

FRIDAY



Laurie V. Logan, Miriam Yezbick and Jaime Newman star in "Eleemosynary" at Roper Theater. Call (810) 489-8445.

SATURDAY



Youtheatre celebrates "Babar's Birthday," with a new musical from New York's Theaterworks/USA at Music Hall Center. Call (313) 963-2366 for tickets.

SUNDAY



Southfield Symphony Orchestra features Grammy Award winner Eugene Drucher 7 p.m. at the Southfield Pavilion. Call (810) 354-4717 or (810) 851-7408.



Hot tip: Dwayne Fields (left) and Jaemine Rivera star in "Crossing Eight Mile," May 18-19 by Mosale Youth Theatre of Detroit at Music Hall Center. Call (810) 645-6306 or (313) 555-1544.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

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'LOST DRAWINGS' SHOW KOZLOW'S EARLY TALENT

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

"Richard's Drawings, 1947," read the inscription on the package.

Birmingham artist Richard Kozlow was going through some boxes brought from his mother's home after she died in 1994 when he happened



Richard Kozlow

upon the package, recognizing her distinctive writing.

When Kozlow opened it, he found 32 life drawings he did in 1947 while he was studying at the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts, now Center for Creative Studies.

"I thought, My God, you were as good as you thought you were," he said.

The artist will host an exhibit and sale of the pieces, "The Lost Drawings," 5-8 p.m. Friday, May 17, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, May 18-19, at his studio, 811 N. Main, Royal Oak.

"You don't see any drawing shapes any more."

The package was a sort of Pandora's Box, releasing not evil spirits but warm memories. Kozlow, who was born in Detroit in 1928, had won an art contest sponsored by Vogue magazine and was leaving for New York City to pursue a career as an artist when he gave the drawings to his mother almost 50 years ago.

"I said, 'Here, Mom, save these for me.'"

Kozlow had thought the works would be kept for about three weeks. He forgot them as he established himself as a painter and his fame as an artist spread internationally, including one-man shows around the country and around the world.

"I was just doing drawings," Kozlow said of the pieces, which he estimated were done over four or five months. The drawings are in conte crayon. Some are nudes of the model Cleo.

"She was a very well-known model at the time ... She was wonderful."

The works, dated 1947 and signed, show Kozlow's strength in drawing the human figure. They also give a feeling of movement and of personality. A figure's head and hand in one drawing is turned just so. Another figure's body, with a few lines suggesting muscles, conveys a tension of power. In all the works the lines are fluid and sure, combining grace and directness.

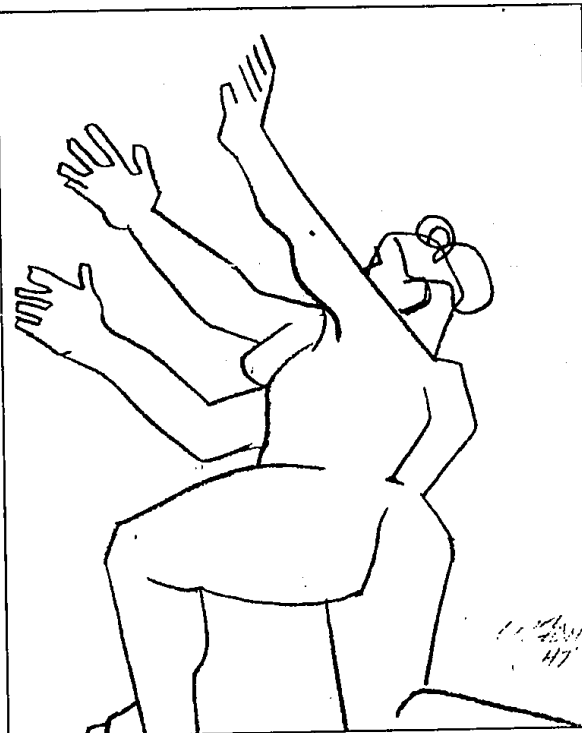
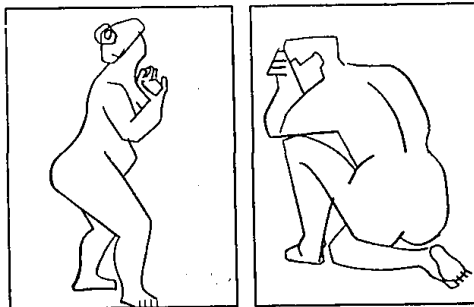
"I like the freedom of them."

Kozlow described the works as "so Art Deco." The figures could bring Matisse to mind.

"I didn't know who Matisse was ... He could have been playing second base for the Tigers."

Kozlow graduated from Cass Technical High School and served in the Navy in World War II. He attended the Society of Arts and Crafts on the G.I. Bill for several months, studying with Guy Palazzola, after he returned home from the war.

"There was a lot going on."



True to form: Line drawings made by Birmingham artist Richard Kozlow in 1947 showed his talent early. Kozlow is exhibiting the works at his studio this weekend.

MUSIC

Local band punk by definition

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Compliment Jason Navarro on his black stud earrings and you might get more than you bargained for.

Saying that the hole is getting a little dirty, Navarro reaches up and pulls out one of his earrings to reveal a dime-sized hole in the lobe of his ear.

Punk is all about attitude, but the earring hole, nose and eyebrow rings are superficial enough proof of Navarro's ethic.

There's no questioning Navarro's beliefs just like there's no second-guessing that The Suicide Machines, the band he fronts, is rooted in punk. Because it's so obvious, it frustrates guitarists/vocalist Dan "Suicide Machine" Lukacinsky that his band keeps getting mislabeled as a ska group.

"We're definitely not ska," said Lukacinsky, 26, of Redford. "That's one thing that's always bothered me. If you want to label us with anything, I would definitely say we are a punk band."

The clarification comes at an important time for The Suicide Machines, who are releasing its debut album "Destruction by Definition" (the Walt Disney-owned Hollywood Records) on Tuesday, May 21.

Recorded in California, the album tears through 18 songs at breakneck speed with 14 of the three-chord anthems clocking in at

under 3 minutes. It peeks into the "the vulnerable state of being young and dissatisfied," as reflected in the title.

"The name kind of speaks for itself. There's a lot of people in the scene who are punk, who are this, who are that. It's kind of destroying itself and separating people," said the 23-year-old Navarro, formerly of Livonia and Redford.

In the Lukacinsky-penned "No Face," Navarro sings "Every time that I hear that another kid died through a senseless act of violence it makes me want to cry."

"It's true. Every time I heard that some kid was killed, it makes me sad," Lukacinsky said when asked about the inspiration behind the song. "Younger kids are killing each other over stupid stuff."

"What inspires me is there's a lot of stuff that needs to be said. I'm doing it for a purpose. If I'm not conveying a worthwhile message then I don't think I'm doing anything."

The band didn't pull the plug on its sense of humor for the album, however. "The Vena Song" urges listeners to "worship Jeff Spicoli/Not Chris Cornell." (Spicoli is the Sean Penn surfer dude in "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" and Chris Cornell is the lead singer for Soundgarden.)

I wrote that song four years ago. It's silly but it's meant to be. I don't think you'll find us writing and playing songs like that now.

Back then I didn't know what I wanted to write about. After awhile you just figure out what your music is all about."

For the recording of the album, Hollywood Records offered a crack team of punk geniuses to bring out "The Suicide Machines" big sound. Julian Raymond, the band's artist and repertoire representative, produced "Destruction by Definition" along with Phil Kaffel. Jerry Finn, who has worked with Green Day and Rancid, mixed it. Bim Skala Bim's Vinnie Nobile stopped by the studio also to throw in his trombone on "Hey."

"We went in there with the idea of what we wanted to do and we came out with exactly what we wanted to do. It was a big success as far as I'm concerned," Lukacinsky said.

Formed in March 1991 by Navarro and Lukacinsky, The Suicide Machines — which also includes drummer/vocalist/keyboardsist Derek Grant, 19, of Westland, and bassist/backing vocalist Royce Nunley, 20, of Redford — originally billed itself Jack Kevorkian and The Suicide Machines. They subsequently shortened the name due to convenience and obvious other legal problems.

"We were just avoiding any problems in the future," Lukacinsky said during an interview last year. "Besides I always thought that the name was too long. I hated saying the name."

Following a debut gig in a friend's basement, the group opened for the Mighty



Punking out: The Suicide Machines — from left, bassist/backing vocalist Royce Nunley, guitarist/vocalist Dan "Suicide Machine" Lukacinsky, singer Jason Navarro, and drummer/vocalist/keyboardsist Derek Grant.

Mighty Bostones in 1992.

The next year, The Suicide Machines opened Rancid's first Detroit show at Grounds Coffeehouse at the University of Detroit Mercy. In the fall of 1994, the band rejoined Rancid on stage in front of 900 people at St. Andrew's Hall.

Inspired, The Suicide Machines set up their own tours, including a 1994 west coast stint and last year's nationwide trek with fellow

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