

Creative Living

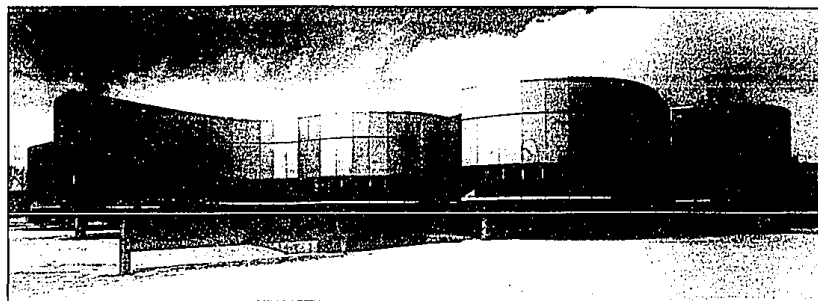


Monday, April 9, 1990 O&E

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exhibitions

- **Atrium Gallery**
Contemporary images and mixed media of European artist Liliya Pavlovic-Dear will be on exhibit at the Atrium Gallery, 113 N. Center (around the back) Northville. Gallery hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Bell Art Center**
Paintings, sculpture and graphics by Vasarely, art to wear jewelry and 20th century sculpture, paintings and graphics are currently on display, 5980 Rochester, Troy.
- **Four Winds Gallery**
"Santa Fe Style," a show of what's hot in the Southwest in terms of folk art, sculpture, prints and jewelry, is on display through April 30. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 340 E. Maple, Birmingham.
- **Chameleon Galleries**
Chameleon Galleries is now exhibiting fused glass plates by Paul Hathcoat, copper reduction and line series glass vessels by Mark Suduth, fused glass fans and kimonos by Fred Munro and paperweights, perfume bottles and eggs by Eckholt Glass. The gallery is at 370 S. Main, Plymouth. Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday.
- **Chaika Gallery**
New gallery specializing in art from Ukraine, Eastern Europe as well as U.S. and Canada, is owned by Myra Kowal Dutkewych of West Bloomfield. Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, until 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, 26459 Ryan, south of I-196, Warren.
- **Preston/Felgenson Gallery**
New work by Tom Bills, Paul Schwarz and James Stephens is on display through April 24. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 796 N. Woodward, Birmingham.
- **Detroit Focus**
Glass installations by Charles Bird, Larry Cressman and Suzi Sureck are on display through April 20. Hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 743 Beaubien, Detroit.
- **Rochester City Hall**
Paintings by Susan Jager are on display at Rochester Hills City Hall through April. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 1000 Rochester Hills Drive, off Avon, Rochester Hills.
- **Galeria Blasas**
"Stark Allegories" by Keith Sterling, Jorge Galvez and Robert Hansen are on display through May 23. Hours are 4-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 35 Grand River East, Detroit.
- **Sybaris Gallery**
Works in clay by Carole Aoki, Christina Bertoni (Cranbrook Academy of Art graduate) and Philip Cornelius are on display May 5. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 391 W. Fourth, Royal Oak.
- **Detroit Institute of Arts**
American paintings from the Manooch Collection are on display through May 27. The 70 paintings from these Grosse Pointe collectors represent some of the greatest American artists — Eakins, Cole, Peale, Bierstadt, Sargent, Chase and Prendergast. There is an admission charge for this special exhibit which is open 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, 5200 Woodward, Detroit.
- **Swidler Gallery**
Glass jewelry, handblown by Elisabeth Carey and worked by Gloria Barroso and Barbara Bell are on display through April 28. Also translucent porcelain vessels by Curtis and Susan Benzie. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, until 9 p.m. Friday and 5 p.m. Saturday, 308 W. Fourth, Royal Oak.
- **Meadow Brook Gallery**
"Michele Oka Doner at Mid-Career," continues through May 20. While this sculptor now lives in New York, the 18 years she has lived in Michigan had a major impact upon her approach to her art. Her work is in major public and private collections. Hours are 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 2-6:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday 7-8:30 p.m. on the evenings of Meadow Brook Theatre performances, Oakland University, Rochester.
- **Detroit Gallery of Contemporary Crafts**
New ceramic works by Susan Garson and Tom Pakele are on display, 104 Fisher Building, Detroit.
- **Yaw Gallery**
Jewelry by Falk Burger is on display through April 7. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 550 N. Woodward, Birmingham.
- **Powabic Pottery**
Works in clay by Anne Currier and Wayne Higby are on display through April 21. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 10125 E. Jefferson, Detroit.
- **Willis Gallery**
Works by Christine Burchnell, David Marlon and Mike Slattery who showed at the now-defunct Peterboro Gallery of Detroit are on display through April 4. Hours are 2-6 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 422 W. Willis, Detroit.
- **K.C. Larson Galleries**
"Viennese Secessionist Design" featuring works by the leaders of the movement, Josef Hoffmann, Koloman Moser, Otto Prutscher, Dagobert Peche and Gustav Siegel. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 211 N. Woodward, Birmingham.
- **Danielle Peleg Gallery**
"New Works on Paper" by Cynthia Knapp continues through April 12. Her works, pastels on paper, are abstract, Crosswinds Mall, 4501 Orchard Lake, Suite 103, West Bloomfield.
- **Joy Emery Gallery**
Prints by Howard Hodgkin of London, England, are on display through April 12. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, until 8 p.m. Thursday, 131 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.



The form of the Museum of Glass in Corning, N.Y. (left) is an analogy to glass itself, which flows in its molten state, but is highly structured crystal when cool. (Below) The model of the Marge Monaghan House on Drummond Island illustrates how the architect drew on natural forms in the landscape. The structure will be wood frame sheathed in copper.

Gunnar Birkerts closes one door, opens another

By Joan Kerner
special writer

A building, according to Gunnar Birkerts, is more than four walls and a roof. It is symbolism and metaphor created by an architect combining site, budget, finances, technology and his own background, said Birkerts, an internationally known architect, based in Birmingham.

Buildings lasting a hundred years or more become part of history, he said.

Birkerts, professor of architecture at the University of Michigan, spoke recently at the Chrysler auditorium on North Campus. The College of Architecture and Design honored the retiring professor by selecting him to present its John Dinkelo Memorial Lecture.

Birkerts elaborated on his technique of building design which creates buildings of symbolism and metaphor designed to fit specific situations.

He said, "I refer to my design methodology as organic synthesis, synthesizing all the factors that need to be considered in the design project in order to arrive at the appropriate architectural solution. It has the ingredients . . . of the building site, its location, the regional position, geographical position, its orientation, the building program, the building budget, the available technology."

THE FINAL INGREDIENT he said, is zeitgeist, a combination of "the recognition of the time we live in" and the background of the architect. All of these factors combine or synthesize to create the buildings which are metaphorical and symbolic and fit in the place selected for them.

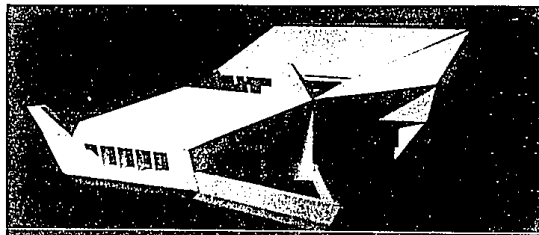
One example of symbolism and metaphor in Birkerts' work is the Corning Museum in Corning, N.Y. Created for the Corning glass company, the outside of the building features reversing half-circles in an amorphous design, much like an amoeba. This apparently wandering design represents, according to Birkerts, the molten form of glass. The museum is built entirely of glass.

"If we could have used cat's eye marbles instead of gravel on the roof, we would have," he said.

Illustrating his lecture with slides, he demonstrated several meanings of the circle. For example, the circular library at Cornell University, represents the extent of knowledge. Protrusions in the circle show the continuing search for knowledge.

In Wyoming, the circular shape of the historical center represents the circle of the wagons formed each evening by the settlers crossing the state. The Iowa law school library Birkerts created based on a circle represents the law as one of the purest professions.

A building representing both me-



taphor and the use of the site and local building materials is the U.S. Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela, he said. The building is "not traditional federal architecture" rather, it blends with the mountains in the background. The building is reinforced with the use of local granite in its facade. The design of the building reflects the shapes of the mountains and accommodates the chosen site.

Birkerts explained that the house he designed for Mrs. Monaghan uses copper on the outside and wood on the inside utilizing two of Michigan's natural materials.



Gunnar Birkerts

HE ALSO DESCRIBED his design of a soccer stadium just outside of Venice. To aid crowd control, he created a spider-like building with eight entrance-exit ramps to funnel crowds in and out effectively.

A native of Latvia, Birkerts received the Diplom-Igneur Architects from the Technische Hochschule in Stuttgart, Germany in 1949. Following graduation, he came to the United States and worked for Perkins and Will in Chicago. Prior to opening his office in Birmingham in 1959 he worked for Euro Saarinen in Bloomfield Hills and for Moser

Birkerts, always in demand as architect and teacher, said that while his retirement from the U-M faculty won't actually give him any 'free time,' he will be able to consider answering the many requests he has from all over the world to speak and give workshops and seminars.

New leasing concept can ease work load

Q: I started a small retail shop two years ago which has become very successful. I have two clerks and now I'm having to spend so much time doing book work, tax forms, etc. that my sales volume is suffering because I can't devote enough time to it. How can I spend more time doing what I want to do and less time on book-keeping drudgery?

A: A simple rule for success is to concentrate your efforts on the work you do best and delegate tasks you don't do as well. This would seem especially desirable in your case.

A recent Small Business Administration report estimated the average manager spends from seven percent to 23 percent of his/her time handling employee-related government requirements. To avoid this huge time commitment, you have several alternatives. 1) You can hire a new employee to do your payroll or 2) pay an outside bookkeeping service to do it for you.

A third alternative is a fairly new concept of leasing employees. Not to be confused with temporary leasing, employees work for you but are technically hired and paid by an employee leasing company. All you do is write the leasing company one check periodically and it handles all the payroll, worker's compensation insurance and taxes (FICA, FUTA, MESS) including quarterly reports, W-2's, etc. It also offers the opportunity to be included in a choice of benefit plans which you could not afford to provide on your own, along with a myriad of other advantages. In turn you can attract and retain better employees.

Employee leasing began in 1972 and was considered a legal loophole while "Safe Harbor" laws were in effect from 1983 through 1985. It now offers legal tax advantages to employees and employers, but is no longer considered a tax shelter.

The National Staff Leasing association has some 135 accredited company members in the U.S. who must adhere to a standard code of ethics. Tom Dennis, president of the new Staffco Services Inc. of Bloomfield Hills, says his company can not only relieve you of payroll headaches while saving you time, it can actually increase your employee dollar outlay in most cases.

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Dennis and vice president Pamela Zawicki told me that, among still other advantages, they can reduce exposure to employee/government lawsuits, assist in screening applicants and even handle severance notification when asked to do so. This contract arrangement can be utilized by businesses with one employee or several hundred.

Whichever alternative you choose, I strongly encourage you to assign your payroll/book-keeping tasks to someone else and focus your talents on sales.

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