

Route 10 hosts avant-garde show

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CORBA AND van Krijdt formed their minimalist philosophy while living in near-wilderness in Fort Bidwell, Calif., for a year without "clocks or calendars."

When asked to explain the philosophy behind the installation, Corba said, "We had all these elements, we said, 'What could we do with them to create a space that catches the eye?'"

Lining the gallery walls, Corba's abstract oils on canvas use lines and squares of color to create mood and brighten the minimalist environment.

"Long Time Coming" took Corba over a year to paint. "I started the painting right after the San Francisco earthquake," Corba said. "It was a very bloody red and dark piece. I needed light."

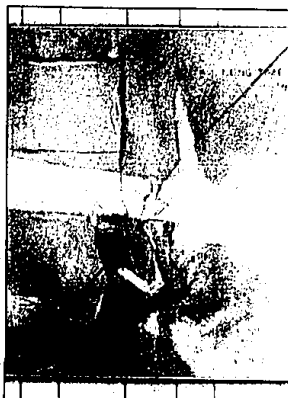
Corba said she was so frustrated with the painting, she took it outside and threw her car over it. Van Krijdt rescued the piece, and for a fifth time, Corba repainted the canvas. Rocks and twigs embedded in the painting build texture under the oils. Ochre gives the piece brightness.

CORBA AND van Krijdt's collaborated end tables have simple lines with Corba's oil canvases adhered to the tabletop surface. Their designs destroy the idea of furnishing interior space.

The artist's reception at Route 10 runs 6-10 p.m. Saturday. For a contribution of \$20, you are entitled to a gourmet buffet dinner at the nearby Vineyards Cafe. A silent auction and a percentage of all gallery sales during this special event will benefit cancer research.

The benefit is the idea of gallery owners Dorce Schwartz and Terri Shapiro. In 1988, they opened their first gallery, the Homestead, in Walled Lake. A year ago the went was increased, so they moved to their present location, 12430 Northwestern Highway.

The gallery shows 50-75 artists who create canvases, raku ware, sculpture, blown and fused glass, and jewelry. Prices range from \$20-\$2,000. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday.



SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer

This oil on canvas painting, by Judith Ann Corba, is entitled, "Long Time Coming." The lower third of the painting is turquoise. A white horizontal band runs through the middle of an ochre background. The painting is priced at \$725.

and Thursday until 9 p.m.

To make dinner reservations for the Nov. 17 benefit, call Collen Brown at the Michigan Cancer Foundation: 833-0710 Ext. 245.

He pursues baroque romanticism

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The grant is a subsidy, not a commission. De Giusti has complete control over the sculptures' forms and subjects.

"I was sitting on my front porch," De Giusti said, "when the mailman brought a letter from Redford's state representative, John Bennett, congratulating me for receiving the grant. That's how I found out about it. It was the last thing on my mind."

In 1985, the artist won a commission to produce 12 panels for the new State of Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing. The bas-reliefs are in four niches of the central rotunda. They contain elements of Michigan's landscapes.

"The work for the library took 2 1/2 years," De Giusti said. "It was hard work, very physical. I did almost all of the work myself. The pieces were cast at the Center for Creative Studies, where I do most of my casting, even including the bronze doors I made in 1988 for the 200th anniversary of the church in my hometown, Maniago, Italy."

"The library commission was the greatest thing that ever happened to me. It was confirmation of all the work I've done over the years. I never compromised. I could have been a portraitist. I

love pottery. I could have been a ceramist. But I stuck to my guns and did what I believed in. I never made art to decorate living rooms."

THE LIBRARY commission and the Michigan Council for the Arts grant have relieved the sculptor of the necessity of teaching. He taught art history at Wayne State (where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees in fine arts) for 14 years. His wife, Lori, was one of his students at Wayne State.

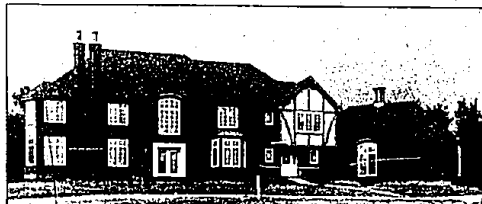
De Giusti also taught life drawing and sculpture at the Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association for 24 years.

"Very few people are trained in relief sculpture. It's an Italian tradition," said the Italian-born De Giusti. "In this area, there's only Jack Pappas at Eastern Michigan University and myself. When people want relief sculpture, they call Pappas or me."

De Giusti now is working on a commission for the Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza at Eastern Michigan University. Four bronze reliefs will record major events in King's life. The wax model for the first panel, depicting the "I have a dream" speech, has been completed. It will soon be cast at the EMU foundry.

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