

Already tired and grumpy from too much holiday shopping? Well just plop down on the couch and let us throw a tape into the VCR for you. Several comedians have released live performances on videocassette. For more information, please turn to Video Viewing on 2D.

STREET SCENE

Trends have us seein' European

By Debbie Sklar
special writer

Europe (your'ep) — Continent between Asia & Atlantic Ocean; the Ural Mountains are generally considered the E boundary; c. 3,750,000 sq. mi.; pop. c. 620,000,000. Webster's definition of Europe may be bland, but if you're one of the lucky ones to have vacationed there than you already know how magical a place it is. And did you know that many of the things that you loved about Europe can be found right here in America?

True, we may love to slip into faded Levis and an oversized sweatshirt at the end of a long workday, but when it comes to real fashion, we Americans "live" for European designs.

"What's coming out of Europe are jeans, but the more holes, rips and shreds they have the better," said Lois Levenson, owner of Guy's 'n Dolls in West Bloomfield's Orchard Lake Mall. "Designers are dubbing it the street look and it's the hottest thing to hit America."

When it comes to designing clothing, American fashion designers "borrow" their ideas from their colleagues across the sea, she said.

"When American designers design their own fashions, they study European ones before they start," she said. "They may copy the sleeve of one blouse, the lapel of another and the buttons of yet another."

"What makes European designs so exciting is the fact that they are so far advanced. They're always a couple of years ahead; they're so much more fashion forward."

LEVENSON, WHOSE store is decorated a la New York City warehouse style and caters to "ageless" fashion connoisseurs, has noticed a change in many of her customers' color choices for the fall.

"There used to be a time when my customers wouldn't even look at Kelly green; they turned their noses up," she said. "But this season, the deep brown and green tones directly from Europe are the biggest sellers and so is Kelly green — it's rather amazing."

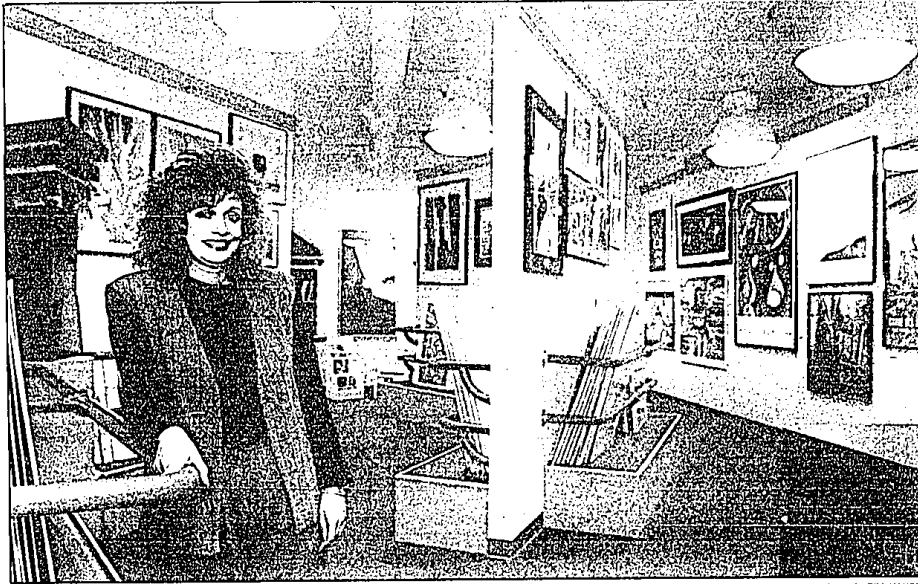
Other hot items with a European flair are loose fitting women's blouses laden with baroque and other antique-like buttons, hair ornaments in gold and black and turtlenecks for men and boys.

Sure, Gucci, Pucci and Fiorucci have influenced our way of dress, but haute couture isn't the only influence Europe has brought to America — how about art.

According to Linda Hayman, owner of the new Linda Hayman Gallery/Art Poster Co. in Farmington Hills Americans are changing their life styles.

"There used to be a time when contemporary was the biggest thing in home decor, but now people are getting back to their roots," she said. "They want something a little bit more homey and that's where European influence in decor comes in."

Hayman's gallery, which has hundreds of frames ranging from ultra-modern to the very elaborate and or-



photos by BILL HANSEN

Linda Hayman of the Linda Hayman Gallery/Art Poster Co. in Farmington Hills can see the European influence showing up in home decorating as people move away from modern designs and back to their "roots."

nate, caters to a diverse crowd.

"MANY OF my customers are realizing that it's all right to mix contemporary with traditional," she said. "That's how many of the homes in Europe are decorated — very eclectic."

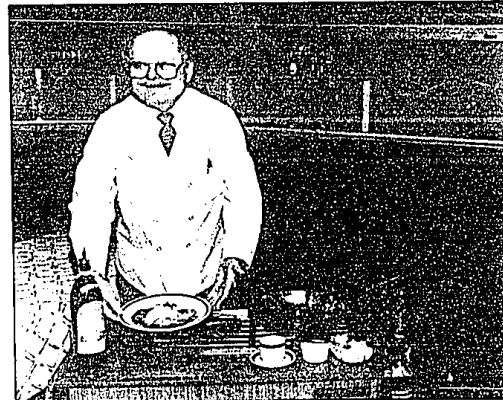
At first glance, you feel the boundless energy of art when you enter the gallery. The expanse of the new gallery — it recently moved from the La Mirage Mall in Southfield to The Courtyard in Farmington Hills — offers unlimited choices for the novice to the eclectic art collector.

The gallery offers an extensive line of fine art, including a wide selection of lithographs and oils. Artists represented include Neil Loeb, Tom Wesselman plus many others. They also carry an array of posters, including museum posters for Monet, Picasso, Rembrandt and many 20th century artists.

Hayman agrees that the gallery itself has somewhat of an European flair to it.

"The ceilings are very high and there is a wide range of art on all of the walls," she said. "We sell mostly posters, but I'm trying to incorporate more art into the inventory."

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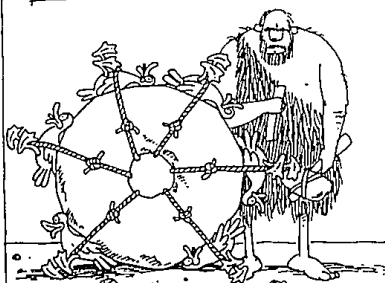


Walter Maeder, owner and general manager of the Bijou Restaurant in Southfield, offers up a French dessert crepe, prepared at the table.

Warp Factor

Karlos Barney

Evolution of the Wheel Part VII:



Early Rain Tire.

Places that have the holiday spirit

I'm a sucker for sentimental stories, the kind that bring tears to your eyes.

I love hearing once again about Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates. I like to watch people make Christmas wreaths and cut their own trees.

And if that isn't enough to attract me to the Christmas Tree Festival in west Michigan, all I have to do is think about Bill Struyk of radio station WGHN in Grand Haven and his Christmas project, "Trees for Troops."

The Ottawa County Christmas Tree Festival will be celebrated through Sunday, Dec. 16, in the towns of Grand Haven, Holland and Zeeland, as well as other communities throughout this Lake Michigan county.

Michigan's Christmas tree industry began and grew in Ottawa County. The Scotch pine was planted to stabilize the shifting sandy soils along the Lake Michigan shore line, but it didn't take long for local families to start using the pines as Christmas trees.

Give a tree farmer a few customers, and the next thing you know he



Sleigh rides are always enjoyable this time of year.

Hayman said Europeans have "a wonderful way of incorporating art into their lives."

"I've noticed that Americans are starting to catch on to that concept as well," she said. "It's definitely true that Europeans have influenced

America when it comes to art."

YES, THEY MAY have influenced our clothing and the design of our living quarters, but nothing has had more influence than their cuisine. Sure, hamburgers, hot dogs and

potato salad are all right for those good old American holidays like Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, but what about intimate dinners? One certainly doesn't serve hot dogs with mustard and relish for a romantic candlelight dinner.

According to Walter Maeder, general manager and proprietor of the Bijou, one of the Detroit area's most touted restaurants, "Americans love European cuisine no matter how you look at it."

Maeder, a native of Switzerland, has been in the United States since the 1950s and said his clients (who range from high powered CEOs to radio disc jockeys) particularly like European cuisine because many of them have been there and feel they can regain that European flavor by "dining on a wonderful meal."

"I think by dining at the Bijou, they feel that magic once again that they experience while in Europe," he said.

Maeder has owned the Bijou (that's French for a jewel) since 1981. The restaurant serves con-

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