

Creative Living

CLASSIFIED REAL ESTATE



Mary Klemic editor/644-1100

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Art Beat

Artbeat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Creative Living, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

Betty Kowalsky Stasson, well-known West Bloomfield piano teacher and piano adjudicator, presented two lectures and workshops on criteria for judging piano performance recently.

Stasson addressed the Ann Arbor Piano Teachers Guild and the Flint Music Teachers Association.

Stasson was recently appointed to the post of adjudicator by the Detroit Musicians League. She will be serving her 19th year in this capacity.

Helen Boehm, chairman of the renowned American Boehm Porcelain Studio, visited Bailey Banks and Biddle Jewelers in Birmingham on Oct. 30 to present the Boehm 1991 fall porcelain collection, featuring the limited edition "Doves with Apple Blossoms" and six "All-American Roses," including the Barbara Bush Rose.

Trees gesturing wildly in the wind. A fiery sky blazing on a mountaintop. Fog gently rolling into a cornfield.

Moods and moves of nature are captured in landscapes by Jamie Young, representing the new breed of American Impressionists. Her works are now on display at Gallerie 454, 176 S. Woodward in Birmingham, through Nov. 16.

The feeling is so strong that Young and Mother Nature know each other well. It isn't surprising to learn Young lived for many years deep in the woods in New Hampshire.

Some works are more abstract. A soft, rounded shape suggests a flower or an island. Young uses both soft greens and blues and bold reds.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Call 645-4454.

The annual exhibit by Monte Nagler, a professional photographer based in Farmington Hills who writes a column for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, continues through Sunday at the Somerset Mall in Troy.

The exhibit is called "A Decade of Images: The Best of 10 Years of Photography."

Lisa Nowak of Southfield, founder and artistic director of Detroit's Harbinger Dance Company, will spend some time in New York this fall. Her ballet, "Night Dances," will be performed by the Julliard Dance Theatre at Lincoln Center in November.

In addition to her freelance work as a choreographer, Nowak has been doing an increasing amount of teaching since her resignation from Harbinger. She currently teaches at the Flint Institute of Music and is an instructor in the off-ice dance program at the Detroit Skating Club. Next spring, she will be a guest instructor in dance at Michigan State University.

Governor pledges arts dialogue

By Mary Klemic
staff writer

Observers could have thought the reception awaiting Gov. John Engler at the seventh annual Governors' Arts Awards on Monday wouldn't be much different from the bitterly cold weather outside.

Engler's budget cuts, which included slashing financing for the arts, had drawn strong criticism.

The governor, who attended the event in ClubLand in Detroit with his wife, Michelle, may have felt a bit of a chill in the air in the course of the evening, but overall the atmosphere was warm and cordial.

Engler, Concerned Citizens for the Arts in Michigan representatives and honorees encouraged working together to support the arts in the state.

"IT'S BEEN a time of reappraisal and re-evaluation," Engler said, after mentioning the state's \$1.3 billion deficit.

"I felt it particularly important that I be here tonight as a signal that there has to be ongoing dialogue and we expect to be part of that dialogue."

Michelle Engler will be on the Michigan Arttrain board, the governor said.

"It's been a very tumultuous year as it relates to the arts," Jack Robinson of Bloomfield Hills, outgoing CCAM chairman, said before the program. "I think we have to be optimistic. Hopefully the state will respond as it has in the past."

"I think the governor and his arts council have agreed to hold the line on arts funding . . . That's an important breakthrough," said Cameron (Sandy) Duncan of Birmingham, CCAM president. "I think the governor will be impressed with the support for the arts manifested here tonight."

THOSE HONORED were actor Jeff Daniels, with the 1991 Michigan Artist Award; E. Ray Scott, who was known as the "art czar" of Michigan for the past 25 years, the first executive director of the Michigan Council for the Arts, with the Special Recognition Award; former Michigan Gov. William and Helen Milliken, the Civic Leader Award; Morris J. Lawrence Jr., instructional coordinator of the music and dance departments at Washtenaw Community College in Ypsilanti, the Arts in Education Award.

Also, the Dow Corning Corp. of Midland, the Business Honor Roll Award; WKAR-TV in East Lansing, the Media Honor Roll Award; the University Musical Society of Ann Arbor, the Creative Arts Collective of Detroit and the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, Arts Organization Awards.

"We believe that if government cutbacks are necessary because of severe budget restraints, they should be equitable, fair and gradual," Robinson said in his speech.

"While all of us certainly understand the impact of a recessionary climate on government spending, we also believe that the impact on the



Rosanne Schiessel (left) of Birmingham is nearby as Marty Stella of Detroit greets Gov. John and Michelle Engler at the Governors' Arts Awards on Monday night. The governor and others encouraged working together to support the arts in Michigan.

arts has not been fully evaluated. I am confident that Governor Engler's presence here indicates he is prepared to listen to our discussions and be responsive within more limited financial constraints. I know I speak for the entire arts community

when I indicate we are all prepared to work with you to resolve some very difficult issues."

FOR MANY, the event was an occasion to honor the award recipients, and show support for the arts by at-

tending, rather than to attack Engler.

"It's a celebration for the artists," said Kenneth Gross, director of the

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photos by WILLIAM HANSEN

Artist Itzhak Tarkay of Israel unites color, line and the female form in his largest exhibition to date, "Intimate Moments," at Park West Gallery through Nov. 21.

Lovely ladies dazzle show of Tarkay art

By Linda Ann Chomlin
special writer

MASTER OF color, line and the female form, Itzhak Tarkay of Israel, portrays beautiful ladies in "Intimate Moments" at Park West Gallery, 29469 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, through Nov. 21.

It's the largest exhibition to date by the internationally recognized painter.

Tarkay focuses on the female figure by using simplicity of form and line, along with a rich palette not unlike Toulouse-Lautrec, to create sensitive portraits of elusive ladies.

His work has been compared to masters Henri Matisse, Paul Gauguin and Edgar Degas along with other Post-Impressionists and Fauvists (Wild Beasts). There's a hint of Cezanne in his two-dimensional figures. There's even a hint of early Picasso.



Elongated flow of color and strong vertical movement draw the eye into "Woman in Red Dress" by Tarkay. Inspired by Near Eastern art, the figure pulls you across the gallery, luring you with seductive line, vibrant color and porcelain-like skin.

Tarkay's ladies, in pure red, green, yellow and black, dazzle viewers of this 169-piece exhibition, which includes 37 paintings, 28 watercolors, 15 drawings and 69 serigraphs. "I am extremely honored to host the Tarkay exhibition," said Albert Scaglione, Park West president. "It is because of the

size of our gallery and our five-year relationship with Tarkay, we are able to present the largest exhibition to date."

THIS HISTORIC exhibition fills all 12 galleries of the museum-like Park West. Only

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The eyes have it for sharp shooter

Exhibitions, 5D

By Mary Klemic
staff writer

One picture can be worth thousands of words for Marc Hauser.

"I think you just look for interesting stories and faces," said Hauser, who has developed a reputation as one of Chicago's most prominent portrait and advertising photographers.

Some stories. Some faces.

Hauser has focused on the well-known and the unknown — for example, Woody Allen, Michael Jordan, John Cougar Mellencamp with his grandfather and daughter, children dressed for Halloween, bikers, acquaintances.

All these, and more, are in an exhibition of photographs by Hauser that is now at the Halsted Gallery, 560 N. Woodward in Birmingham, to Nov. 23.

"I LIKE EYE contact. I think the eyes say a lot."

Hauser has published three books ("Halloween in Bucktown," "Friends and Acquaintances" and "Road Pirates"). He is now working on a book about small towns.

"I can't talk to objects. I love people. I'd rather spend a day with a person than a year on a background."

"He does have a fascination with people," said gallery director Melanie Johns. "He loves the interaction

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Don't shudder at photography mistakes

"To err is human . . . to forgive divine." This saying has been around for ages, and how true it is.

We could expand its interpretation in our photography pursuits to say that making a mistake is OK as long as we learn from the experience.

There are common errors that photographers make, and all too often they're repeated. But learning from a mistake will result in photographic growth that will, in turn, lead to better pictures.

HERE ARE some common mistakes photographers make, along with suggestions to correct and learn from them.

• Film didn't advance through the camera? This has probably hap-



photography

Monte Nagler

pened to everyone, and how disappointing it can be when you have no shots of that special event.

The problem is simple to correct. Just make sure the sprockets are engaged when loading the film and keep an eye on the rewind knob. If the knob turns in reverse as you advance the film, everything will come out okay.

• Subject blurred in your shot? You didn't use a fast enough shutter speed.

A speed of 1/125 will stop minimal motion, but will not freeze the action in sporting events. Using a speed of 1/500 or 1/1000 second will do the trick.

• Only getting partial pictures with flash? Don't blame your flash. You simply didn't set the shutter speed dial at the correct synchronization speed, usually 1/60 second. A mistakenly set speed of 1/125 or 1/250 second will produce a partial black band over your finished print.

• Composition not right? Is your subject too centered, is there a distracting background, or is there a

tree growing out of your subject's head?

The solution is to take a few extra seconds for a careful look through the viewfinder before taking your shot. Often a slight adjustment in camera angle or position is all it takes to vastly improve your composition. Placing the subject off center will help improve composition, too.

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No mistakes here in this photograph of the Windmill of Lathisi, taken on Monte Nagler's recent trip to Crete, Greece.

