spin our car just to make sure we had a good time.

Well with centrifugal force and all,



A detailed automobile replica by Faberge.

Institute shows Faberge collection

Faberge: 116 Forbes Magazine Collection brings 200 masterpieces by Peter Carl Faberge to the Detroit Institute of Arts through Sunday, Aug. 12. Faberge (1846-1920) headed a firm which became world-renowned for its celebrated Imperial Easter Eggs — prized possessions of the last czars of Russia — as well as for jeweled flowers, fantasies, figure groups, and animals.

This is one of the largest Faberge collections in the world outside of the Russian Kremlin and the Royal Collection in England.

The Detroit loan includes eight of the Imperial eggs, among them the spectacular "Coronation" egg (1897) presented by Czar Nicholas II to his wife, Alexandra, in commemoration of their accession to the Imperial throne.

THE STARBURST — engraved, five-inch gold egg opens to reveal a tiny reproduction of their coronation coach, complete in every detail — rock crystal windows, platinum tires and diamond-set gold trellis work.

Others in the exhibition are the "First Imperial Egg" of 1894, the 1899 "Spring Flowers" egg, the 1904 "Resurrection" egg, the 1905 "Chanticleer" egg and the "15th Anniversary" and "Orange Tree" eggs of 1911.

The Art Institute showing will be the public debut of several recent additions to the collection, including a splendid silver motor car and a monumental folkloric desk garniture, according to Christopher Forbes, vice president — associate publisher, who joined Forbes Magazine in 1970 as curator of the

company art collection.

His father, Malcolm S. Forbes, chairman and in-chief of Forbes Magazine, began the Faberge collection in the mid-1960s.

Although the Imperial Eggs are the most famous of his creations, Faberge produced many other elegant objects which will be shown: enameled and jeweled frames, miniatures, clocks, boxes, cigarette cases, jewelry and accessories and household objects.

FABERGE took over management of his father's jewelry firm in St. Petersburg at the age of 24. The success of the House of Faberge is linked to the Imperial patronage of the Romanoff family.

In 1918, the Russian Revolution ended the Romanoff dynasty with the execution of Czar Nicholas II, his wife and five children. The Faberge workshop, which at one point had employed more than 500 designers and craftsmen, also ceased to exist and Faberge himself escaped to France. He died in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1920, at age 74.

"Faberge: The Forbes Magazine Collection" will be open to the public in the Art Institute's textile galleries during regular museum hours 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday.

The Faberge objects will be discussed in "Masterwork of the Week" talks at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday, July 13 and 17, by Bonita LaMarche, research assistant in the Department of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts.



Merrill Lynch Realty



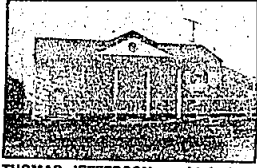
STATELY GEORGIAN 4 bedroom Farmington Hills colonial with absolutely great financing. Huge deck for summer entertaining, excellent condition and decor. 628-9100 \$108,500



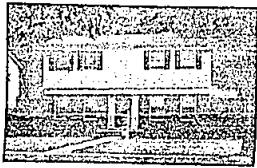
SEEKING QUALITY? This has it all! Large lot Tudor exterior, ceramic foyer, 4 bedrooms, custom decor, mint condition. 628-9100 \$169,500



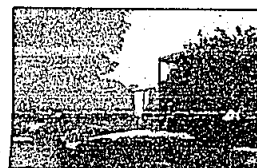
MEMORY LANE. All of yesterday's charm affordable today. Excellent family home on extra-sized lot, bay windowed dining room, Florida room, 2 fireplaces. 628-9100 \$62,500



THOMAS JEFFERSON would feel at home in this Potomac Village colonial. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, generous kitchen with island, West Bloomfield schools. 647-5100 \$114,000



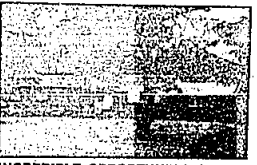
ROYAL OAK'S FINEST Family-oriented neighborhood is ideal setting for this 3 bedroom colonial in very fine condition. Immediate occupancy. Just reduced! 640-6000 \$33,500



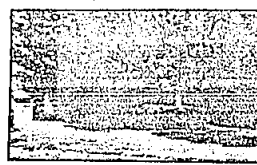
EXCELLENT CONDO. Close to Oakland Hills, Birmingham Athletic Club, recently remodeled kitchen. Ideal for singles! Be the first to call. 631-8100 \$72,950



ASSUME LAND CONTRACT with approximately 22 years remaining. Exceptional Farmington Hills ranch with brick patio, fireplace, family room, 3 bedrooms. 628-9100 \$69,700



INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY. Over 1/4 acre tract lot, excellent quality construction! Large screened porch and pretty view! Call about encouraging financing. 628-9100 \$33,500



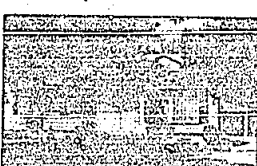
CUSTOM BRICK RANCH. Spacious tract lot facing Forest Lake Country Club. 3 bedrooms, continually upgraded and updated! Bloomfield Hills schools. 628-9100 \$72,950



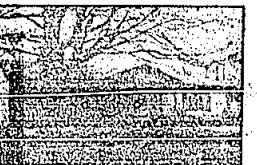
LOOK! LIVONIA! All brick ranch with newer gas and central air furnace, fireplace, fully-fenced yard. Call about good looking financing! 628-9100 \$46,500



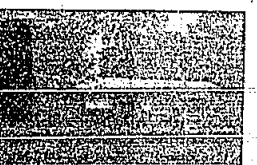
SOUND INVESTMENT. Versatile 2-3 bedroom Troy bungalow. New roof, furnace and wiring. Immediate occupancy. Terrific terms and just reduced. 648-6000 \$40,500



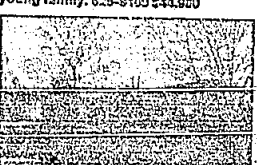
AMBITIOUS OWNER. Offering great deal on 3 bedroom energy-efficient ranch. Country kitchen with nook, full basement, 2 car garage. Excellent for young family. 628-9100 \$44,950



CEDAR LAKE PRIVILEGES. Super attractive cedar ranch on corner lot. Gathering room with area fireplace, full-finished basement. Summer occupancy! 631-8100 \$37,000



PRICE IS RIGHT. 4 bedroom ranch in good family sub near transportation and shopping. Energy efficient extras, updated kitchen. Simple assumption. 631-8100 \$40,500



LAND CONTRACT. Versatile. You'll appreciate the tender loving care received by this 4-3 bedroom 1 1/2-bath. First-class gathering room and double patio. West Bloomfield schools. 628-9100 \$48,500

DRASTICALLY REDUCED



ENGLISH TUDOR MODEL

Unlike detailing as evidenced in the extensive use of custom oak carpentry, painting and crown moldings. Offered well over \$400,000, it is beautiful! Big open and beautiful living room and 8 car garage. Four bedrooms with large closets. Three full and 2 half baths. 8 in marble. Three magnificent rare Italian marble fireplaces. Almost an acre with all landscaping, brick, granite driveway and concrete driveway. To meet only a few of the many features of this structural home. Cooperative financing.

Malcolm Leventen Corp. 638-0110 • 638-8492 OPEN SUNDAY 1 PM - 5 PM BY APPOINTMENT