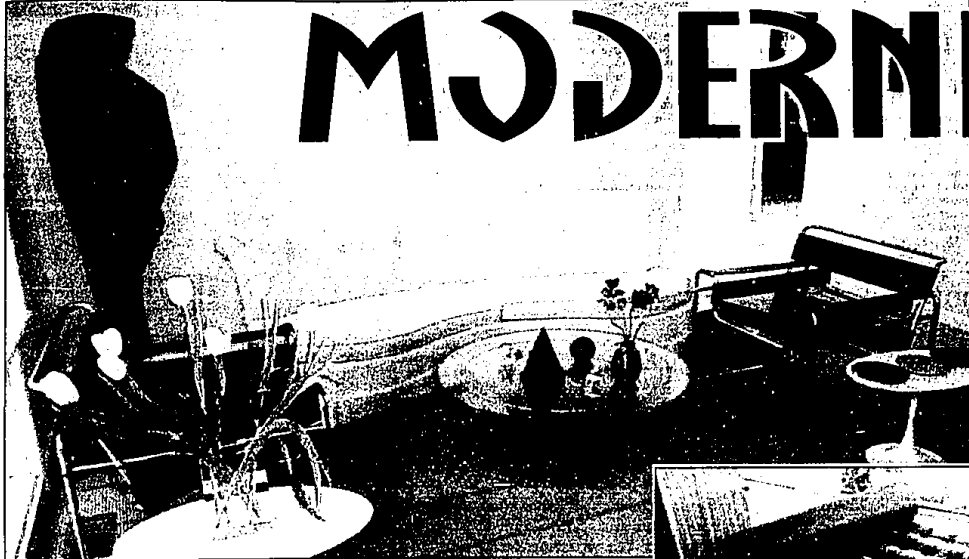


MODERNISM

DESIGNS
HAVE
STYLE,
STRENGTH
IN LINE



Going modern: Breuer chairs, Saarinen side tables and a Plattner coffee table are featured in this setting at Bob Kupfer's residence. Accessories in basic geometric shapes accent the smooth lines of modernism design.

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Everything today is thoroughly modern... To enthusiasts of the design style called modernism, those words are more than lyrics from a Julie Andrews movie.

Modernism is 20th century design clear of the ornamentation of the Victorian era.

It includes Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Streamline, Prairie School, Arts and Crafts, Industrial and Moderne styles. Among the designers are Frank Lloyd Wright, Louis Comfort Tiffany, Herman Miller, Heywood-Wakefield and the Stickleys.

"There's an explosion of desire (for modernism) now," said Cary Skoglund of Decades, an antique shop at 8070 N. Terrestrial in Plymouth specializing in modernism.

Decades also does refinishing and restoration. Among its recent Moderne projects are an Eames chair originally designed for the Time-Life Building, and a Heywood-Wakefield bureau set.

The annual Michigan Modernism Exposition is one of the top four shows of its kind in the country.

This year's event will take place Saturday, Sunday, April 28-29, again at the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen at Civic Center Drive (101/2 Mile). It will feature 78 of the nation's most prominent modernism merchants.

Nostalgia isn't the only element of mod-



ernism's appeal. The style's significance and strength are also involved.

"It's the combination of the industrial revolution and new and streamlined type processes," Skoglund said.

Skoglund's dining room contains a Mission style table and office chairs, he said.

"A lot of the modernism things are so very functional and so very durable," Skoglund said.

Going modern

Bob Kupfer has furnished his Bloomfield Hills residence with a variety of modernism pieces, some of which he bought at past Michigan modernism exhibitions.

"I've been drawn to it," said Kupfer, owner of Tiffany Florist in Birmingham.

"I tend to like symmetry and linear things."

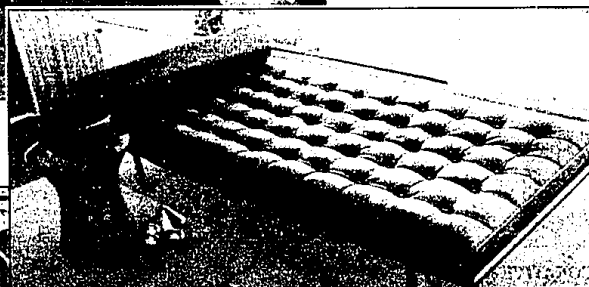
A setting in Kupfer's living room features chrome and black leather Wassily lounge chairs by Marcel Breuer, laminate and metal oval side tables by Eero Saarinen, and a nickel and glass coffee table by Warren Plattner.

Here, as elsewhere throughout the house, a grouping of accessories in basic geometric shapes accents the clean, smooth lines of modernism.

Nearby is a Mies van der Rohe daybed and a side table by Plattner.

In another room, colorful Art Nouveau silk-screens by E.A. Seguy line the walls. Also here are a white Venetian glass lamp by Knoll and a "snail" table — its base in a gentle curve — by Vladimir Kagan.

Another art work is the bright Italian poster advertising a cleaning service. Smaller



Setting: Above, a Mies van der Rohe daybed and Plattner side table are among the other modernism furnishings in Kupfer's residence. At left, Kupfer stands by his Italian poster that is another example of modernism.

pieces include a lamp crowned with glass fruit that glows softly.

Detroit deco

The Detroit Area Art Deco Society is among the annual participants in the exposition. This year, the DAADS will have a booth in celebration of Detroit's 300th birthday, showcasing examples of the city's designs from the Art Deco era.

An example of this heritage is the Telenews theater, which opened on Woodward in 1942 and was featured in the DAADS newsletter, *The Modern*, last fall.

The Telenews had a Streamlined Moderne facade in orange and turquoise terra cotta.

The theater was renamed the TeleArts in 1988

and closed three years later.

"It will surprise a lot of people,"

Susan Spilkin of DAADS said of the planned display.

"People tend to think of Detroit as (just) the 'Car city.'"

The DAADS was founded in 1986 by a group of collectors and enthusiasts

interested in the designs and preservation of the decorative objects,

architecture and style of the Art

Deco period.

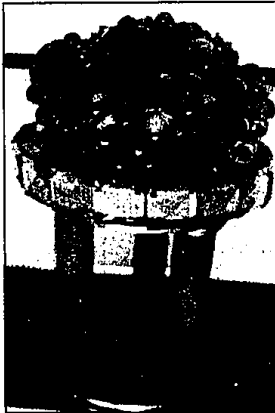
The society's eighth annual gala preview party for the modernism exposition will take place April 27 (see related story).

Hours of the Michigan Modernism Exposition will be 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. April 28 and noon to 5 p.m. April 29.

Admission is \$7 with any ads or listings of the event, \$8 regular, free for ages 12 and under. One paid admission is good for both days.

Previews are available at

www.antiquet.com/M&M



Light touch: This lamp, topped with glass fruit, emits a soft glow.



Artistic: This sculpture is an example of Art Deco school of design.

PHOTO BY JESSICA DIETZ



Thoroughly modern: Modernism style includes furniture and accessories.

PHOTO BY JESSICA DIETZ

JOE GAGNON

Oversight needed

The Appliance Doctor believes consumers need costs of repairs and labor spelled out on bills, so a new law is sorely needed.

See Home Work, Page 4

HARRY JACHYM

Fix a leak

Dig up that sprinkler system line to fix that leak with these simple instructions.

Home Work, Page 4

HOMETOWN LIFE:

Photographer feted:

Junebug Clark is Farmington's Artist in Residence for 2001.

HomeTown Life, Page 5