



artifacts
**David
Messing**

'New look' concept essential to artists

EVERY MORNING, while vacationing in Florida, I would rise at dawn and beat it down to the ocean. There I would sit on the beach with a thermos full of coffee and watch the ocean.

Usually I get out of bed at the crack of 8 a.m. So for me to rise at the "crack of dawn" was quite an accomplishment. What prompted me to do so was my fascination with the view. Everyday the beach had a new look. One day, for example, there were no waves at all and then the next day I viewed a pounding surf. One day there was huge beach and another day the water had risen to a breaker wall completely covering the beach. Sun sets were no exception to the "new look" concept. Every night I sat in the same spot and again the scene was always different — always a new look.

Talking about "new looks," I am a northern, cool-air kind of guy. So there I am — Michigan's version of Nantucket of the North — in a region that reaches 85 degrees by 9 a.m. One morning at 11:30 a.m., I scampered across the parking lot barefoot. The temperature was a mere 92 degrees and I swear that today I am one inch shorter because of that 20-second sprint.

SO UPON RETURNING to Michigan, I greeted our lousy, cloudy, rainy, cold and drizzly spring season with a new appreciation — and a sigh of relief.

Pewabic Pottery party

The board of trustees of the Pewabic Society will host "A Spring Party," Thursday, May 30, at the Pewabic Pottery, 10125 East Jefferson.

The 5-9 p.m. event will feature cocktails, buffet and entertainment. Guests will be able to tour the gallery and will be offered an opportunity to donate tiles bearing their names for a new floor which will be installed in the historic Jefferson Avenue studio, founded by late ceramist Mary Chase Stratton. The studio is a teaching facility, and exhibit gallery and production pottery.

The buffet will include dishes donated by leading local restaurants

Michigan Opera Theatre and The Houston Grand Opera have reached an agreement to present the English National Opera's recently acclaimed production of Offenbach's "Orpheus in the Underworld."

Praised by the London media that "English National Opera (ENO) has another hit on its hands," ENO's "Orpheus" boasts the colorful and whimsical scenic/costume designs of renowned English cartoon illustrator Gerald Scarfe.

Michigan Opera Theatre will be the first North American opera company to present this ENO production, scheduled to open Detroit opera season on Oct. 10 at the Fisher Theatre.

In his Michigan Opera Theatre debut, American stage director Peter Mark Schifter will recreate his recently

lauded ENO staging of this popular Offenbach favorite. Collaborating with Schifter will be Houston Grand Opera music director John DeMain, who will conduct the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra.

STAGED IN four acts, MOT and Houston's "Orpheus" production will include a cast of American singers, working with a new English translation of the French libretto, as developed by British playwright Snoe Wilson and theatre producer David Pountney.

In related casting news for the 1988/89 Michigan Opera Theatre season, the company's production of Puccini's "Madama Butterfly" will feature American tenors Rico Serbo and Walter MacNeil who will alternate in the role of Pinkerton. Joining

Serbo and MacNeil will be baritone George Massey as Sharpless.

American soprano Maria Spaccagna will sing the title role of Butterfly, to be presented at the Fisher Theatre, Oct. 24 to Nov. 1.

While casting for the company's production of "My Fair Lady" has not been completed, New York-based stage director Michael Montel will return to the MOT stage to direct and will be joined by set designer Robert O'Hearn to create new settings for this lavish Tony Award winning show from Broadway.

Michigan Opera Theatre will open "My Fair Lady" Nov. 14 to Dec. 7, at the Fisher Theatre in a four week limited run commemorating the work's 30th Anniversary. "My Fair Lady" last appeared on the professional Detroit stage in 1963.

MICHIGAN OPERA Theatre's new Spring International Grand Opera Series at the Masonic Temple Auditorium will be launched May 9-16, with a new production of Puccini's "Tosca."

Joining Mara Zampieri and Giacomo Aragall, will be American baritone Charles Long in the role of Baron Scarpia.

The season will include productions of "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," May 23-30, featuring Pablo Elvira, Judith Forst and Ana Berberian, and will conclude with a national co-production of Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess," June 3-7.

For complete subscription information to the 1988/89 season, please dial the MOT Subscription Hotline, 313-874-7888.

noteworthy

● LEISURE CLASSES

Interesting classes, unique workshops and an exquisite country setting make the Farmington Community Center the perfect place for summer classes. Registration is now under way for classes which will begin June 23.

Some of the offerings include a photography class with Monte Nagler; woodcarving with Tom Vandeveld; Tai Chi (Chinese relaxation) with Peter Roseman; and yoga with Jan Chikrida.

Golf lessons with PGA qualified instructors at the Top of the Tee are available. Karate for all ages, a new class for fitness and fun, is taught by Joe Olson.

Anatomy of a House, a new workshop, features Stan Bucher, a licensed builder and house inspector. Understanding baseball, for women only, is also an offering.

For more information and a complete list of classes, call the center at 477-8404. Brochures are available at the center, located just north of 10 Mile on Farmington Road.

● WORKERS CULTURE SCHOOL

The Labor Studies Center at the University of Michigan is sponsoring

the first worker's culture school in Michigan Thursday through Sunday, June 26-28 on the university's Ann Arbor campus.

Entitled "Arts In, Of, and From the Workplace," the school is designed for working people who are non-professional artists.

A three-day residential school, the event offers eight concurrent workshops: photography, video, labor songs and music, dance, drawing and painting, theater, creative writing and the print media arts.

Professional artist/instructors from Michigan and other parts of the country will work with participants in small, classroom setting where everyone will have an opportunity to share and develop their talents.

Tuition is \$125 before June 2 and \$150 thereafter. Registration forms and brochures can be obtained by calling the Labor Studies Center at 764-0492 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

● CHORAL OPPORTUNITY

The Dearborn Recreation, Fine Arts Division, is offering a summer choral opportunity.

For more information or to register in advance, call 943-2354. There is a \$5 registration fee and all music will be provided.

Autographing their books

Harold Kushner, author of the best-selling, "When Bad Things Happen to Good People," will be at Birmingham Bookstore 1:30-2:30 p.m. Monday to autograph his new book, "When You've Ever Wanted Isn't Enough."

Robert Parker, author of the best-selling "Spenser" mystery novels will be at the book store noon to 2 p.m. Monday, June 16, to autograph his new book, "Taming a Seahorse." Birmingham Bookstore is at 263 Pierce, Birmingham.



Leszek Bartkiewicz is a Polish emigre and an award-winning pianist who has become a well-known figure in the Detroit area musical scene.

Concert to benefit child

Detroit area pianist Leszek Bartkiewicz will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Clarkson United Methodist Church to benefit a 2-year-old Clarkson boy who needs a bone marrow transplant.

Bartkiewicz, who teaches at Detroit Community School, is also the first artist-in-residence, sponsored by Actna Insurance Co. of Troy. The cause, the Hope for the Future Fund for Bryan Michael Wrightman,

appealed to Bartkiewicz, who is donating his time and talent, as well as to Paul Smiley of Smiley Brothers, who is loaning a grand piano for the concert.

The program will include works by Bach, Schubert, Liszt, Chopin and Kreisler as well as the Rhapsody in Blue by George Gershwin.

Tickets are \$5 each, and the donation is deductible. The church is at 6600 Walden, Clarkston.



BEAUTIFUL 2 ACRE LOT surrounds this charming 3 bedroom home in Farmington Hills. Too many features to list include living room, walk-out basement, deck, and fireplace in living room. \$115,000. 477-1111.



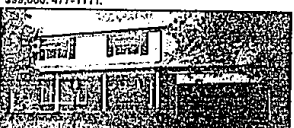
4 BEDROOM RANCH. Immaculate ranch with separate master suite for possible in-law use. Central air, 2 full baths, large lot and immediate occupancy. Seller may pay buyers closing costs. \$54,500. 477-1111.



GORGEOUS COUNTRY LOT. Beautiful country area close to schools and shopping. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths. Great Room with fireplace. Full partially finished basement. \$54,500. 477-1111.



THREE ACRES OF PRIVACY with unique home of unusual design. Definitely for the special buyer. 3 wooded acres with stream, remodeled kitchen, living room and bedroom with fireplace. Immediate Occupancy. \$80,000. 477-1111.



COLONY PARK COLONIAL. Immaculately kept 4 bedroom Colonial on beautifully landscaped lot with mature trees. Central air, full basement and simple assumption. Quick occupancy, move-in condition. \$144,000. 477-1111.



MAINTENANCE FREE 3 bedroom, bath, large family room, dining room, 2nd car wired garage. Nice large fenced-in lot. Immediate possession. Listed below the assessed value. \$53,500. 851-1600.



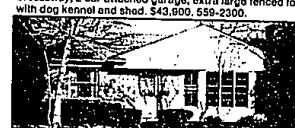
FARMINGTON HILLS - Charm, character, neat and clean describes this 2 bedroom home. Country setting with beautiful private tree lot. Updated kitchen, Anderson windows and lots of extra storage. \$61,500. 851-1900. (ALY)



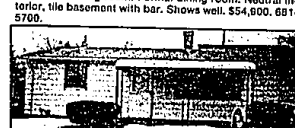
BE YOUR OWN LANDLORD. 3 Bedroom brick ranch, 1 1/2 baths, carpet, finished basement with wet bar, library in basement. Be the first to call on this comfortable home. \$46,000. 558-2300.



COZY STARTER. 2 Bedroom, Cape Cod, doorwall to patio off living room, updated kitchen, tiled foyer, breezeway, 2 car attached garage, extra large fenced lot with dog kennel and shed. \$43,900. 558-2300.



CHARMING BRICK RANCH. Absolutely charming brick ranch in tree family neighborhood. Beautiful natural fireplace in living room. Formal dining room. Neutral interior, tile basement with bar. Shows well. \$54,800. 881-5700.



3 BEDROOM RANCH in Walled Lake. Family room, woodburning furnace to cut down on your utilities. Washer and dryer included. Large 24x24 garage with 8 foot overhead door. Fenced yard. \$57,900. 348-5430.



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SUPER STARTER HOME. Maintenance free 3 bedroom, 1 bath ranch, neutral decor. Fers in all bedrooms + plus attic fan and garage. \$44,000. 851-1900. (JAC)



PERFECT 2 BEDROOM RANCH home for young professionals or retirees. MINT condition well built, includes natural fireplace, formal dining room and Florida room. \$72,900. 851-1900. (BUN)