

Creative Living

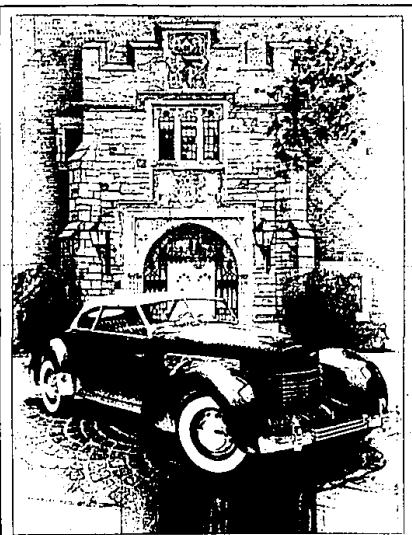
Co Abett editor/644-1100

CLASSIFIED REAL ESTATE



(S.F1D)

Thursday, August 1, 1991 O&E



This year's Concours d'Elegance poster is a reproduction of a watercolor by California artist Dennis Brown. The car depicted is a Cord, the masterpiece of the 1930s, which fell victim to the Depression. There will be 25 Cords at the Concours, including the futuristic 1938 Phantom Corsair.

Showing car art in 2 dimensions

For those who view classic autos as art akin to that of classical music, the Cord ranks right up there with Beethoven's finest compositions. It is, they will tell you, a veritable symphony of engineering, power and excitement — a moving, spiritual experience.

The Cord is the official marquee of this year's Concours d'Elegance at Meadow Brook Hall at Oakland University, Rochester, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

More than 25 Cords will be on display, as well as some spectacular examples of the event's sports car marquee, the Alfa Romeo, and a wide range of wonderfully restored cars.

The Cord is the subject for this year's official Concours poster by featured artist Dennis Brown of California.

FOR ALMOST a decade, two-dimensional art has played a significant role in the Concours celebrations, which continue to be highly successful fund-raisers for Meadow Brook Hall.

In addition to the exhibition of paintings by many of the top artists in the field, a show of the paintings from past Concours belonging to metro area auto/art collector Richard Kughn. One from the 1983 Concours owned by Robert Lariviere, will be featured as well.

Kughn's entire collection through 1989 will be on display Friday evening at the Invitational Art Preview in the Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion and at the banquet and art reception at Meadow Brook Hall Saturday.

There, Brown's original painting for this year's poster will be auctioned, along with one painting donated by each of the artists in the invitational.

AMONG THE artists in the invitational are three from Michigan: Tom Hale of Northville, Jack Juratovic of Lake Orion and Camilo Pardo of Grosse Pointe.

The other artists are: Luis Bergandi, Ken Eberts and John Francis Marsh, California; Carlo Demand, Germany; James Finnell, New Mexico; Peter Hearsay, Isle of Man; Dennis Hoyt and Stanley Wanlass, Oregon; Jay Koka, Canada; and J. Paul Nese, Minnesota.

They all will have paintings for sale in the exhibition tent during the Sunday Concours.

Three Awards of Excellence, \$1,500 each, will be given by a panel of judges, along with a variety of other recognition awards.

There will be a special memorial exhibit honoring designer Richard A. Teague, who died in May. Teague retired after 21 years as vice president of styling and design at American Motors. More than 40 of his drawings and designs will be exhibited including goatease and watercolor paintings and colored pencil renderings of interior and exterior auto designs he developed while working for Oldsmobile, Packard and American Motors. There will also be artwork he produced for the covers of Road and Track and Motor Trend magazines.

By Corinne Abett
staff writer

Few cultural/entertainment bargains match that at the Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum this summer.

For a piddly \$2.50 admission you can catch three outstanding art exhibitions (four, counting the permanent ones), and if you are there at 2 p.m. Friday or Sunday, you get a free movie in the Modern Artists Film Series thrown in.

Not bad, because you can spend the better part of an afternoon getting your cultural batteries recharged and then walk outside, take a long look from the veranda of the museum building and put new life in your spiritual batteries as well — with Carl Miller's Orpheus Fountain pool to the north, his Triton pool down the steps to the south and Jonah and the Whale on the way to and from the museum.

THE PERMANENT collection now occupies the central space on the main floor, an appropriate position considering the caliber of the work and the importance of the artists who once lived and worked at Cranbrook. And the collection is far from static.

Behold it on the same floor in three large areas is the Student Summer Show. The only tradition here is the Cranbrook tradition — innovation, experimentation and imagination.

Two that have tremendous impact because of size as well as workmanship are Stephanie Brash's much larger-than-life "Marionette" of paper, wood, metal and string.

Her nude figure of an aging, withering male carries unforgettable impact. Its beauty lies in her ability to express fatigue and the ravages of the aging process — the loose pelvic muscles, the flattened feet.

Kyoung Ae Cho's "Red Tail" is a monumental work of elm and red dogwood branches that she gathered on the Cranbrook grounds, bound and shaped into a curving tail that rests on the gallery floor, arcs to the high ceiling, and sweeps down again to trail on the floor.

Like all of the artists in the student show, she has written about her work and her prose expresses her feelings eloquently.

In "Prayer for Our Earth," Chris Allen-Wickler deals with words cast on, if not in (which was the original idea), stone. She arranged rocks of varying shapes and sizes on a 10-tier shelf. On the front of each rock is one word.

Strangely, perhaps, not so much to the artist, the words on each line pick up a kind of implied cadence; it would be difficult to read them aloud in a monotone. The beauty of the work, the words against these strong natural elements, heighten the meaning.

First line: Give us the larger picture; the second line: longer view faith in our . . . It continues for eight more lines and becomes a very endearing statement.

"THE Vessel Aesthetic: Ceramics By Majla Grotell." In one of the lower level galleries, features ceramic



"Gene," oil-on-canvas, 1984, was done by Robert Beuchamp, who completed his studies at the Academy of Art in 1950 when it was still granting bachelor's degrees.



Vase by Majla Grotell, done in the early 1940s, is 17 1/2 inches high and 12 inches deep.

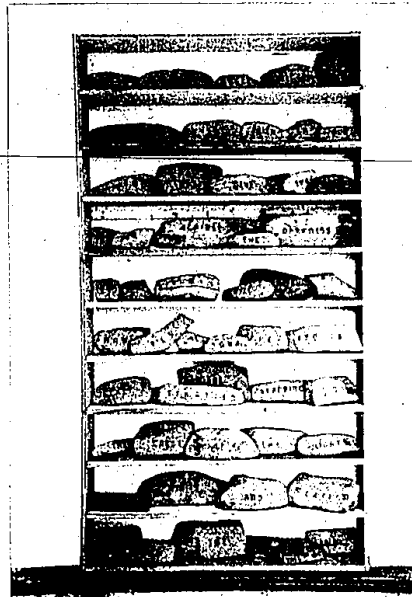
pieces by this artist, who worked and taught at Cranbrook 1938-66. This artist, born in Finland in 1899, was instrumental in moving ceramics from craft to fine art.

Curator David Rau combined several outstanding pieces from private collections with those belonging to the museum to trace the progression and development of her style from the 1920s, when there was still charming folk ethnicity about it, to the elegance and clarity of form and glaze that she eventually perfected.

As time went on, her ornamentation became more and more abstracted and more refined. It is a long and fascinating story from her early portrait jug to vessels that rely on the rings made at the potter's wheel and wonderful glazes and slips for surface excitement.

Tino Zago, Detroit-born painter and Cranbrook Academy of Art

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"Prayer for Our Earth," sand-blessed rock and recycled wood for shelves, by Chris

Allen-Wickler, is one of many strong works of art in the Student Summer Show.

Southfield building cultural bridge with Japan

By Corinne Abett
staff writer

The concert by the Otsu Philharmonic from Shiga, Japan, at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, at the Southfield Civic Center Pavilion should strike many chords beyond musical.

It seems destined to open doors of friendship and good will between the U.S. and Japan. Shiga and Michigan, and the Otsu and Southfield symphony orchestras.

There will be a champagne reception before and an American style barbecue after the concert to celebrate the Otsu Philharmonic's three-city tour of Michigan, sister-state to the Prefecture of Shiga. It also marks the Otsu orchestra's 40th anniversary.

Those involved in the local planning and arrangements see this concert and celebration as the beginning of a close international relationship in the arts.

ONE OF the key players in this international event, both literally and figuratively, is pianist Vladimir Kovalsky of Lathrup Village. Kovalsky, born in eastern Russia, has made two concert tours of Japan since 1988. He performed with the Otsu Philharmonic there, and he will be the soloist for the Chopin Piano Concerto No. 1 in the Aug. 10 concert here.

Kovalsky, who pioneered the idea of the tour to Michigan, said it became a reality after a lot of effort by many people. "I consider it a victory," he said, "a victory of skills in putting it together and a victory in removing barriers and promoting understanding."

WHILE THERE are obvious cultural differences, there are also some similarities between the Otsu and Southfield orchestras.

Both are made up of volunteer musicians — doctors, lawyers, homemakers, retirees and tradespeople who love to make music. Both are conducted by professional musicians — Hiroshi Sugitaka and Douglas Bianchi — and both perform works from the classical repertoire.

As a special salute to music and friendship, the two orchestras will perform several selections together — "Fugue" from Ives' Symphony No. 4, Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever" and "Bilwako Song," the official Shiga song. Biwako and Sugitaka will share conducting honors for their respective national songs.

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Lansing Community College and Blue Lake because many Japanese artists perform there. "They don't know Southfield — it doesn't have a sister city."

"THIS IS a wonderful opportunity for the city of Southfield," said Marlowe Belanger, Southfield's director of Cultural Arts.

Three hundred Japanese companies are in Southfield, Belanger said. "If they should tell them the Southfield Symphony would like to reciprocate and go to Japan to perform," said Charles Marx, president of the Southfield Symphony board of directors, noting that the local symphony will

celebrate its 40th anniversary next year.

The suggestion was enthusiastically received by Belanger, Kovalsky and Alphonso L. Royan of Corporate Connections of Farmington Hills, who is making all of the arrangements for the tour.

BETTER UNDERSTANDING between Japanese and American people and warmer personal relationships will help in easing the economic tensions between the two countries, Royan said. Their visit to Michigan will heighten awareness of the state's offerings for tourists.

He is arranging for the Japanese musicians to visit the Historical Center in Lansing, tour the Capitol Building, see Michigan State University, take a boat ride on the lake at Kensington State Park, and visit the Cranbrook Educational Community, Grosse Pointe and the Henry Ford home.

Since they will also be giving a concert at Adrian, they will have an opportunity to experience small college town atmosphere as well. General admission tickets to the concert and barbecue reception are \$10. Reserved seat patron tickets, including the champagne reception prior to the concert, are \$50. For information and reservations, call 354-4717.



Vladislav Kovalsky, concert pianist