

Artist wins honors

By MARY KLEMM
STAFF WRITER

Around and about the Oakland County creative scene...

Congratulations to Birmingham artist Elise Pedersen, who has won awards in two national contests, both of which she entered for the first time.

Pedersen is known for her beautiful botanical paintings. Her lifelike painting of a narcissus won honors in the 33rd annual Watercolor USA 1995, a competition of the Springfield Art Museum in Springfield, Mo., that was juried by James Burke, director of the St. Louis Art Museum. Works will be displayed June 2 to July 30 at the Springfield museum. Pedersen's "larger than life" oil painting of a narcissus and a dahlia was honored in a competition by the Oil Painters of America that is in its third year. Pieces will be shown in the Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art in San Antonio, Texas, May 6-27.

"I've had my paintings in the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association (which) has been very encouraging to me," the artist said. "I thought, 'Well, I'd give it (the competitions) a try.' It worked out."

Pedersen will have a one-woman show opening April 30 at the Shiawassee Art Council.

Pictorial history

Stephen Magaly's paintings at the Lemberg Gallery in Birmingham tug at the memory and at the heart.

They show residences and businesses in scenes that suggest grand times are past. At the same time, the dignity of the structures hasn't been obliterated by blight or abandonment; beauty and optimism come through. The exhibit continues to April 29 at 538 N. Woodward (call (810) 642-6623). "The scenes are without people and animals. For the most part, they are also without names or locations—exceptions are some buildings bearing identifying signs, some visible street signs. The places seem familiar and beckon visitors. Columns may have peeling paint, grass may poke through sidewalks, but the spirit of the place is healthy. The structures are still stately, sunlight pours over a rooftop or in a window, awnings are bright green. A painting of the atrium of Detroit Grand Central shows the elaborate designs in the ceiling.

At the PCCA

"Shelters, Dwellings, Environments" at the Paint Creek Center for the Arts (407 Pine in Rochester, phone (810) 651-4110) through April 28, breaks down walls. The 38 pieces in the display, by 18 area architects, artists and designers, redefine the elements of shelters and surroundings. They play with our perceptions of how we and others make use of space.

A photo by Laurie Hirsch Tennent of Troy compares a woman to a shell, both surviving pressure and becoming more polished. Elise Mittel-Ulanoff of Rochester shows glistening, mixed media works of ornate arches and gates. Oil paintings by Margaret Powell of Pleasant Ridge feature a cube floating in air, or people crowded around what resembles a box of sky. An ant farm by Adam Alexander Shirley of Hamtramck has a factory scene above the winding tunnels. Robert Tucker of Royal Oak makes a cathedral out of such honeycombed as a worn picket fence and furniture pieces.

Photos by David Clements of Royal Oak show billboards in rundown areas. Carlos Diaz of Livonia presents a close-up of gears that become a surreal amusement park landscape. Michael Doyle of Royal Oak uses such items as a toothbrush, metal pieces and nails in creations that are like scale models. Carol Novak of Ann Arbor represents a land of milk and honey with a work featuring milk containers and a honeylike substance, and above home fires with a piece consisting of flowered wallpaper and a fire contained at its heart or center. Catherine Peet of Royal Oak shows structures covered with lush floral scenes.

Also at the PCCA is "Hanging the Circle," a site-specific installation by Sherry Stabendorf that examines our place in ecosystems with other creatures. Entering the work is like entering a still-living landscape full of coral, boulders and a grinder are contained within. Visitors are invited to grid the corn and carry the ground meal across the hall to sprinkle over a coyote skeleton, and to sit and reflect.

On display
Vickie Croan of Farmington Hills and Corinne Lucas of Canton are displaying art works in the All-Michigan-Art Media competition

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exhibit, continuing through April 30 at the Kral Art Center in St. Joseph, Mich. (call (810) 882-2020). A total of 235 artists submitted 419 entries in the event. From these, Arnold Klein, owner of the Arnold Klein Gallery in Royal Oak, selected 115 pieces by 100 artists.

House work

Interior designers from the area are among the 14 participating in Health House '95, a showcase home and educational center featuring components that provide clean, safe indoor air while paying special heed to environmentally friendly and recycled materials and construction methods. It will be open to the public for tours noon to 6 p.m. April 30 and May 21. Health House '95 is at Seven Mile and Haggerty in Northville. Admission per person is \$3, \$2 with a coupon. The American Society of Interior Design is one of the sponsors. Call (810) 559-5100 for information.

The local designers and their Health House rooms are P.K. Fields-Helm of P.K. Fields Interiors of Plymouth, Mich.; Bonnie Meyer of Meyer Interiors of West Bloomfield, Mich.; dining room; Roy of Roy and Hank Hank Interiors of Troy, living room; Julie Babe of Gorman's Gallery of Southfield, library; Kathy Coleman of Troy, rear bedroom; Barbara Wauldron of Beverly Hills, front south bedroom; Loreta Miller of Bloomfield Hills, foyer, upper hall; and Karen Sellenauer of KLS Designs of Bloomfield Hills, upper hall, bath.

Creative quilts

Catherine McIntee and Tammy Porath of Troy and Dianne Miller Wolman of Bloomfield Township are finalists in the nation's largest and most prestigious quilt competition, the American Quilter's Society's QuiltWeek, taking place April 27-30 in Paducah, Ky. They are competing with about 420 other creators of the world's finest hand- and machine-crafted contemporary quilts for \$30,000 in total cash awards, the largest such purse in America. In addition to the cash awards, the four quilts selected among the best in the overall competition will become part of the permanent collection of the Museum of the American Quilter's Society in Paducah.

The theme of this year's competition is "Seasons." McIntee is a finalist in the Innovative Piece, Amateur Category. Her quilt is titled "Cure for the Blues." Porath is a finalist in the Traditional Piece, Amateur Category and the Wall, Amateur Category. Her quilts are titled "Teenage Party Line" and "Charming Beads." Wolman is a finalist in the Wall, Amateur Category. Her quilt is titled "Black and White and Read All Over."

For more information about the American Quilter's Society, call (502) 896-7903; for more information about the Museum of the American Quilter's Society, call (502) 442-8356.

In exhibit

Farmington Hills jewelry designer Clifford Holdampf—who first started jewelry making with George Landino at Groves High School in Birmingham—is collaborating with Plymouth glass artist Donald Schneider in "Glass, Metal and Stone," a showing of efforts to create wearable works of art, Friday-Sunday, April 28-30, at Francis Jewelers, 470 Forest in Farmington. A reception for both artists is 7:30-9 p.m. Friday. Holdampf's designs are at once contemporary and classic. He and Schneider created rings, brooches, cufflinks and tie tacs especially for the display. Holdampf provided the precious metal settings and Schneider the beads.

Glass month

Michigan Glass Month exhibits are still going strong. Examples are at the Pontiac Glass Company Gallery and Gallery: Function Art, both at 23 W. Lawrence in Pontiac. The Pontiac Glass Company Gallery (phone (810) 832-6619) presents works ranging from small jewelry pieces to large stained glass hangings and screens. Gallery: Function Art (phone (810) 233-0033) hosts "A Glass Act" with functional glass furniture and accessories. These include clear, flowing tables by Laurel Clark Pye that resemble giant waterfalls. Pye also has large glass works in a park near the gallery.

Mary Klemm is editor of the Oakland County Creative Living section. You may call her at (810) 501-2556. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

Openings

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Friday-Saturday, April 28-29 — Internationally renowned jewelry designer Charles Kruppel will personally present his distinctive collection of finely crafted and unconventional styles during store hours 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday at the new Tappert's in Orchard Lake, Maple and Orchard Lake Road. Call (810) 457-7878.

Creative Arts Center
Friday, April 28 — "Masterpiece in Our Midst," May 13-21 at the center, 47 Williams in Pontiac, will present van Gogh's "The Diggers," on loan from the Detroit Institute of Arts. Preview of and opening silent bidding for "Hangin' With the Master," an exhibit of art objects donated for a May 13 auction to benefit center activities, 5-8 p.m. Friday. Workshops, gallery talks and other events related to "Masterpiece in Our Midst" will take place during its

run. Call (810) 333-7849.
Detroit Institute of Arts
Friday, April 28 — "Art and Flowers: A Festival of Spring" will continue to April 30, featuring celebratory floral displays in the restored Walter Ford II Great Hall at 5200 Woodward. Gala preview party Friday; tickets are \$50, call the DIA Ticket Office at (313) 833-2323. The weekend includes talks, a fashion show and drop-in workshops. For a complete schedule of events, call the Special Events Office at (313) 833-7969.

Kochipilli Gallery
Saturday, April 29 — New works by sculptor Susan Aaron-Taylor are exhibited to April 29 at 568 N. Woodward in Birmingham. Aaron-Taylor will discuss her current work 2 p.m. Saturday at the gallery. Call (810) 645-1905.

Sybanis Gallery
Saturday, April 29 — The gal-

lery's sixth annual Basketry International, with works by more than 25 of the top artists from the United States and Japan, will run through May 27. Special events Saturday: artists' lectures 4-5:30 p.m. at the Royal Oak Public Library Auditorium, 222 E. 11 Mile (reservations required); call (810) 544-3388; opening reception 6-9 p.m. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 202 E. Third, Royal Oak, (810) 544-3388.

Cranbrook Art Museum
Thursday, May 4 — "Korab's Cranbrook: Photographs by Balzhaz Korab" will run May 5 through Aug. 20 at 1221 N. Woodward in Bloomfield Hills, featuring more than 40 photos taken by Korab of Cranbrook from 1956-95. Opening reception, at which Korab and museum director Gregory Wittkop will be available to autograph copies of the new, award-winning book "Saarianen House

and Garden: A Total Work of Art," 5-8 p.m. Thursday. Call (810) 645-3312.
Bridges Street Gallery
Monday, May 1 — "A Celebration of Spring," a showing of works by four artists, will continue through May at 208 N. Bridge in Grand Rapids. Opening and wine tasting 6-9 p.m. Monday. Reservations are requested; call (810) 735-5844. Admission to Monday's event is \$25 per person. A portion of each admission will be donated to The Giving Feast. The gallery will donate a percentage of all sales and sponsor a silent auction on select pieces. Call (810) 735-1333. The Print Gallery

Friday, May 5 — The gallery at 29203 Northwestern Highway in Southfield will host a one-night-only exhibit of hundreds of original antique European posters 5-10 p.m. May 5.

Exhibit

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highways, images of tranquility and violence, realistic and abstract works.

"Hands of the Potter II" by Bonnie Auten of Tecumseh was awarded third prize (\$500). The colored pencil work is a close-up of hands that so coated in clay they appear to be gloved. A soft glow touches the top of them. The piece conveys the joy as well as the frequently grubby reality of creating art, as does the color photograph "Ray Area Artist," by Susan Aberly of Bloomfield Hills. Aberly's photo shows an assortment of splattered paint cans, as vibrant as a garden.

Real life

Scenes from real life abound. "Farmer's Market," an oil painting by John Chambers of Bloomfield Hills, shows luscious, shimmering produce. "Pear Pair" by Elaine Cusumano of Troy is a watercolor with pears resting on a dolly. "Cafe" by Peter Gillen of Birmingham and "Day in Paris" by Don MacFarlane of Southfield are both colorful oils, one scene bustling and one deserted. Two other oils show different moods in still life: "Silver Pot" by Joe Manalcalco of Orchard Lake is abash with red and silver. "Still Life

With Onions" by Lillian Moran of Troy is a cool arrangement of bottles and brushes.

The oil on linen "Rustle" by Jim Nawara of Beverly Hills contrasts the dangling metal strips and bare girders of a building in construction with the surrounding greenery (it won a juror's honorable mention). "Still Life with Styrofoam" by Laurie Tennent of Troy is a photograph presenting a visually pleasing arrangement of eggs, chairs and a clock (the piece won a \$150 juror's award of excellence).

More somber tones are conveyed in "Everyone Has to Grow Up Sometime" by Martin Anderson of New Hudson, a colored pencil work that was awarded best in show (\$1,000) sponsored by the Arts Foundation of Michigan, and "Every Five Days" by Jan Andrews of Rochester Hills, a mixed media work depicting violence against women. Anderson's piece is in two parts: one showing a youngster holding a calf and one showing men butchering a side of beef.

Spiritual

Religion and mythology inspire some works. "Byzantine Hotline" by Greg Wade of Williamston won second prize of \$750. It suggests a combination phone booth and

confessional, adorned with money and such religious images as angels, lambs and the crucified Christ. "Madonna of Czeszotowa" by Ewa Harabasz Alexander of Farmington Hills is an icon in gold leaf and acrylic. The two-headed, ceramic "Janus" by Douglas Campbell of Bloomfield Hills has one arm up and one down and is covered with markings.

Colors and patterns seem to move in such works as "View From the 50th Floor" by Frank Levin of Bloomfield Hills, watercolor and collage; "Mola Memoria" by Joyce Manke of Troy, watercolor; and "Time Travel" by Anita Sudakin of Birmingham, fiber.

"Aftermath" by B. Jean Oline of Bloomfield is a photograph of a house after a hurricane, windows and door resembling horrified eyes and mouth. "Collection Box" by Gina Sackman of Rochester Hills, mixed media, features compartments with tickets, key tags, marbles, buttons, pine cones, horoscopes, fortune cookies and other items.

Other award winners were Toni Stevens of Plymouth, John Denton of Ypsilanti, Karen Izenberg of Ann Arbor and Elizabeth Yorgen of Berkeley, juror's awards of excellence; and Hugh Cary of Berkley, Marianna De Fer-Pfeiffer of St. Clair Shores, Tom Hale of Northville, Hideo Kihata of Saginaw, Jeanne Morley of Grosse Ile, Olga Pawlowski of Dearborn Heights, Linda Soberman of Huntington Woods and Isabel H.J. Tsao of Ann Arbor, juror's honorable mention.

Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

Van Gogh exhibited

The Creative Arts Center is hosting van Gogh's "The Diggers" on loan from the Detroit Institute of Arts May 13-21.

The weeklong event will open with a champagne gala and art auction, fundraiser 7:30-1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the center, 47 Williams in Pontiac. For more information, call the center at (810) 333-7849.

"Hangin' With the Master" will be the exhibit of all work donated for the auction, which will preview 5-8 p.m. Friday, April 28. Guests will be able to begin silent bidding at this time. Final bids will be taken at the gala/auction May 13. Steve Benson, Bertha Cohen, John Hickman, Ted Hadfield, Judy Ellips, Connie Bruner, Vince Carducci and Joe Wesner are some of the artists contributing work.

Other events during the nine-day period include a lecture on van Gogh by Axel Rager, doctoral candidate in Dutch painting at the DIA; "Vincent," a one-man play by Lori Froehne; "Van Gogh: The Art of Winterset," a whistling event by Merchant of Venice; a clothing contest and school tour.

Special hours for "Masterpiece in Our Midst" will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. between May 13 and 21.

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