

Exhibit showcases emerging and established artists

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
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Lillian Langerman's art always had popular appeal during her years as a commercial illustrator for businesses and corporations such as Kmart. But she never received a compliment that could match her winning the People's Choice Award at last year's Canton Project Arts exhibit.

"It was really an honor to have flowers and my peers vote for me," said Langerman, a Southfield resident. "I enjoy getting my work out there and hearing people's reactions."

Langerman's two works, "Mulongo" and "Three Onions and a Bowl," are among the 95 paintings, sculptures and clay juried into the Canton Project Arts Fine Arts Exhibition Oct. 9-15 at Summit on the Park Community Center in Canton. Sharon Dillenbeck, a Canton artist who was instrumental in getting the annual showcase

off the ground in 1993, juried the exhibit and will choose the award winners, who will split \$1,500 in prizes. Canton Project Arts received 185 entries from artists living in communities ranging from Bloomfield Hills to Livonia and Garden City, said Linda Shapona, exhibit co-chairman with Dick

Dionne. "It's a really good variety and some incredible artistic talent," said Shapona. "It seems the quality of the artists is going up, probably because the show is established. It's the seventh year. One of the things that's kind of neat is we've seen some of the artists grow over the

years. But overall, the show's beautiful, with some unique pieces. It's very exciting: sculpture, clay, raku, also some fun pieces."

Shapona and other members of Canton Project Arts hit the streets earlier this summer searching for exhibitors. They passed out hundreds of applications to artists displaying works in the Ann Arbor Art Fair. Shapona is still searching for more three-dimensional works to display in next year's show.

"We're also still looking for volunteers to sit with the art," said Shapona. "It's really fun because you get to talk to artists and other people about art."

Giving artists a chance
Tim Sabados is grateful for the opportunity to show his painting, "The Journey," in the Canton Project Arts exhibit. An emerging figurative painter, Sabados has never

exhibited his work before, although he's painted several works on commission. "I want to try to become involved locally in the arts community, and the Canton exhibit gives me a chance," said Sabados, who studied art at Michigan State University, Center for Creative Studies and Eastern Michigan University. "I'd love to have some responses to my work and expose it to people."

Sabados works large. "The Journey," an abstract featuring several figures, measures 28 inches wide by 94 inches long. "I have an interest in the

human figure," said Sabados, who lives in Canton. "You see some of the most beautiful lines in the human body."

Livonia artist Barbara Demgen shows two works: one of a white shed in Sleeping Bear Dunes, and containers of May plantings. This is her second year in the Canton Project Arts exhibit. Demgen, who received a master's of art degree from Marygrove College, has exhibited widely.

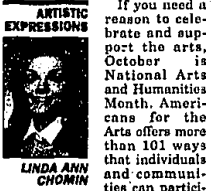
"I'm thrilled that Canton even has this exhibit," said Demgen. "They have such a beautiful facility and I'm happy to see the work out there."

What: Canton Project Arts exhibits 95 pieces of fine art. For more information, call (734) 397-6450.
When: Oct. 9-15. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, until 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.
Where: Summit on the Park Community Center, 46000 Parkway, off Canton Center Road, Canton.



Fine art: Longtime illustrator Lillian Langerman turns her talents to watercolor in this portrait.

Celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS
If you need a reason to celebrate and support the arts, October is National Arts and Humanities Month. Americans for the Arts offers more than 101 ways that individuals and communities can participate in the coast-to-coast celebration of culture at its site on the World Wide Web: www.artsusa.org

The arts play an important role in enriching our lives. Local organizations work hard at bringing music, dance, theater and the visual mediums of painting, sculpture and clay to our communities. But they need your support. Make the effort to see an exhibit or dance program, hear an orchestra or jazz group perform. There's plenty going on.

Here's a list of some of the arts activities in our communities:

Sharing the Gift Within You
Artists share their talents for painting and creating in all forms of mediums in the 7th annual juried show continuing through Oct. 8 at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911.

West Bloomfield artist Nora Chapa Mendoza juried the show featuring 170 works by artists such as Connie Lucas, Canton; Henry Friedman, West Bloomfield; Shirley Curran, Plymouth, and Regina Dunno, Kelly Sauter Dobson, Sherry Eid, and Mar-

garet Malott, Livonia. Best of Show went to Jon Painter Jones for "By the Sea," a work incorporating figures of different races who are washed up on the shore. My thanks to the church for putting on this annual show which gives local artists the opportunity to exhibit and share their gifts.

"We're excited about the overall quality, the talent that's exhibited," said Linda Henton, show chairman. "We have more three dimensional pieces this year. In fact, the three top awards are three dimensional."

Russian Architecture Lecture

Peter Rokshan will give a lecture on Russian art and palaces 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6 at a meeting of the Garden City Fine Arts Association in the Maple-

wood Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Morriston, Garden City. For information, call Norma McQueen at (734) 261-0379.

Rokshan, an artist with hand-built wall pieces on exhibit at The Art Gallery in Garden City, was exposed to art at an early age and has a lot of stories to tell. He met Jackson Pollock when he came to Cranbrook to learn weaving and stayed with a friend of Rokshan's mother, who also taught weaving.

"We had Peter at a meeting two years ago and they were just spellbound by the fact he travels back and forth to Russia," said Norma McQueen, a Garden City Fine Arts Association member and director of The Art Gallery.

Mahatma vs. Gandhi
Direct from Bombay, India, the Platform Theatre Company

presents "Mahatma vs. Gandhi," a saga of man who transformed the soul of a nation but could not save the soul of his own son, 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 10 at Clarenceville High School Auditorium, on Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$60, \$40 and \$30, and available by calling (313) 532-3363 or (313) 255-8115.

The production, which received high praise in its native county, Britain and the U.S., will have toured nearly a dozen U.S. cities before arriving in Michigan.

"This is very rare to see a production from Bombay. Even the sets are coming from India," said Ajit Mehta whose company, Ishani Arts, is bringing the play to the area. "It's a good message to young people not to take wrong steps. It shows the greatness of the selfless Mahatma Gandhi who dedicated his whole life to the principals of non-violence and passive resistance. His eldest son wanted to go to Cambridge and study law and Gandhi advised him to join the Freedom Fighting movement. He took a negative approach instead. Young people have to control their frustrations and

take a positive approach to their parents. It's about communication between a father and son."

Oktoberfest Jazz Brunch

The Michigan Jazz Festival committee has decided to move their annual fund-raiser, Thanksgivingforjazz Brunch, to October and rename it. Last year's attendance was thought to be down because the gourmet brunch took place too close to Thanksgiving. Co-sponsored by Schoolcraft College Student Activities, the brunch is important because it raises funds for the admission-free Michigan Jazz Festival (scheduled for Sunday, July 16 at Schoolcraft College).

Jazz veteran Larry Teal and the World's Oldest Saxophone Quintet will provide the music to go with the brunch of German delicacies, including potato pancakes and bratwurst, noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 24 in the Waterman Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia. Tickets are \$25 and will not be sold at the door. For more information or tickets, call (248) 474-2720 or (734) 459-2454.

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Body from page C1

Impressive displays of work with decidedly existential motifs, such as Pi Beno's paper sculpture of a levitating mummy-wrapped, broken-hearted body, and Leah Gregoire's "Death to Life" charcoal drawing.

Expressive diversity
While the three galleries on two floors at Faint Creek are filled with paintings and sculptures it's sometimes difficult to focus on any one piece, it'd be utterly unfair to criticize the density of the show. Clearly, the emphasis is on diversity.

Whereas "Body & Soul" might push the envelope at Faint Creek, it hardly offers a glimpse into the trends of the contemporary art world.

What: "Body & Soul; Seventy-Five Artists Examine The Human Form Through Various Media"

When: Through Nov. 5

Where: Faint Creek Center for the Arts, 407 Pine Street, Rochester

Hours: 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. (248) 651-4110

Conversations from page C1

Schultz, who joined the cooperative six months ago.

And legitimacy for any artist looking for encouragement and motivation shouldn't be underestimated.

Hopefully, like that imposing oak at Auburn and Livernois,

Lawrence Street Gallery will soon bear some much-needed acorns.

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