Author sells sophisticated tales of terror

Kathe Koja doesn't look or act like somebody who would spend her time harrifying people.

But that's exacetly what the amiable, attractive author from Oak Park does. And she's very good at it. Just pick up a copy of the little paperback "The Cipher," recently out from Dell. It's her first book she's spent the last couple of years writing short fiction), and it's something you'll definitely want to read with all the lights on.

The book has been chosen to introduce Dell's new horror line, Abyss, which, according to Dell editor Jeanne Cavelos, will feature "a so-phisticated, snychological element, with a presentation different to much of the horror fletton that's out now.

"There's so much formula fiction "There's so much formula fiction"

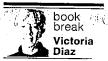
now.
"There's so much formula fiction in which you'll see the same story line repeated again and again, until it's no longer scary," Cavelos said.

what we want are vivid characters, dealing with the fear and horror of everyday life, We're not at all inter-ested in seeing the same old mon-sters."

Koja says she has no idea why she happens to write horror. She's not particularly attracted, as a reader, to horror liction, (preferring instead the works of Flannery O'Connor or Michigan's Jim Harrison). She's never experienced anything particularly frightening or bizarre, she says.

frightening or bizarre, she says.

According to her, her takes of terror are something that just sort of — happen. "I pretty much just sid tool and write what I feel like writing," she said. "I don't especially have forror in mind when I start. I don't even have a sense of the beginning, the middle, or the end of a story at first. I just start to write, and see what happens. And something always happens."



WILAT HAPPENS In "The Cipher" is the An aimless young man named Nichols and the See the Market of th WHAT HAPPENS in "The Cipher"

Let's just say that what happens Let's just say that what happens next is not a pretty story. "When I read Kathe's book, I was blown away by how great it was." Cavelos said. "I was reminded of Clive Barker, but she has her own unique tone and point of view of a dark world and its jaded characters. It's different, really, to any horror story I've ever read."

19, to any horror story I've ever read."

Publishers Weekly has called the book "a powerful first novel (that) is as thought-provoking as it is horrify-ing."

Very few people see Koja's work before it's published. She doesn't hang out with other writers and she doesn't submit anything to writers' workshops these days. She's never attended college, never signed up for any college-level "creative writing"

NOW 31, what she does do is write — a lot. (In the past, In addition to be shown its ories, she's also written a neather stories, she's also written a neather stories, she's also written a sides. "The Cipher," which evental unpublished, when she gets her 6-year-old son, Aaron, off to school each day, she turns to her deak and gets down to the business of creating two more novels she's contracted to write for Dell. The first, as yet untitled, will be out early next year. In the meantime, if bone-chilling, book into "The Cipher" and join Ni-cholas and Nakota at what they like to call The Funhole. As much as you might want to, you may never forget NOW 31, what she does do is write

might want to, you may never forget these two. Pleasant dreams.



Kathe Koja horror writer

Concert's theme: musical adventure

Musica Viva! Bulck International 1991 Concerts present "A Musical Adventure," featuring violinist Hamao Fujiwara in his first local

Hamao Fujiwara in his first local appearance.

His active recital career has taken him to Japan, India and Western Europe and across the United States, from New York to Alaska.

He has appeared as soloist with major orchestras worldwide, including the Tokyo, Hong Kong and Koeul philbarmonic orchestras, Rochester Philharmonic and Toronto, Vancouver, Louisville and American symphony orchestras. He has Lught at the Juilliard School of Music and the Manhattan School of Music

School of Music.
Joining Fujiwara is planist Kat-surako Mikami, a winner of the na-tional competition in Toyko and the

Marguerite Long International Piano Competition in Paris. She is a
graduate of Toho School of Music,
Paris Conservatory of Music and
the Juliard School of Music, She
records for Columbia and Musica
Magua Records.
Internationally acclaimed flutist
Ginka Gerova-Ortega will join in
the performance. Performing on
four continents, this Bulgarianborn flutist has been making musical news since her 1983 Carnegie
Hall debut.
The concert will take place at 8
p.m. Friday, Feb, 22, in the Smith
Theatre on the Orchard Ridge
Campus of Oakland Community
College. 1-896 and Orchard Lake
Road, Farmington Hills.
Tickets are \$15 for general audience and \$10 for students and senlors. Tickets include a free afterglow. Contact the 24-bour hotline
at 471-7700.

Arts groups scramble

Continued from Page 1

Continued from Page 1
"ILet's say the Detroit Symphony
Orchestra would go out of business
because of these major and drastic
overnight reductions. The musiclans
would immediately leave the state
would immediately leave the state
to seek work. Whadano sald. "The
community orchestras with DSO
players would lose them."
"Orchestra hall would be vacated
for all intents and purposes. The people coming to Orchestra Hall won't

tourism in general would suffer."
"Additionally, the state grants stimulate local government giving and matching gilts made by corporations and individuals. All that money aiding the arts would essentially dry up. The governor would be turning his back on what the people of Michigan want and what the people of Michigan mant and what the people of Michigan need."

'Quite an honor'

Nominations sought for Artist In Residence

By Linda Ann Chomin

The Farmington Area Arts Commission is seeking nominations for its annual Art In Residence award, to be presented at an awards cere-mony April 28 at the Community Center of Farmington-Farmington

Center of Failman.

Hills.

First presented in 1976, the Artist
In Residence award has honored
palnters, musicians, photographers,
sculptors, even a teacher/composerin Farmington and Farmington in
Hills. The competition each year is
fiere.

Hills. The competition each year is fierce.

"It's quite an honor," sald artist Edee Joppich of Farmington Hills.

Joppich, a 1978 winner, was honored for her watercolors, landscapes and abstract collage paintings.

A teacher at the Visual Arts Association of Livonia, Joppich owns the Bay Street Gallery in Northport on the Leclanau Peninsula.
"Tre had 19 one-woman shows

"I've had 19 one-woman shows and I still list it on my resume," Jop-pleh said.

AWARD WINNERS receive a cash prize as well as a plaque that's displayed at the Farmington Community Library in Farmington Hills.
Other Artist in Residence winners through the years include photogra-

'It's an exciting happening. It means so much to have pepole acknowledge the work

of artists in our community. When you reach that level, it gives you such a good feeling - that other people appreciate you.'

– Gwen Tomkow former Artist In Residence

pher Monty Nagler, a columnist for the Observer & Eccentric Newspa-pers. John Glick, a potter whose plates were chosen to grace the White House table white Vice Presi-dent Walter Mondale was in office; architect Walter Reddig, who won for his watercolors, and artists Gwen Tomkow, Lena Massara- and Frank Lohan.

"It's an exciting happening," said "It's an exciting happening, said Tomkow, a watercolorist who stud-ied under Joppich in 1977 in Farm-ington.
"It means so much to have pepole

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acknowledge the work of artists in our community. When you reach that level, it gives you such a good feeling — that other people appreciate you."

ieve, it gives you such a good feeling—that other people appreciate you."

The first winner, in 1978, was Joe Clark, "The Hillbilly Snapshooter," who gained national fame photographing the Tennessee hill country for Jack Danlels Whiskey. He also shot for Life macazine. shot for Life magazine.

The Villac allow.

"Artists must reside in either Farmington or Farmington Hills." Joppich said, "and are chosen for their achievements throughout the community." Many of the honored art pieces are on view fin such public places as the city halls, the district court and the community center.

Call Debra Grant: 478-2566.

ROCHESTER UTICA 739-1300

visit area restaurants and business-es. Their business would be lost and tourism in general would suffer."

Auditions announced

Winners of two vocal awards will be selected in March. Auditions for the Elizabeth Gardner \$300 award, through the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs, will be 2-5:40 pm. Sunday, March 3, at First Baptist Church of Birming-ham. Application deadline is Feb. 22. Applicants must be 17:23 years old by March 3.

by March 3.

Applicants will be required to sing a selection from each of the categories opera or oratorio - aria with recitative; old Italian, romantic.

French or German, and 20th century.
English language, A letter from the voice teacher is required.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE will have auditions for the \$400 Charlotte Ruppel Memoriat Voice Scholarship 1:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at First Baptist Church of Birming-ham, Application deadline is March

Applicants should prepare one aria -- opera or oratorio, one foreign language art song and one contemporary American/British art song in English. Performance time should not exceed 10 minutes. Applicants must provide their own accomcants must provide their own ac

3 professionally decurated models are located in the n 1-275 corridor of Livonia. Just minutes from 3 major sh 7he Villas Priced from \$199,500 953-0080 Sales Office Brokers Always Welcome

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For application forms for either award, call Birmingham Musicale, 375-9534. Chamberlain.

Barn undergoes boost Continued from Page 1

This year, the couple plans to paint the barn a traditional, rustic

paint the barn a traditional, rustic red with white shutters and trim. Most of the wood is in good condition, but Joe will replace some rotted window sills and remove spray painted slogans left inside the barn by vandats. After repairs are finished, the couple may install a heating system. Since a family of raccoons entered the barn, ate a butterfy collection and damaged other ltems stored inside, the building will be empty until the restoration will be empty until the restoration

Judy hopes to use the barn for a retreat where she can quietly read

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or do craft work. The couple also plans to decorate the barn with old farm implements and other collectibles. This fall, the Dereks even may host a Halloween party or harvest dance there.

JOE AND Judy, both members of Friends of the Rouge, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, National Wildlife Federation, Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation and a number of other environmental groups, believe the barn is a symbol of Americana.

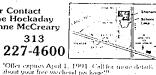
"We have to preserve this small part of our history," Joe said, "You could say we owe it to the barn, to ourselves and to the community."



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