

Designers' chairs furnish imagination

By MARY KLEMIC
At Home Editor

These chairs with cheer furnish particular pizzazz wherever they are placed.

They are furnishings designed by 14 area artists and interior designers and will be featured in the second "Chair Affair at Design, Live!" 6-9 p.m. today at Michigan Design Center, 1700 Stutz in Troy. The gala event features an auction of the chairs. Proceeds will benefit the Furniture Resource Center of Pontiac. The non-profit FRC collects and distributes usable household items to needy clients of Oakland County social service agencies.

Also featured will be a preview of Design, Live!, with 20 fully decorated room vignettes by local interior designers; wine and hors d'oeuvres; and celebrity auctioneers Paula Blanchard of Paula Blanchard Communications and David McCarron of the Frank Boos Gallery. Tickets are \$40, benefactor, and \$50, patron. MDC is north off Maple and three blocks east of Coolidge. Call Carey at (810) 649-4772 for information.

Design, Live! runs 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 9-10, at MDC. Admission is \$15, with part of the proceeds to benefit the FRC. Lunch and seminars will be featured, and designers will be at their vignettes to answer questions. Visitors may

sign up for 20-minute complimentary consultations with a designer.

The donated chairs were "gently used" when the participants gave them a new look. Artist Lois Teicher's miniature "Cloud Chair with Wedge" is a harmonious arrangement of wedges and grooves, with wedge-shaped legs matching the groove-shape in the seat. Teicher is making reproductions of the chair available by order, with 10 percent of the proceeds going to the FRC.

Karen Sellenraad of KLS Designs of Bloomfield Hills used suede, fringe, damask and canvas (which she hand painted) to fashion "Singing in the Rain," a lively red piece that seems to be throwing its arms open in welcome. Sellenraad was inspired by Gianni Versace's South Beach estate. The chair features animal and floral prints.

The "Time Out" chair by Brian Killian of Brian Killian & Co. of Birmingham almost looks as though it could be closed with a snap between thumb and forefinger. The back of the tiny chair is a round, working clock; the round seat is of duck cloth; chrome plating surrounds it. A whistle - a way of calling for "time out" - hangs from the back of the clock.

Sports fans will get a kick out of "OPPOSING VIEWS (The Ultimate Tailgate Chair Pair)" by Kathleen McGovern of the Kathleen McGovern Studio of Interior Design. The Michigan State University-University of Michigan rivalry

inspired this pair. One easy chair is green, one blue; appliques and spirited one-liners adorn the surfaces ("MAIZE & BULL" and "MOO U" are among the offerings). The two could be placed facing opposite directions, to extend the rivalry theme.

"Chair With a View" by Bill Hartman of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls reflects its designer's architectural background, with a "window" in the back and a pattern suggesting a blueprint. The chair, an Eames design, is made of fiberglass and wood.

Dominic Pangborn of Pangborn Design Ltd. of Detroit "tied one on" in his "Windsor 'Knot' Chair." A tie wrapped around the back matches the silk upholstery with painted decoupage. "White" by Patti Smith of Patti Smith

Collectibles of Royal Oak looks like candy or whipped cream with its white tulle, and sports a bustier and trim. A wire vanity chair is under the decor.

David Hines of Birmingham turned a cot into an artistic chair design. His "COT CHAIR?" of wood, steel, canvas and rawhide looks sturdy yet easily portable. Branches add an outdoor feel.

Other participants are Linda Axe of L.V.L. Enterprises, Lulu Cameron of LULU of Royal Oak, Paul Canvasser of P.D.C. Design, Joe Keenan of Keenan & York of Bloomfield Hills, Mike Pawlowski of Illusions to Order of Pleasant Ridge, and Cilla Scott, who owns a design studio in Birmingham and teaches interior design and furniture design at Center for Creative Studies.

Dig into gardening books

The Troy Garden Club explores the pleasure and stimulation of books about gardening with Mary Hoxie of Barnes & Noble book store at its meeting noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13, at the Troy Community Center.

Hoxie will bring specific books and review them to acquaint attendees with those available on the market. The program is timed for holiday giving and

winter planning.

Refreshments will be served at noon. Guest donation is \$3. For information, call Barb at (810) 879-1393. The center is in the Civic Center complex directly behind City Hall, 500 W. Big Beaver.

The club is seeking new members, men and women, particularly Troy residents, but gardeners from outside Troy are welcome to join as space permits.



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