

CONVERSATIONS



FRANK PROVENZANO

A lesson from Cyd Moore's fantasy wilderness

In her studio, a converted garage behind her home in Beverly Hills, Cyd Moore's drawing table stands below a window facing west. That's a quarter turn past the direction from which she came to Michigan five years ago.

Moore grew up on a 400-acre peanut farm "way down south" in Georgia, 30 miles from Plains, home to the most famous peanut farmer in the state who once upon a time made his way to the White House.

With a herd of goats, a few alligators, three dogs named "Shake, Rattle and Roll" and a good share of raccoons and opossums, the land was a perpetual fantasy wilderness.

The nearest town was seven miles away. Directions to the neighbors required a compass and broad familiarity with geography. For Moore, the notion of a neighborhood took on a rather different look.

Moore's childhood playmates became those human and animal spirits who walked into her imaginatively vivid landscape. She still gets a kick from the memory of her brothers knocking on her bedroom door, then plopping down a squirming gator. His jaws were taped shut, of course.

Today, as a much sought-after children's book illustrator, Moore has found another open field of possibilities for her playful creations. And a growing audience captivated by the charm of her wide-eyed characters.

Dr. Seuss is "deep"

This past month, three books of her illustration work were published: "Alice and Greta," "What Is The Full Moon Full Of?" and "I Love You, Stinky Face."

Moore has put together an impressive portfolio of nine books and more than two dozen educational texts for young readers.

She's already earned back her advance on "Stinky Face." Moore talks about the book, a beloved story of a child's curiosity about the limits of love and illustrating effectively. If love has no limits, then Moore's affection for her art is the vantage point to see the limitless vista.

Some day, she wants to write and illustrate her own children's book. "I want to create a story that kids and adults can relate to. Like Dr. Seuss. A story that when parents are reading they say, 'Hey, Dr. Seuss is deep.'"

That's a line that makes Moore laugh. Then again, she laughs a lot. "Realism bores me to tears," she said. But there's also a serious side. She becomes reverent when talking about "the gift" she has. How she doesn't understand where the captivating images come from. "I just open up and they just sort of flow through me."

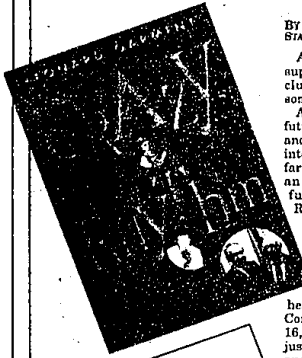
Mystical. Magical. Playful. What else would you expect?

Her tone softens when she pulls out



Southern charm: Cyd Moore in her Beverly Hills studio.

JCC books authors for annual fair



BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

A photograph in Leonard Garment's superb memoir "Crazy Rhythm" gives a clue to what unusual turns life can sometimes take.

At the far left is the young Garment, future Wall Street attorney and counsel and adviser to Richard Nixon, blowing intently into a saxophone. And on the far right, filling out the sax section, is an equally young Alan Greenspan, future chairman of the Federal Reserve.

"He was a good, reliable section musician," said Garment, with the true condemnation of a jazz man. "He also attended to our books, payroll, withholding tax."

Garment will be one of the headliners for the 46th Annual Jewish Community Center Book Fair, Nov. 8-16, with events at the center on Maple just west of Drake in West Bloomfield and its branch in Oak Park on 10 Mile near Greenfield (see schedule). The fair will feature national headlines and local authors.

"We don't pay any of the writers," said Berl Falbaum, of Farmington Hills Falbaum & Associates, who is handling publicity for the fair. "They think this is worthwhile."

Headliners in addition to Garment include financial expert Michael Bloomberg, who will open the fair on Saturday, Nov. 8; Pete Hamill,

Please see FAIR, D2



EXHIBITION

Shows focus on powerful edge of photography

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

A hilarious, but also quite somber video in "Still and Moving" at Revolution in Ferndale offers an appropriate metaphor of our age: a series of 16-second segments of people sitting in their favorite spots — couches, chairs, rockers — passively looking into the camera as if they were staring into the boob tube.

That video, "Reverse Television," along with the diverse works of photography and other videos in the exhibit, provides stimulus for a wide-ranging cerebral exercise about race, gender, capitalism and more abstract topics like perception and the intimate influences that shape personal identity.

Of course, that sounds more complex

than the actual exhibit. Above all, "Still and Moving," which runs through Saturday, Nov. 29, is interesting and dramatically appealing.

Clearly, the exhibit is not only worth

the time, but it goes a long way to proving that a picture is worth thousands and thousands of words. (Maybe there's something to the name of the gallery that prides itself as the place for an inner revolution.)

Created by Bill Viola, who's been at the vanguard of video artistry since the late 1960s, "Reverse Television" specifically raises issues about how the swirl of photographic, cinematic and electronic images leaves a voyeuristic expression on the faces of its watchers.

The video is one of six, ranging widely in subject-matter and length. The monitors appear in the spacious gallery alongside traditional black and white

Jewish Book Fair Featured Speakers

Saturday, Nov. 8
• Michael Bloomberg, "Bloomberg on Bloomberg," 8 p.m. West Bloomfield Center, 6600 W. Maple
• Sarah Lammstein, "Aner's Shabbat," 11 a.m. Oak Park Center, 50 Mile near Greenfield
• Local author day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oak Park

Sunday, Nov. 9
• 11 a.m. George Cantor, "Tigers of '68," West Bloomfield
• 1:30 p.m. Yosef Abramowitz, "Jewish Family & Life," West Bloomfield
• 1:30 p.m. Sarah Lammstein, West Bloomfield
• 2 p.m. George Cantor, Oak Park
• 3 p.m. Joan Nathan, "Jewish Holiday Baker," West Bloomfield
• 4 p.m. Philip Caplan, "The Puzzle of the 613 Commandments and Why Bother," Oak Park
• 6:30 p.m. Joshua Henkin, "Swimming Across the Hudson," West Bloomfield
• 7 p.m. Neil Gilman, "Death of Death," Oak Park

Monday, Nov. 10
• 10 a.m. Jeff Zaslau, "Talk of Fame," West Bloomfield
• 1 p.m. Frieda Fuman, "Facing the Mirror," West Bloomfield
• 3 p.m. Allen Hoffman, "Big League Dreams," Oak Park
• 6:30 p.m. Sil Mann, "How to Get More Out of Being Jewish Even If," West Bloomfield
• 8 p.m. Brad Meltzer, "The Tenth Justice," West Bloomfield

Tuesday, Nov. 11
• 10 a.m. Judith Lernerthal, "Small Miracles," West Bloomfield
• 1 p.m. Elizabeth Elvich, "Mishnah's Kitchen: A Memoir," West Bloomfield
• 1 p.m. Jonathan Kaufman, "A Hole in the Heart of the World," Oak Park
• 6:30 p.m. Jonathan Kaufman, West Bloomfield
• 8 p.m. Judith Lernerthal, Oak Park
• 8 p.m. Frank Melzer, "On the Virtue Facing East," West Bloomfield

Wednesday, Nov. 12
• 10 a.m. Milton Winter, "Trains: A Memoir of a Hidden Childhood During and After World War II," West Bloomfield
• 12 p.m. Mitch Altom, "Tuesday With Morrie," West Bloomfield
• 1 p.m. Milton Winter, Oak Park
• 3 p.m. Susan Berin, "A Heart of Wisdom," West Bloomfield
• 6:30 p.m. Aryeh Lev Soliman, "The Far Euphrates," West Bloomfield
• 8 p.m. Allen Bodner, "When Boating Was a Jewish Sport," West Bloomfield

Thursday, Nov. 13
• 1 p.m. Elyn Bacho, "The Activists Daughter," West Bloomfield
• 1 p.m. Allen Bodner, Oak Park
• 6:30 p.m. Leonard Garment, "Crazy Rhythm," West Bloomfield
• 8 p.m. Pete Hamill, "Snow in August," West Bloomfield
• 8 p.m. Gary Graff, "Essential Blues Guide," Oak Park

Sunday, Nov. 16
• 11 a.m. Razel Twerak, "Do Unto Others," West Bloomfield
• 1 p.m. Helen Epstein, "Where She Came From," West Bloomfield
• 2 p.m. Faye Stilton, "Heroes, Hooks and Heirlooms," West Bloomfield
• 2 p.m. Rachel Muszash, "Shared Blessings," Oak Park
• 3 p.m. Gabrielle Glaser, "Strangers to the Tribe," West Bloomfield
• 4:30 p.m. Edith Covensky, "Jerusalem Poems," Oak Park
• 6:30 p.m. Deborah Teluskin, "Master of Dreams," West Bloomfield
• 8 p.m. Balva Pisin, "Homecoming," West Bloomfield

All book events are free. Also bring will entertain book club participants 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, in West Bloomfield. Admission to his show is \$20 for Jewish Community Center members and \$25 for non-members. For information, call the Community Center (248) 601-7049.



Designing Woman: Joanne Blau Bellet of West Bloomfield created this one of a kind silk jacket especially for ArtShare's live auction to benefit the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills.

Artists express art of sharing for children

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Looking for art that's easy on the wallet? ArtShare '97 offers a variety of ways to dress up your bare walls with an exhibition, sale and auction of fine art Friday, Nov. 7, at the Southfield Town Center.

The gala evening, hosted by Huel Perkins of WJBK Fox 2, will benefit the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center's programs for abused children and families in crisis. The sixth annual event (with music by Alexander Zornig & Friends) is made possible by the Ford Motor Co.

"It's a great opportunity to buy wonderful art at reasonable prices and to help severely abused children at the same time," said chairwoman Judy Roseman of Commerce Township.

"It's also a wonderful way to support the artists in the community," added co-chair Gaye Miller of Farmington Hills. "That's where the name ArtShare came from. It's a sharing by the artists with children."

Sergio De Giusti of Redford, one of six artists invited to exhibit at ArtShare '97, priced his relief and free-standing sculpture lower than usual to raise as much

ArtShare '97

What: A gala evening including an exhibit, sale and auction of fine art to benefit the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center's programs for abused children and families in crisis. Hosted by Huel Perkins of WJBK Fox 2, the event features music by Alexander Zornig & Friends, hors d'oeuvres by Crawlings Catering and wine by Outback Steakhouse. When: 6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7. Where: In the garden atrium of the Southfield Town Center's Tower 2000 at Ten Mile Road, Evergreen and the Lodge (U.S. 10) service drive, Southfield. Tickets: \$50 per person, \$200 includes two tickets and pre-event mingle with artists and celebrities at 6 p.m. Benefactor \$300 includes four tickets and pre-event mingle. Call (248) 626-7527, Ext. 3115.

Please see ARTISTS, D2



Familiarity: The photos and videos in "Still and Moving" offer a compelling view of how personal identity is related to environment. Photographer Stephen Tourlentes.

Please see PHOTOGRAPHY, D2