



Geena Davis (Samantha Caine) and Samuel L. Jackson (Mitch Hennessey) star in New Line Cinema's action-thriller, "The Long Kiss Goodnight," opening tonight at metro Detroit movie theaters.



Youtheatre presents an all-new musical adaption of the classic story "Phantom of the Opera," at Music Hall Center, (313) 963-2366.

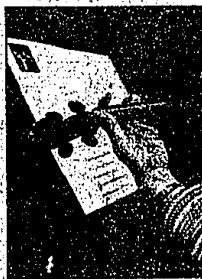


Fabulous fall activities await at Greenfield Village in Dearborn. Visit the Martinsville Cider Mill to learn the history of cider-making, (313) 271-1976.



HOT TIP: The Manhattan Transfer performs their four-part vocal harmonies with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra at Orchestra Hall Oct. 10-13. Call (313) 833-3700.

Practice: With magical dexterity, a violinist makes her instrument come alive during a Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra rehearsal.



STAFF PHOTOS BY LAURENCE B. McNEIL

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Feel comfortable with art in

OUR TOWN

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

If you're unsure about starting or adding to an art collection, or even just viewing art works, be sure to make the move to Our Town, the annual exhibit and sale at The Community House in Birmingham.

The event, now in its 11th year, presents works by artists from around the state — many of them from this area. It also gives visitors special opportunities to demystify and remove any intimidation about art.

This year's Our Town will feature freewheeling discussions by gallery owners on gallery operations and any other art-related questions. Selected Our Town artists will talk about the creative process. Interior designers will give artistic interior design solutions. All these are scheduled enrichment workshops, each with \$5 admission. (See the accompanying chart for these and other Our Town events.)

Our Town is scheduled Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 24-27, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates. A gala preview evening will take place 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23. The Benefactor reception with honorees Lois and Bill Bachman, juror James Bridenstein and award-winning artists will begin 6 p.m. Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, valet parking and strolling supper will be included. Tickets per person are \$175 Benefactor, \$100 Friends.

A souvenir artistic tile with a whimsical, uplifting design by Joy Bender Hadley of Marquette, chosen by competition, will be given to Benefactors and Friends at the preview. Hadley will be guest of honor at the gala, which happens to fall on her birthday. She lived in Birmingham from 1966 to 1973, and again 1979-80. The artist attended Adams Elementary School and Covington Junior High School and took ballet at The Community House.

In Our Town

Admission to the Our Town show is free. Hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Oct. 24, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 25-26 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 27. The exhibit features 309 works in a variety of media by 223 artists. Bridenstein, executive director of the Museum Institute of Arts, chose the pieces from 1,128 entries by 905 artists.

"I like everything I put in the show," Bridenstein said. "But, there are different levels — some art you like because you think it belongs in the show — and some I just respond to."

Many moods and styles are displayed in the pieces, prices of which start at \$44. The following is just a sample:

Marshall Fredericks' "Rabbit" strikes a seductive pose. "Sunporch" by Dodi Sikovitz of West Bloomfield is a heart-warming watercolor of a homely scene. "Dusty Autumn" by Nancy Hopper of Birmingham presents an arrangement of leaves that is both strong and delicate.

Regina Dunne of Livonia conveys drama in her pastel "Man With



Area art: Our Town features works by artists from around Michigan, including pieces by Regina Dunne of Livonia (at top), Barbara Abel of West Bloomfield (above), Terri Melnick of West Bloomfield (at right) and Elise Pedersen of Beverly Hills (below).

Events during this year's Our Town are:

Art & Jazz, a Casual Party, hosted by honorary chairs Ann and Ken (The Casual One) Calvert 6:30-9:30 p.m. Oct. 25. Live Jazz, hors d'oeuvres and a special collector's drawing for a discount on an art purchase will be featured. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

Sessions of the enrichment workshops described in the related story that give closeup, behind the scenes look at art are (admission for each is \$5):

■ **Art & Insights:** Microbrew & Food for Thought, 7:30 p.m. Oct. 24. The panel discussion will be moderated by MaryAnn Wilkinson, acting director of 20th century art at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Panelists will be Darlene Carroll of the Lemberg Gallery; Ray Fleming of the Robert Kidd Gallery; Tom Halsted of the Halsted Gallery; Pam and Tim Hill of the Hill Gallery and George N'Nardil of the G.R. N'Nardil Gallery.

■ **Art & Artists:** Tea & Tete a Tete, 2 p.m. Oct. 25. Our Town artists will talk about the creative process.

■ **Art & Design:** Mini Brunch & Meet Design, 10 a.m. Oct. 26. Rick Carmody and Mary Jo Mohr of Au Courant Design and architect Ronald Orfanili will give the presentation. Space is limited for Our Town events. For reservations or other information, call The Community House special events at (810) 644-5832.



Michelangelo's Hands." Follow the Leader" is a lighthearted photograph by Martha Maxwell of Bloomfield Village. Julie Dawson of Birmingham brings a smile and a sigh with her painting of children. There are the gentle and elegant oil, "The French Garden" by Carol Chisholm of Bloomfield Hills, and the sleek jewelry by Cheryl Gleason of Franklin.

Other communities of participating artists include Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Bloomfield, Clarkston, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Orchard Lake, Rochester, Rochester Hills, Southfield, Troy, Canton, Plymouth and Redford.

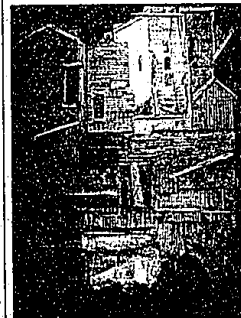
The Our Town Student Art Exhibition, juried by Elizabeth Stone of the Elizabeth Stone Gallery, continues to Oct. 18 at The Community House. Young artists from grades 1-12 in more than 30 public, private and parochial schools in Birmingham, Bloomfield and West Bloomfield participated. Works that won awards will be shown at Our Town.

Our Town has a new logo, featuring a Matisse-like figure by Marc Woollard of McCann-Erickson Detroit. The logo will be shown in downtown Birmingham store windows during Our Town week. Some Birmingham store windows will display art and design vignettes by local interior designers incorporating art from Birmingham galleries and interior design products.

Sally Gurak chairs the volunteer committee. Luann and J.T. Battenberg III, Barbara and Tom Denomme and Suzie and Bob Revey are Benefactor chairs, and Kathy Antonini and Christa Fortenberry are preview party chairs. Robyn Polzin and Jane Van Dusen are the Student Our Town steering committee chairs.

Proceeds from Our Town benefit The Community House, a non-profit organization offering programs and services.

Our Town is sponsored by Franklin Bank and Meadowbrook Insurance Group, with support from McCann-Erickson Detroit, The Eccentric and Estuary Group.



Local orchestras present pops, classics

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Noteworthy soloists including flutists Alexander Zonjic and Ervin Monroe, violinist Eric Lewis, and pianist David Syme will join the Birmingham-Bloomfield and Rochester Symphony Orchestras for concerts during their 1996-97 seasons, which begin this week.

The Rochester Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of James Fenwick Hohmeyer, begins its 36th season Friday, Oct. 11, with "Beloved Classics on the Keys" at Varner Hall on the campus of Oakland University.

Bulgarian pianist Angelina Pashmakova will perform the moving and ever-popular Piano Concerto No. 2 by Sergei Rachmaninoff. The orchestra will also present Wagner's Overture to

Die Meistersinger and Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition."

This season's varied program offers two pops concerts, and features a broad range of classical, choral, and chamber music. Alexander Zonjic is one of the "Extraordinary Flutes," to be showcased at the Nov. 8 concert. Concert goers will enjoy a yule sing-a-long at the Dec. 20 "Chime in the Season" concert with the Rochester Community Chorus.

Everyone loves a love song, and singers from the Michigan Opera Theatre will present a concert "With Lots of Love" Feb. 14-15 that includes Broadway and film favorites.

It's "Back to the Classics" March 14 with guest artist violinist Eric Lewis from the Manhattan String Quartet performing a Violin Concerto by

Sibelius. Also on the program are Stravinsky's Firebird Suite and Serezhde for Strings by Tchaikovsky. RSO wraps up its season April 25 with "An Evening at the Opera," a program with Measure for Measure male choir that includes Rossini's Overture to "Barber of Seville," Bizet's Carmen Suite No. 1, Verdi's Overture to "La Forza del Destino," and selections from Gilbert and Sullivan.

Under the direction of Hohmeyer, the RSO has grown in size and musical excellence. They recently recorded a compact disc that is offered for sale at concerts.

Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra, which just released its first CD, "Sounds of the