

Setting the stage

Artist's work to adorn 'Cosby' set



Ralfie visits 'Cosby'

By Mary Klemic
staff writer

An area artist's work will extend to another medium — the medium of television — when one of his paintings appears on the set of "The Cosby Show," seen Thursday nights.

"Garage Sale" by Ralfie, who models at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, caught the eye of "Cosby" representatives about eight months ago. It isn't known yet when the painting will be seen on the NBC-TV show.

"It was quite exciting," Ralfie said. "They read about it in Art Business News magazine. They had seen a print of 'Garage Sale' and they wanted to know if they could order one."

"I got a call about a week ago saying they are in the process of remodeling the house (of star Bill Cosby's character). They don't know if the painting is going to be in the dialogue or appear on the set."

MORE EXCITING news was in store for the Detroit West Village artist, when he was invited to visit the set of the show. He is in New York this week.

"It's a real honor, definitely," said Ralfie, 32. "I was very surprised. I have great respect for Bill Cosby."

"It should be encouraging to all artists," Ralfie's own story is encouraging. He has dyslexia, a brain condition in which written symbols are jumbled. He completed his schooling but never was able to read. Ralfie taught himself how to paint, and both his art and modeling careers have been successful.

A PRINT OF "Garage Sale" can be seen with other work by Ralfie at Kyla's, 214 W. Sixth in Royal Oak. It is a peaceful scene of people — young and old, black and white — setting out a variety of items by a large, leafy tree under a blue sky.

Like his other paintings, inspiration for "Garage Sale" came from what is familiar to Ralfie — in this case, a neighbor's house.

"I feel comfortable here. Let me try to put that comfort on the canvas," was how Ralfie described it.

Another painting, "The Funeral Procession" by Joy Smith, was featured in a "Cosby" plot a few seasons ago. Since then, Smith has become a superstar, Ralfie said.

Southwest art sale slated

A show and sale of authentic art from the Southwest, the largest showing of its kind in the metropolitan Detroit area, will take place Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 9-10, at the Berkshire Hotel in Southfield.

The show and sale will take place 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. The hotel is at 28111 Telegraph, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, just south of I-696. For more information, call Bob or Fran Stern at 855-6088 or 855-3080.

The show will feature traditional and contemporary original framed oils, watercolors, acrylics and gouache by noted Southwest artists, including Il C. Gorman, Miguel Martinez, Janet Kimberly, Downe Burns, Grace Medicin, Flower, Lone Wolf and Blue Corn.

Also shown will be pottery by Acoma and Santa Clara Pueblo Indians, as well as Navajo rugs and alabaster pieces.

ART SHOW promoter Bob Stern is an area businessman who has become enamored with the beauty and passion of Southwest art.

"My wife, Fran, and I started collecting Southwest art after a

trip to Santa Fe a few years ago," he said. "We amassed a sizable collection and found that friends, neighbors and even strangers who heard about our collection wanted to buy it right off the walls of our home."

"The idea for an art show outside our home was a natural extension of this art's local popularity."

As well as being a good investment, Southwest art is a highly popular decorating theme.

PRICES at the show will be discounted up to 60 percent.

Sales aid Cranbrook students

The Detroit Artists Market, Detroit's oldest non-profit art gallery, opens its annual holiday sale, "Design for Giving," with a benefit for the scholarship fund 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 14. The show is open to the public Friday, Nov. 15 to Tuesday, Dec. 24.

Tickets are \$35 per person. Proceeds from the tickets and commission on the evening's sales will go toward scholarships to Cranbrook Academy of Art students.

This year, the market includes furniture, paintings, drawings and

various flatworks, contemporary functional and non-functional glass and ceramics. Jewelry, holiday ornaments, cards, accessories and clothing are also included.

Gallery hours for the holidays are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, and until 8 p.m. Friday. The gallery will stay open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 23-24.

The Detroit Artists Market is at 1452 Randolph between Gratiot and Madison in Harmonie Park behind the Music Hall.

Boutique to open

The eighth annual holiday Red Check Boutique, featuring the handmade crafts of more than 25 Farmington area crafters, will take place Thursday-Friday, Nov. 7-8, at 30400 Fox Club Drive in Farmington Hills.

Hours are 6-9 p.m. Thursday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday. Admission is free.

Plants to be topic

Ed Rockley, president of the Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society, will demonstrate Cacti and Succulents plants, using living plants from the club's collections, 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 10, in the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

Ornaments have special cheer

By Mary Klemic
staff writer

Holiday ornaments at the Carol Hooberman Gallery in Birmingham will carry special cheer this season.

This month and next, Hooberman will donate 25 percent of each ornament purchase to the Red and Bread mobile truck, which supplies food to the homeless and needy in Detroit.

In addition, 10 percent of any sales at the gallery in November and December will go to local food banks.

So customers buying a gift — whether for themselves or someone else — will have the bonus of knowing they are helping the indigent.

"It's getting a double benefit themselves," Hooberman said.

THE ORNAMENTS, handcrafted by six artists, are part of the "Fanciful to Functional" group show. They are in a variety of media — cloth, glass, wood and ceramics.

"They're not necessarily for a Christmas tree. They can hang from a window."

"Somebody wear one around their neck and it

looked great."

The ornaments shape up in a variety of forms not restricted to the holidays, including a ballet dancer, a cow, a zebra and a drummer.

SOMEONE HOOBERMAN knows who distributes food to the needy once told her, "I'm feeding the hungry but I'm getting full."

"I thought about it ever since . . . and I took this opportunity."

Recently, Hooberman contributed money from the sale of birdhouses to the National Wildlife Federation. She ended up giving the organization a total \$1,000.

"People felt good about that."

THE GALLERY features many different works in glass, ceramics, fiber and jewelry. Hooberman is now exhibiting colorful, functional pieces — including plaques, teapots and mugs — by the critically acclaimed Mary Rose Young from London.

The gallery is at 124 S. Woodward, Suite 12. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. Call 647-3666.

Birmingham Musicales to meet

The Birmingham Musicales will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 14, at The Community House, 380 Bates, Birmingham.

Blodwyn and Sheila Stephenson, a mother and daughter piano team, will open the program with Grande Polonaise, Opus 27, by Chopin.

Blodwyn studied with Mischa Kottler and Rudolph Ganz. Sheila earned her master's degree from Oakland University, studying with Flavio Varani. She teaches privately and at Cranbrook/Kingswood Schools, Bloomfield Hills.

LYRIC SOPRANO Gail Mitchell, accompa-

nied by Jean Elms, will sing selections by Puccini including "Quando men vo" from "La Boheme." She is an assistant professor of music at the University of Detroit Mercy College.

Marian Parkins, piano soloist, and Fontaine Laing, accompanist, will perform Concerto in C major by Mozart. Parkins teaches privately and is on the faculty of the Center for Creative Studies Institute of Music and Dance.

Visitors are welcome for a small contribution. Tea will be served after the performance. For details, call 559-5294.

Century 21

OPEN HOUSES

CANTON	GARDEN CITY	ORION TWP.	ROCHESTER HILLS	TROY
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 4144 NORTHWIND DR. 2 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 6525 HAWTHORN, beautiful 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 719 SHREWSBURY 1750SH, 4 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 3056 PRIMROSE 5 of Auburn, 4 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 6908 LYNNWOOD 6 bedrm, 4 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.

BLOOMFIELD TWP.	FARMINGTON HILLS	LAKES AREA	LIVONIA	PLYMOUTH
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 CLEAN & READY RANCH, 4 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 BEST BUY LISTED, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 COUNTRY-LIKE SETTING, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 LIVONIA COUNTRY, 4 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 LOVELY 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.

CANTON	GARDEN CITY	ORION TWP.	ROCHESTER HILLS	TROY
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 FREE HOME WARRANTY, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 MAXIMUM LIVABILITY, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 EXECUTIVE 4000, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 LOW TAX REDFORD, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 PRIME LOCATION, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.

CANTON	GARDEN CITY	ORION TWP.	ROCHESTER HILLS	TROY
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 QUAD LEVEL, 4 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 MINI ESTATE, 117 acres, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 LOVELY ELEGANT LARGE CORNER, 4 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 SUPER CLEAN AND WARM, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 HONEYMOON WARMTH, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.

CANTON	GARDEN CITY	ORION TWP.	ROCHESTER HILLS	TROY
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 SHARP & BEAUTIFUL, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 SPACIOUS & REASONABLE, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 WINTER FUN SUMMER SUN, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 NEAR MEADOWSIDE COUNTRY CLUB, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 TWO HOMES ON TWO ACRES, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.

CANTON	GARDEN CITY	ORION TWP.	ROCHESTER HILLS	TROY
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 CUTE AS A BUG, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 BLUE CHIP LONG LAKE WATERFRONT, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 READY FOR YOU, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 GREAT FAMILY HOME, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.	OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 MAINTENANCE FREE, 3 bedrm, 2 bath, open floor plan, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage, central air, 110 sq. ft. lot, \$179,500. Call 522-3200.

NOW IS THE TIME TO REFINANCE

InterFirst Offers You These Refinancing Options With The LOWEST RATES Since 1977:

- Some Loans with NO Closing Costs and NO Points
- Competitive Fixed and Variable Interest Rates
- Traditional Fifteen and Thirty Year Programs
- A Variety of Adjustable Interest Rate Programs
- Ten Day Approvals

+InterFirst
Federal Savings Bank

Helping you in money ways™

For more information about home refinancing options Call: 1-800-637-4630