

FINE ARTS

Poets celebrate the spirit of Ireland

The spirit of Ireland comes pouring into our area 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 16, with Irishfest, an afternoon of Emerald Isle inspired poetry, prose and traditional music at the Birmingham Community House. The nearly two-hour program features acclaimed writers and musicians from both sides of the Atlantic.

Irishfest is the third offering of the annual William and Nancy Beckwith memorial In Seed Time presentation. Performed last year at Cranbrook Art Museum to a standing room only, foot-tapping crowd, this year's event has expanded its program and will be held in

downtown Birmingham at the Community House. Also new this year is a booksigning afterwards at Dick O'Dow's, Birmingham's new Irish pub and restaurant, where well-wishers and book lovers can meet and greet the writers Irish style.

Poets and writers, Richard Tillinghast, Mary O'Malley and Thomas Lynch, three influential literary figures who will each use Irishfest for the U.S. launch of new books, will read from their prose and poetry that is richly touched by Irish culture, history and lore. Authentic Irish music will intersperse with words as old and new fans pick up the Celtic rhythms of the Ann

Arbor Irish ensemble. Added to the traditional fiddles, tin whistles and bodhran (Irish drum) will be an "American touch" — a bass, an innovation that should surprise and please the audience.

Tillinghast is a poet, critic, essayist and educator on sabbatical this winter from his position as professor of creative writing at the University of Michigan. He is the author of six books of poetry. The newest collection is "Today in the Cafe Trieste New and Selected Poems." Tillinghast's work stands out in contemporary poetry for the ease with which it moves back and forth between widely differing

poetic idioms and for its focus on history, the spirit of place and the notions of travel and home. He has lived in Ireland and travels there frequently.

Mary O'Malley is an Irish poet and educator and author of three highly acclaimed collections of poetry. She is in the United States to launch her newest collection "The Knife in the Water." O'Malley is one of the founders of the Quirt Festival of Literature which is held annually in Galway, Ireland to celebrate poetry, prose and music.

Thomas Lynch is a poet and essayist who has a gift for free verse, rhyme and storytelling and has published two collec-

tions of poetry. His new collection of essays is "The Understanding — Life Studies from the Dismal Trade." The Irish-American write divides his time between a home and business in Milford and a family cottage he has restored in Moveen, County Clare, Ireland.

The Irishfest program promises a bit of Irish magic, a kind of passport to another realm, with its combination of high energy and wit, humor, intimacy, beauty and very accessible messages through words and music given from the heart.

Irishfest tickets will be on sale at the door beginning at 2 p.m. Regular admission is \$10, \$5 for

students and \$25 for friends of poetry donations. The music, following Irish tradition, will "pick up" around 2:15.

For more information, call 810-335-0021.

Also of note:

■ Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the Motor City Brass Band and Corinne Stavish who rekindles the art of story-telling, 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 17 at Oakland Community College's Smith Auditorium (Orchard Lake Road at I-690).

Tickets are \$8 and available at the door. Senior citizens and students \$5, families \$15.

ART BEAT

Art Beat features exhibits, events, seminars and other art scene happenings. Please send press releases, press kits and other information to Frank Provenzano, *Eccentric Newspapers*, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009 or fax (810) 644-1314.

VERY SPECIAL ART MICHIGAN

BENEFIT
A concert to benefit children and adults with disabilities will be held 8 p.m., Friday, March 21 at Oakland Community College in Royal Oak. Detroit jazz pianist Bess Bonnier will headline the concert featuring the premier of the Detroit Jazz Winds, a new local big band. Bonnier's 30-year career includes concerts, recording, radio and TV performances.

The 17-member big band blends jazz veterans and young performers. Original compositions will be performed. The concert is sponsored by the Very

Special Arts Michigan program. Tickets: \$15. Call (810) 646-9298, or (810) 932-8376.

A FIRST FOR BLOOMFIELD HILLS

ARTISTS
Paula Lombardo, a Bloomfield Hills resident, has been named the first ever US citizen to exhibit at the Coral Gables Gallery in southern Florida. Her paintings and drawings are distinguished by influences from early cave drawings and folklore symbols. Frames Unlimited, at Telegraph and Maple in Bloomfield Hills, is currently displaying several works by Lombardo. For more information, call (810) 969-4909.

DIA VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Detroit Institute of Arts Gallery is looking for volunteers to give tours, sell memberships and assist in the museum shops. Orientation is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 16 in

the Detroit Institute of Arts Lecture Hall. Call (313) 833-1148.

CBS MOVIE BASED ON AUTHORS' NOVEL

A teleplay adaptation of "Something Borrowed, Something Blue," a novel co-written by West Bloomfield authors Karen Katz and Jan Greenberg, will premier on CBS, Sunday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m.

LAST WEEK FOR DOLL DISPLAY

More than 30 dolls made from cloth, clay and velvet are displayed at the Southfield Library, Main Level. Doll-maker Dorothy Holt, a Southfield resident, has assembled a collection of African-American doll designs that present a playful mastery of the craft. The exhibit runs through March 14. Call (810) 948-0470.

ARTS GRANTS

The Arts Foundation of Michigan has announced the Creative

Artist Grant for funding year 1998. Proposed projects of applicants must begin Oct. 1, 1997 and conclude by Sept. 30, 1998.

AFM makes project grants up to \$7,000 available to artists. Application deadline is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 1997. To receive guidelines and application, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Creative Artist Grant, Arts Foundation of Mich., 645 Griswold St., Ste. 2164, Detroit, 48226, (313) 954-2244.

Creative Artist Grant workshop will be held on Tuesday, March 18 at the Washtenaw Council for the Arts, (313) 484-4882; and on Monday, March 31 at the Southfield Civic Center, Room 111, (810) 354-9034.

HOME WORK

Cranbrook Art Museum is call-

ing for entries from Michigan-based artists, architects and designers working in any media.

Entrants must address how design, constructed environments and dwelling configurations reveal the "complexity of contemporary life."

Applications must be postmarked by March 28, 1997. To receive an application, contact Irene Hofmann, (810) 645-3313.

Clarification

Joyce Brienza is assistant director of the Susanne Hilberry Gallery in Birmingham.

Deborah Friedman was inaccurately mentioned as assistant director in an article on the Michigan Women Artists exhibition in the March 2 issue of the Arts & Leisure section.

SHARE A 56 FESTIVAL OF MUSIC



The Israel Philharmonic
Anniversary Gala
8 PM Sunday

Plácido Domingo
The Covent Garden
7:30 PM Monday

Bobby McFerrin
Loosely Mozart
9 PM Tuesday



TOOL BOX FOR HIRE!

COMES EQUIPPED WITH SENIOR & EXPERT CRAFTSMEN

HOME REPAIRS & REMODELING

- Carpentry • Painting
- Plumbing • Drywall
- Electrical

COUPON GOOD FOR
\$15 OFF WORK OVER \$50
\$25 OFF WORK OVER \$100
\$50 OFF WORK OVER \$250
FOR FREE INFORMATION
CALL THE HOTLINE!
THE TOOL BOX
1-800-558-2371

BEST of THE ACADEMY

The Birmingham Theatre Filmfest 1997

The Birmingham Theatre Filmfest: March 14-24 The Birmingham Theatre is proud to present "Best of the Academy Filmfest" featuring the five Oscar-Nominated Films for the Best Picture of 1996: *Fargo*, *The English Patient*, *Jerry Maguire*, *Shine* and *Secrets & Lies*. All five films will be shown each day at different times.

Join In The Academy Awards' Excitement
SPOT LIGHTS... RED CARPET... PAPA RAZZI... NOMINATED FILMS... AFTER-GLOW PARTIES!

Select from our 2 Exciting Packages sure to please both the film critic and people looking for a night out Hollywood-Style!!!

Tickets on sale now!

For more information call 810.644.FILM
To order packages by phone have your credit card ready and call 810.644.3419

THE BIRMINGHAM THEATRE
"There's Nothing Else Like It..."
211 South Woodward Avenue
Birmingham, Michigan

Sponsored by:

The event is held at the Birmingham Theatre and is not affiliated with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

ONE DAY ONLY! - LIMITED SEATING!

ONLY DETROIT AREA APPEARANCE!



A TV Food Network Event

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 1997
12:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

TROY MARRIOTT

200 WEST BIG BEAVER RD. • TROY, MI

TICKETS: \$42.00 INFO: 1-800-949-CHEF

- See TV's most popular chefs cook-up their specialties in an intimate setting!
- You'll taste the delicious foods prepared by the chefs... So bring your appetite!
- Sample tasty treats at our sponsors exhibit booth!
- Wine tasting, musical entertainment, and cooking innovations also in the exhibit area!
- Cookbooks personally autographed by the chefs are available for yourself or to give as gifts!
- Valuable prizes given away all-day long!



KitchenAid
HOME APPLIANCES



REALCOM

HOME TOWN



Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

SAVE \$5.00

BY MAILING IN YOUR ORDER TO THE NORTHBVILLE RECORD

Name _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Daytime Phone _____

of tickets _____ \$537.00 (regular price \$42.00) = \$ _____
Checks or money order only made out to Chef Events. Mail check and this form to Cooking Across America, c/o The Northville Record, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167. Auction: Karen Raabe. Orders must be received by April 1, 1997. Coupons received at the show will be accepted on a space available basis.

LIVE & IN-PERSON COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS!



as seen on national program "You Can Cook"

MARTIN YAN



star of PBS cooking show "Cucina Amara"

NICK STELLINO



as seen on the TV Food Network

CURTIS AIKENS