

CREATIVE LIVING

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THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1995

INTERIOR MOTIVES



NAOMI STONE LEVY

Do ground work when planning room decor

How to Change the World — One Room at a Time. A singular way is to work your way from the ground up. If you begin with a patterned floor you must consider the floor the primary source of the design of that room. The choices are endless, each with its own personality.

Listing the options we can begin with hardwood, having so many colors or stains. Bleached, honey color, coffee brown are only a few, perhaps on white oak laid in a pattern. Marble is another option, though more costly. It can also be laid in a pattern, perhaps in several colors. Marble comes in squares that form their own pattern when laid on the diagonal. These can be interspersed with contrasting smaller squares or bordered in a contrasting color.

If economy is required the wide range of vinyl squares will provide the same choices as marble... or let us consider ceramic tiles. They are clean and easy to care for. I have done charming rooms with tiles from Pewabic Pottery in a melange of glazed colors. Or consider 18-inch squares in pure white for a very contemporary effect.

Wonderful rugs

None of the floors mentioned needs enhancement. However, an area rug adds a glorious final effect to a room. The colors and patterns and types are too numerous to list in one column, but I think readers would like to be apprised of all the information I can afford them. Here goes!

Flat rugs with no pile have a second benefit. They are completely reversible when soiled. These are entitled Dhurries and Kilims, and have a wide range of fabulous color and design. Other flat rugs include Bessarabian, one of my personal favorites. They most frequently have a very dark brown background with large cabbage roses and lovely greens. Still in the flat rug category are Aubussons, generally associated with formal French interiors, in softer pastel coloring. Never to be ignored is the true Oriental rug, whether it be semi-antique or new. Older rugs have more subtle colors and will also be more costly. They may be hand-knotted or with individually tied knots (the more knots per square inch, the finer the rug). The weaver frequently finds he or she has dyed an inadequate amount of yarns, and thereupon dyes additional hanks, which of course are never the exact shade or color as the original yarns. Contrary to criticism, these variations add to the beauty.

Mentioning a very few well-known names of Oriental rugs may help your understanding of this enormous subject: Oushak, Kashan, Agra, Ferraghan and Sultanabad. They are named for the town or area from which they originated. Sizes are somewhat standardized. Size becomes a major consideration, and makes your ultimate selection more difficult than you anticipate. The one you LOVE simply doesn't fit. Now you locate the perfect size, but the spectrum of colors doesn't appeal to you.

Drawing attention

An area rug need NOT be centered in the room. In a previous column I discussed a scale drawing. Let's apply that theory to the selection of your rug.

Scale off the size of your room, 14-inch to equal 1 foot. Proceed to arrange the furniture,

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LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Creative Living next week:

- Marty Figley's Garden Spot column.
- Still more Michigan Glass Month shows.
- Art exhibit openings and events.

Your guide to Community Classified

CLASSIFICATION	SECTION
AUTOS FOR SALE (900-834)	Q
EMPLOYMENT (900-824)	F, Q
HELP WANTED (900-524)	F, Q
HOME & SERVICE GUIDE (1-299)	Q
MERCHANDISE FOR SALE (700-744)	Q
REAL ESTATE (900-772)	E, F
RENTALS (400-430)	E

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Glass

Old, new wonders abound

Ancient art works shine

■ The ancient glass exhibit at Donna Jacobs Gallery Ltd. in Birmingham offers a history lesson as well as a look at a special art.

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER



April is Michigan Glass Month, a special time to explore the origins of glass as seen in the 16th annual ancient glass exhibit at Donna Jacobs Gallery Ltd., 674 N. Woodward in Birmingham.

The display, "Ancient Glass: The Magic Continues," runs to April 29. The basics of glass making haven't changed in thousands of years. Featured in the exhibit are works that are as awe-inspiring as they are delightful. The fact that these treasures were made and used centuries ago is fascinating, as is their individual beauty. It is touching to realize you are looking at a vessel that held perfume, potions or cosmetics distant centuries ago. The fine craftsmanship could hold its own with modern works.

A Roman flask from the 4th or 5th century shimmers with opalescence. An Eastern Mediterranean flask from the 3rd or 4th century is so iridescent it glows in the dark. Threads of color and gently indented designs adorn other pieces.

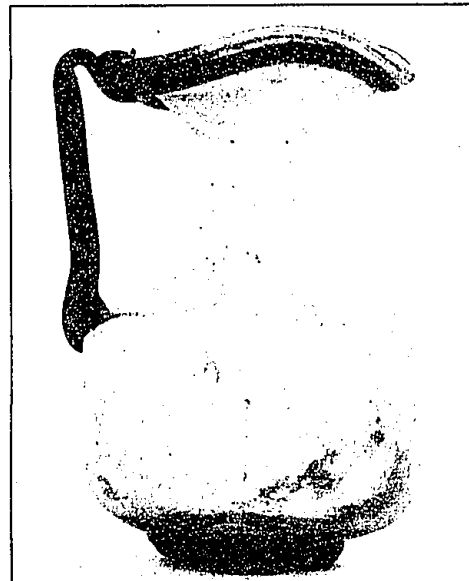
Colors and patinas are varied: deep, rich blue; soft aubergine; a



Ancient art: This bottle with double handles is Roman and dates from the first or second century A.D.

beige that is actually weathered dark blue; yellow; green. With some vessels, the body and handles are of different shades. One example is from the 3rd to 4th century. A work with the hues of spring, it has a yellow/green body and blue handle. A balsamarium from the 4th to 5th

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Classic form: This piece is an example of the delicate charm of ancient glass, featured in the current exhibit at Donna Jacobs Gallery Ltd. in Birmingham.

Artists put contemporary spin on medium

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Light passing through a prism is broken into the colors of the spectrum.

The medium of glass, as seen in "Image, Light and Structure 1995," the 11th annual invitational glass exhibit at the Oakland County Galleria, is broken into a variety of presentations. The works by artists from throughout the Midwest play with shapes and colors in a dazzling display that continues through April 27 in the Executive Office Building, 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac.

Whether hanging from the ceiling or resting on shelves or pedestals, the fascinating pieces are like music for the eyes.

Some works are like paintings. "Nayanquing Point 1995" by Mark Blechman, an honorable mention winner, looks as though it had been lifted out of a landscape, featuring swirling blue, green and brown in a scene of sky, earth and water. A more abstract work is suggested in the dynamic "Test Jewels" by Larry Zapata, with its bubbles and lines. Ron Rao's untitled piece looks like a futuristic city. Marie Snell presents whimsical and serious portraits.

Colors come alive. "Made for Each Other" by G. Michael Molnar includes small pyramids jutting into space that look black from one direc-

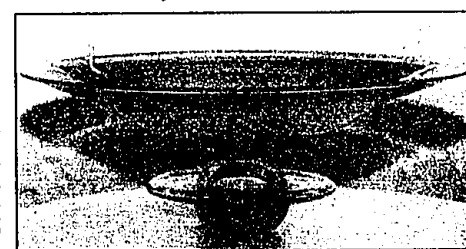
tion and colorful from another. "Flowers and Jewels" by Don Pasquini features an elegant design. "Time" and "June 16, 1994" by Virginia Smith are like photo plates with shades of color. Barbara Krueger's "Michigan Series No. 8" could be a palette or an instrument, with each segment in a different hue. Madge Lawson's "In Harmony with Light" conveys a spiritual feeling. Alex Brand's "Lidded Urn" and "Sculpture Bowl" seem to gently hum with soft shades and graceful balance. Green, red and white dance in "Verde con Cristal" by Diane Eis-

senger, awarded honorable mention. Patterns dance. "Fleur d'Li" by Richard Williams has no color of its own but picks up those surrounding it. Terrie Voigt won second place for "Letting Go," an opaque arrangement containing fluid figures. "Contemporary Wall Art" by Deborah Vantol has a colorful circle of swirls, patinas and textures. "Desert Mesa" by Ken Pellar has a tabletop with a Southwest design. Shapes shimmer. First place went to Diane Eisenger for "Metamorphosis," with its wavy,

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Glass act: Patte Vandenburg was awarded third place for this work, "Linear Dementia"



Beautiful bowl: Alex Brand's sculpture bowl strikes a beautiful balance. It is one of the glass glories in the "Image, Light and Structure" show at the Oakland County Galleria.

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

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Daniel Mather, a 1991 graduate of West Bloomfield High School, was recently recognized by the Columbus College of Art and Design in Columbus, Ohio, for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the president's list for the 1994 fall semester. The president's list recognizes those students who have grade point averages of 3.4 and over on a 4.0 scale. Mather is the son of Kelly and Sue Mather of West Bloomfield.

Founded in 1879, CCAD is a recognized leader in visual arts education with major areas of study in advertising design, fine arts, illustration, industrial design, interior design, photography and retail advertising (fashion design and fashion illustration). In addition to an accredited

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art education, students of this 4-12-year program also complete traditional academic coursework in the sciences and humanities and earn a bachelor of fine arts degree.

TRAFFIC STOPPER

Construction along 14 Mile between Telegraph and Franklin Road has shaken many of Franklin's historic buildings. Mesa Arts at 32800 Franklin Road, just south of the road crews, reports that SMART buses have been sighted routing passengers through the gallery's parking lot. "When traffic gets backed up at the four-way stop at Franklin and 14 Mile Road, people have taken long looks into the gallery's huge front window and made quick turns into the parking

lot," says co-owner Sue Rental, "but this is the first time in our eight-year history that we have made it into a bus tour destination."

ART WITH GLASS

Volunteers from Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills recently had a special art class at Pontiac Area Transitional Housing in Pontiac to create items for an upcoming fund-raiser. The art work was made by homeless children and will be displayed at ARTPATH, PATH's fund-raising event, May 18. Helen Vlasic, Rebecca Vlasic and Penny Potter showed the children how to make decorative masks, etchings and colorful paintings. The items will be on display at the Oakland Art Center, which encompasses the Habitat, Shaw and Edge galleries in downtown Pontiac. PATH works to supply a safe, structured, nurturing environment and programs to foster each client's development of economic autonomy, self-esteem, self-sufficiency and a functional family unit.