

Exhibit from page 1D

that have... become part of Indonesia.

Gallery curator Kilihi Ury described the works as a "very, very unique, interesting form of art."

Diverse cultures

The Indonesian archipelago includes the area of Timor, a sector of Borneo belonging to Malaysia, the Malay peninsula, the Philippines, several ethnic groups of mainland Southeast Asia and Madagascar as well as the nation of Indonesia.

Haig has been there eight times. This exhibit was scheduled to take place at the Meadow Brook Art Gallery last year, but he was severely injured while on a trip to Indonesia with Diane. The display was postponed until he recovered.

Indonesia is the fifth most populated country in the world. It consists of more than 1,300 islands from Malaysia to Australia and has more than 80 distinct groups.

"They (Indonesians) know themselves as diverse but one," Haig said.

"All chose to speak this common language so they can trade with each other and converse with one another."

Malaysian, Buddhist, Hindu and Islamic influences can be seen in textiles, carvings and metal work in the exhibit. Details are fascinating and show pride of the crafts. Sometimes humor comes through as well.

Working art

A pair of carved wood snakes from Java is graceful. Seeing their intricate features, you assume they would be placed in a prominent place. Actually, they are hooks used to hold back mosquito netting.

An elaborately carved board from Borneo is a portable work surface women used to do small handwork on their laps.

A tribal beaded box from Borneo of rattan, trade cloth and beads bears a design that at first glance looks like fireworks or flowers. The design is actually a human figure surrounded by dragon-dog forms. The bag held materials and ingredients to prepare betel nut quid for chewing. The quid was a caffeine-like effect.

Spiritual

Religious or cosmic powers are often portrayed. The keris is believed to have magical powers. Keris sheaths often have metal or painted decoration.

Hills on display are miniature works of art. Besides the dancing figure described earlier, they include a hummingbird, a demon, a blossom design and a crouching figure. One hill is a collection of Dutch elements (from when Indonesia was under Dutch colonial rule), such as a Dutch helmet and epaulettes. Some are covered with intricate patterns of carved curls.

A keris was kept on a special board on the wall, from which it could radiate protective powers

over the house.

One board from central Java in the exhibit is rare. It shows three panels, each representing one of the three worlds. The bottom panel features caricatures of the Dutch colonists, a political commentary.

A shield from Borneo is adorned with human hair, gray hair at the mouth.

One of the larger pieces in the show is the "ai gale" puppet from Sumatra, used in funeral ceremonies of a man who didn't have sons to speak for him or carry on tradition. It is almost life size and is dressed in fine clothes. Cords worked from behind make the puppet move its head, arms, hands, legs and even tongue and eyes. (Sometimes a sponge would be put in the head to make the eyes tear.) This is the only actual working ai gale in the United States.

A piece from Bali is a chalk-stone carving of "Itakasa," a demon from Indian mythology. The demon has fangs and bulging eyes and holds a staff.

From Sumatra, a water buffalo medicine horn that held poisons has a plug carved in a "singha," a protector, over a figure representing an ancestor.

Beauty

Beauty is seen in every medium. A Sumatran head cover for a man features a detailed, richly colored pattern in silk and metallic threads. Another fabric from Sumatra is a ceremonial cloth with a serpent-like image. Cloths from Java have delicate floral or Chinese zodiac designs made up of tiny dots in glorious colors.

Other items in the show include a brass lamp from Java, shaped like a bird, that provided light for shadow puppets; an ear ornament from Borneo carved from part of a hornbill skull, glass beads and other jewelry or ornaments; and architectural decorations in beautiful, elegant patterns.

A sleek wooden statue shows two deer kissing. It is sensual and poetic. The work suggests the Muslim influence as it depicts animal rather than human figures.

Also featured is the piece that sparked the Haigs' interest in Indonesia. It is a charming wood carving of a woman holding an egg and looking at a bird. The Haigs bought it at an antique show in Saline.

Haig's accident only reinforced his fascination and admiration for the Indonesian countries and people. Entire families brought him fruit and flowers while he recuperated in a hospital there. He is already planning to return next year. The Meadow Brook exhibit is sure to make many visitors want to accompany him.

Hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday, 2-6:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, and evenings of a Meadow Brook Theater performance (one hour prior to the show and through the first intermission). Call (810) 370-3005.

Figley from page 1D

They have introduced Moonwalkers, their latest offering. Although its expected height is only four to five feet tall, it will be a good addition to the back of a border and will complement others you may grow. Several huge chocolate centers (the seed head) surrounded by soft lemon petals will adorn each branching stem.

■ **Park Seed Co., Cokesbury Road, Greenwood, S.C. 29637-0001** (phone (803) 223-7333) has a new Velvet Tapestry sunflower (800) 888-1447 offers Happy Face and Tangle (both are small plants, but pretty) and Mammoth (which grows to 12 feet), as well as its new Paul Bunyan Hybrid Sunflower (which could reach 15 feet tall). The company suggests children "could enjoy their own backyard forest."

■ **W. Atlee Burpee & Co. Inc., Warminster, Pa. 18974** (phone (610) 888-1447) offers Happy Face and Tangle (both are small plants, but pretty) and Mammoth (which grows to 12 feet), as well as its new Paul Bunyan Hybrid Sunflower (which could reach 15 feet tall). The company suggests children "could enjoy their own backyard forest."

Our local garden centers carry sunflower seeds in many varieties. A trip to the market may be all you'll need to find the seeds you wish to plant. Look for Mammoth Russian, Full Sun, Giant Grey Stripe, Sunbeam, Mammoth, Russian Giant, Inca Jewel, Evening Star and Evening Sun. Their heights can range from five to 15 feet.

Seed may be started indoors now or sown directly into the ground, around April 25, generally two weeks before the last frost date. Follow directions on the back of the packet.

See the related story for contest

rules, and do enter the contest. We would like many of you to enter. We will judge in two categories: the highest plant and the one with the largest diameter seed head. The rules are very easy to follow. We want to have a good time with this again. Mark your calendar: Deadline is Friday, Sept. 1.

I'll write more on harvesting, protecting sunflowers from birds and other pertinent information as the summer progresses.

Tree sale

Again this year Global Relief of Michigan is selling bare-root trees. This sale is its primary fund-raiser. The trees are five to six feet all and lightly branched.

Offered are English Oak, Patmore Ash, Greenspire Linden, Autumn Blaze Maple (bright red fall color), Norway Maples, Crimson King Maple (crimson leaves all summer) and Emerald Lustre. Two varieties of flowering crabapples are offered: Adirondack (white) and Floribunda (pink).

Trees are \$18 each, or \$5 for \$84.80 and 10 for \$148.40. All orders must be pre-paid and received by Friday, April 14. There is no express guarantee. Send your check or money order to: Tree Sale, Global Relief of Michigan, P.O. Box 617, Flint 48501-0617.

The trees will be available for pickup Friday, April 21, at the Flint Forestry Yard, 1106 S. Averill in Flint, after 2 p.m., or Saturday, April 22 (Earth Day) at Bordin Nursery, 6600 Dixie Hwy. in Clarkston. Call Brad Meeble at (810) 625-9100 for more information.

Spring expo

Bordine Nursery, 1835 S. Rochester Road in Rochester Hills

(call (810) 651-9000), is having a spring garden expo Saturday, Sunday, April 8-9. It has turned its greenhouses into showplaces to give you new and exciting garden ideas. Admission is free. Included will be educational exhibits, ongoing demonstrations, hands-on activities for youngsters, displays by local landscape and garden-related businesses and food service, with proceeds to go to non-profit organizations. The Easter Bunny will be there 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., a petting farm will be featured, and wagon rides will be offered, weather permitting. Drawings will award garden products or a grand prize of a balloon ride for two.

TIMELY GARDEN TIPS

■ You are invited to try new varieties of flowers and vegetables by joining the Plant Partnership program of Thompson & Morgan. The fee is \$10 yearly. Write Thompson & Morgan, Dept. PP, Jackson, N.J. 08527.

Here's how to enter

These are the rules for the High Hopes Sunflower Contest:

1. Winner will be the person who grows the tallest sunflower in the 1995 season through Sept. 1. First, second and third prizes will be awarded.
2. Measurement must be taken from soil level to the base of the head where the stem attaches to the flower.
3. Participants must notify the Observer and Eccentric newspapers by 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1. Call (313) 953-2047, Ext. 1859, or (810) 901-2569; fax (810) 644-1314; or write 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009 (postmarked 6

■ Prune shade and flowering trees.

■ Your houseplants will appreciate some fertilizer. Follow package directions.

■ Plan to attend "Environmental Gardening," with speaker George Papadellis, owner of Telly's Greenhouse & Garden Center, 730-9 p.m. Monday, April 3, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham. Admission is free. The event is sponsored by SOCRRA.

■ Check overwintered annuals. Report dead-looking plants, trim back dead stalks, place in bright light and water.

■ Plant peas outdoors.

■ Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

p.m. Sept. 1). Judges will contact finalists to verify height.

4. A prize of honorable mention will be given for the sunflower with the largest seed head. Measurement must be taken diagonally.

5. Winners will be announced in the newspaper Thursday, Sept. 7.

6. Employees and families of the Observer and Eccentric newspapers aren't eligible.

7. Decisions of the judges are final.

8. Entrants must live in Oakland County to be eligible.

OPENING EXHIBITIONS

This is a listing of gallery exhibit receptions and openings and other art-related events taking place this week. Send announcements of Oakland County art gallery exhibitions to: Mary Heine, Creative Living Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009; fax (810) 644-1314.

■ **ELIZABETH STONE GALLERY** The Art Director's Club of Detroit and the Center for Creative Studies College of Art and Design present two special events — a reception at the gallery and a slide presentation at CCS — with internationally renowned, award-winning illustrator Gary Kelley. Limited quantities of posters and children's books illustrated by Kelley will be available for purchase at a reception and book signing for the artist 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, at the Elizabeth Stone Gallery, 536 N. Woodward in Birmingham; advance orders are encouraged (call (810) 647-7040). A select collection of his original works will be displayed. Kelley's subtle use of rich colors with deco and cubism influences is a trademark of his current work and will be recognizable for years to come. Admission to the reception is free. Kelley will give a slide presentation 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at the Boughton Auditorium at CCS, 201 E. Kirby at John R in Detroit, and be available for an open discussion afterward. Reservations for the CCS talk and discussion are suggested; admission is free for ADCD members and CCS students with valid ID, \$12 for non-members. Call (810) 541-8234 for more information.

■ **NATIVITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH** Friday-Sunday, March 24-26 — The church's third annual Festival of the Arts will take place noon to 6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and 7-10 p.m. Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday at 21220 W. 14 Mile, between Lahar and Evergreen (Cranbrook Road) in Bloomfield Township. Works in a variety of media by more than 45 Michigan artists will be featured in a free exhibit. Reception to meet the artists, with Celtic harp and dulcimer performance, 7-10 p.m. Friday, \$5 donation. Performance by "Trio con brio" (consisting of a mezzo-soprano, a tenor and a pianist/comedian) and afterward 8 p.m. Saturday, \$10 admission. Old and new Israeli dances performed in context of church liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Call the church at (810) 646-4100 for information or advance tickets.

■ **PARK WEST GALLERY** Friday-Sunday, March 24-26 — The richly textured cityscapes and expressive contemporary pieces of Russian architect and watercolorist Anatole Krasnyansky will be exhibited through April 7 at 29469 Northwestern Highway in Southfield. Private openings for the artist Friday-Sunday; call (810) 354-2343 for information.

■ **THE GALLERY II** Sunday, March 26 — The Pontiac Oakland Society of Artists will have its grand opening celebration of the gallery noon to 6 p.m. Sunday at Summit Place Mall, on Telegraph at Elizabeth Lake Road in Pontiac. Refreshments will be served. Talk with the artists, browse through the gallery, buy original art for home, office or as a gift.

■ **CREATIVE ARTS CENTER** Friday, March 24 — "African Objects of Use and Spirituality" and "Masters of Makonde Sculpture" continue through April 22 at 47 Williams in Pontiac. "The Underground Railroad's Michigan Connection," a dramatic presentation by author/lecturer Willie Payne, will be presented 7:30 p.m. Friday. The performance interprets in song and dance the journey of fugitive slaves through Oakland County. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for members and seniors, \$2.50 for children age 6 and older. Call (810) 333-7849.

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