

State art fest warms ice show

By Linda Ann Chomin
Special writer

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is exhibiting winning and selected artwork from Michigan Art '92. Its third statewide fine arts competition that began Wednesday and continues through Monday, Jan. 20, in Saxton's Showroom, 587 W. Ann Arbor Trail, adjacent to Kellogg Park.

Running concurrently with the Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular, the exhibit features 30 two- and three-dimensional pieces by fine artists working in a variety of media throughout Michigan.

Among the Oakland County artists participating are Janus Denda of Farmington Hills, watercolor monoprint; Susan Carmen of Birmingham, oil; John P. Harnois of Farmington Hills, lithograph; Thomas Keno of Farmington, pen and ink; Elizabeth Maigans of Bloomfield Hills, collagraph; and Catherine Poet of Royal Oak, mixed media.

"The Plymouth Community Arts Council is very excited about presenting Michigan Art '92. It gives people a chance to see what Michigan artists are doing and there's a variety of media there. It's a very high quality show," said Doris Chatterley, event co-chairman with Janet Campbell.

Juror for Michigan Art '92 is Mary Stephenson, assistant curator for the Department of Twentieth Century Art at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

STEPHENSON was an assistant curator and Michigan Artists Program coordinator at the DIA since 1987. She earned master of arts and master of fine arts degrees at

Wayne State University and a certificate of museum practice at Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies, University of Michigan.

AT AN opening reception Tuesday, the arts council honored winning artists with awards, including a Best of Show and a Purchase Award, totaling \$2,000. The \$250 Purchase Award will honor a painting selected to be permanently included in the arts council's Art Rental Gallery.

Stephenson picked the Best of Show. She worked with Therese Gall, gallery chairwoman, to present the Purchase Award.

A sponsor since the competition's inception, Michigan National Bank contributed in part to making cash awards possible.

The Michigan Council for the Arts also is an event supporter.

"Many local businesses including Michigan National, Saxton's and Cafe Bon Homme have contributed in kind to making Michigan Art '92 a reality," Chatterley said.

All artwork in the exhibition is for sale. Prices range from \$150 to \$3,000.

Exhibition hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Monday to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 455-5260.

"We hope the competition and exhibition will become an annual event," Chatterley said. "There are many talented fine artists in Michigan."

Exhibit to celebrate life of versatile artist at 99

"Beatrice Wood combines her colors like a painter, makes them vibrate like a musician." Anais Nin wrote.

"They have strength even while iridescent and transparent. They have rhythm and the luster both of jewels and of human eyes. Water pulled from one of her jars would taste like wine."

An exhibition starting Saturday, Jan. 18, at the Susanne Hilbery Gallery, 555 S. Woodward in Birmingham, celebrates the 99th birthday of this remarkable artist.

It will focus on both aspects of Wood's work by presenting for the first time both her whimsical figurative drawings and sculptures, as well as the stunning In-glaze luster vessels that have gained her international renown.

Softcover, autographed copies of Wood's autobiography, "I Shock Myself," will be for sale. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Call 642-8250 for information.

DURING THE teens, Wood was a draftsman and member of the New York Dada circle that included Marcel Duchamp, Francis Picabia and



Beatrice Wood work has many aspects

Walter and Louise Arensberg, the pioneering collectors of vanguard art.

Shifting careers in 1933, Wood took up ceramics. In the early 1950s, living in California, she began to produce the extraordinary luster surfaces that have been a primary characteristic of her mature work.

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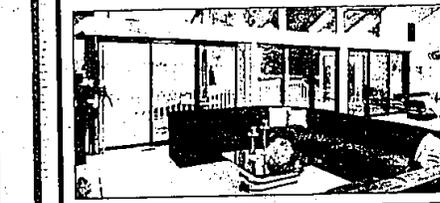
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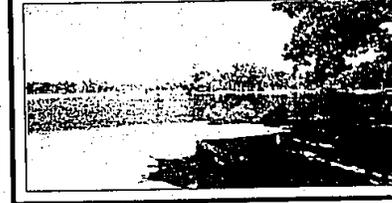
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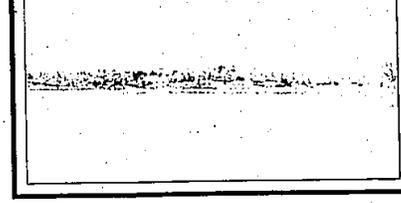
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