

CREATIVE LIVING

D

PERSPECTIVES



MARY KLEMIC

Glass artist strikes an elegant balance

David Jaworski describes his sculptural works as large jewelry, and as between art nouveau and art deco.

He is one of the artists to be featured in "A Touch of Glass," a Michigan Glass Month show at the Ariana Gallery, 119 S. Main, south of 11 Mile in Royal Oak (toll 810) 546-8810.

This is the gallery's first exhibit in its new address. It moved there from Maple in Birmingham.

The show opens with a reception 7-10 p.m. Friday, April 8, and continues through May 7. Jaworski will attend the reception and lecture about his glass work 1 p.m. Sunday, April 10 (reservations are suggested for the lecture).

"My work is about rhythm and balance and grace and elegance, color . . . and fluidity," he said from his studio in St. Louis.

Rather than puristic glass, Jaworski's art combines such materials as sterling silver, bronze and gold with glass. They often have titles that evoke thoughts of music, such as "Rhapsody" or "Pirouette."

"Pirouette" strikes a flowing, elegant balance, both as a whole and in its segments. The base is like a point. The center consists of a bronze swirl. The top is a glass circle broken in two, each with a rod extending from it. Like a graceful dancer, the piece conveys smooth energy.

Jaworski makes both freestanding and wall-hung installations. He collaborates with designers on site specific works. His art is fluid, and may be changed by changing the lighting.

"Each year we try to feature glass artists that have never been seen in Michigan and who exhibit a strong creative energy," said Ariana director Ann Kuffler.

"Our glass artists give a contemporary twist to an ancient craft by employing and developing new techniques to produce glass with heightened appeal to the eye and the touch."

Among the artists in "A Touch of Glass" will be David Davis, whose work includes freestanding glass sculpture that incorporates sandblasting and faceted and painted glass; Elizabeth Mears, who uses sandblasting, surface paints and gold leaf to create depth in her pieces; and Carole Perry, who creates hand-formed sculpture of glass threads that she calls "Linens."

Special outfit

Special jackets are making more than a fashion statement.

They are part of the Design Industry Foundation for AIDS Collection Tour, sponsored nationally by Neiman Marcus and Levi Strauss & Co. The 100 denim jackets were specially designed for the event.

See PERSPECTIVES, 3E



Elegant balance: David Jaworski combines bronze and glass in this work, "Pirouette." He will be one of the exhibiting artists featured in "A Touch of Glass," an exhibit starting this week at the Ariana Gallery in Royal Oak.

LOOKING AHEAD

- What to watch for in Taste next week:
- Marty Figley's Garden Spot column.
- Exhibitions, art gallery event listings.



SHARON LAMMEL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Art work sings with color



Eileen Aboulafia of Farmington Hills is one of the artists taking part in a special exhibit and sale for the Michigan Opera Theatre at 300 Galleria Offcentre in Southfield.

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills artist Eileen Aboulafia saw Puccini's opera "Turandot" at La Scala in Milan, sitting with her husband in a seat so high that they were above the chandeliers.

"The music was so gorgeous,"

she said.

Now Aboulafia has presented the story of the "riddle princess" in another way: a large-scale, mixed media painting that is a visual melody with gorgeous colors.

Aboulafia's painting will be one of the works by 109 artists in "Once Upon a Time . . . Happily

Ever After," an exhibit and sale to benefit the Michigan Opera Theatre's upcoming ballet production of "Cinderella."

The exhibit, sponsored in part by the Xerox Corp., opens to the public at a reception 5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, April 8, at 300 Galleria Offcentre, on 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern Highway in Southfield. The works, all based on fairy tales and fantasies, will remain on view through May 7.

Curator Sharon Zimmerman described the show as "very diverse,

very rich in content, a real crowd pleaser."

"People have gone off in all sorts of directions," Zimmerman said of the art works. "Some (on) opera, some ballet, some fairy tales, in every medium."

Royal treatment

Aboulafia was attracted to the "Turandot" story because of the princess character. The story is set in the Chinese Imperial City of Peking. Princess Turandot poses

See ARTIST, 3E

Active Oakland quilters cover a lot of ground

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

The members of the Oakland County Quilt Guild work wonders with needle and thread.

That doesn't refer just to the masterpieces of material they make. As they assemble a collection of patterns and designs into works of art, they are forming friendships and offering helping hands.

"Quilting is the thread that holds everyone together," said Ruth Lindgren of Rochester Hills, charter member and past president of the guild.

Quilting extends well beyond the frame on which a piece is worked. The guild, one of many in the metro area, takes part in a variety of activities. The guild's purpose is to promote and preserve the art of quilting

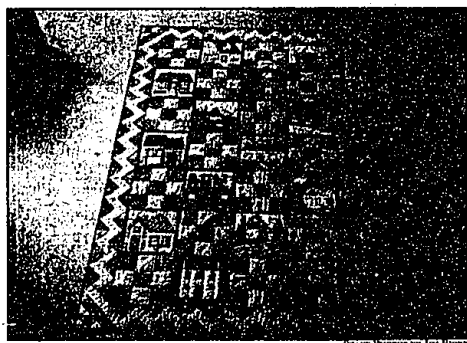
and to engage in charitable efforts. Monies raised go toward bringing in speakers and sponsoring workshops on quilting and fiber arts, and toward service-oriented projects.

One event is "Quilt Celebration '94," a quilt exhibit and contest 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, April 8, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 9, at Lutheran High Northwest, on Livernois between M-59 and Auburn

Road in Rochester Hills. Admission is \$3.

At the show, well-known quilt expert Anita Shackelford will give a lecture and workshops. Two quilts will be raffled. More than 170 quilts by members and quilters from around the country will be displayed. A merchants mall and refreshments

See QUILTERS, 3E



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM KILPATRICK

Homey art: This colorful quilt, showing a variety of houses, is one of the quilts to be raffled at "Quilt Celebration '94," an exhibit presented by the Oakland County Quilt Guild this week.



Garden of delights: Sandi Voikin of Oakland Township, president of the Oakland County Quilt Guild, shows an artistic garden quilt. Members of the guild are involved in many activities, helping charitable organizations as well as working to promote and preserve quilting.

Artbeat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Creative Living, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or fax them by calling (810) 644-1314.

ARTISTS TO VISIT

Noted ceramicist Lorna Sakalovsky and photographer Denise Suesman will show their work and discuss living and working in Israel 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 17, at the synagogue for Congregation Beth Shalom, 14601 W. Lincoln between Greenfield and Coolidge in Oak Park.

The show is organized by Alicia Nelson, owner of Tradition! Tradition! Gallery, 17395 Sherrville

Art Beat

Place in Southfield. Nelson and her husband, Rabbi David Nelson, will host the artists during their stay in the Detroit area.

The April 14 program will include a wine and cheese reception. Both artists will have their work on display during the week after the show at the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple at Drakes in West Bloomfield. For information on how to get to Congregation Beth Shalom, call the synagogue office at (810) 547-7070.

"We are all extremely pleased to have Lorna and Denise in the community," said Alicia Nelson, who represents Lorna's work in the United States. "This show should be of interest to collectors of fine art as well as those who want to appreciate the creative inspiration that Israel can provide."

Drawing her inspiration from the traditional Jews among whom she works, Sakalovsky communicates her love and knowledge of history and tradition in her work. Her ceramic figures are shown on her Sabbath candleholders, traditional menorahs and chess sets. Suesman's portrayal of the winding alleys of the old city of Jerusalem capture some of the magical quality with which history has imbued the stones.