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"The American Way" by Thomas Ingmire of San Francisco combines a rendering of an American flag with newspapers and printed words. Words from the Bill of Rights are featured.

Graham weaves narrow strips of words into a colorful mat. Nadezhda Varyshchikova of Moscow paints and shades outlines of figures with written words.

In "Cross," a work in enamel and tempera on cardboard by Aleksandr Grishkov of Moscow, a cross is formed by a red splash in the center of a white and a black background.

"Sound of Thunder" by Judy Doerick arranges a line from "Finnegan's Wake" with letters that are small at the beginning, burst into a larger size and then taper into a smaller size at the end.

Some works quote familiar sources, including the Bible, Shakespeare and poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko. Others make their own statement, as the gouche piece by Michael Keeseg of Chicago. Keeseg's work features the question, "When will the nuclear madness end?" in jagged black letters, outlined in red, that radiate a warning.

"Alphabet of Bones" by Detroit native Joyce Cutler Shaw, now of La Jolla, Calif., features a series of 26 letters made up of drawings of pigeon skeletal forms. Each row seems to move across the page.

Not all letters are written. Black letters may be cut out of strips, or an X-acto blade may have traced part of the outline so the letters seem like resting butterflies.



Flourishing art: "Composition I," in watercolor and ink, by Boris Sennosky of Moscow, shows the graceful imagery of calligraphy.

History

Calligraphy and literature had a close relationship in the history of Russian graphic art. The book in

manuscript form survived the introduction of book printing in ancient Russia. A 19th century Russian philosopher called a cursive form of calligraphy "running writing."

In the United States, calligraphy

flourished from the early 1900s into the '50s, then waned. Interest in calligraphy has expanded in the last 15 years.

Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call 858-0184.

Calligraphers conference set at OU

Oakland University in Rochester hosts MOSAIC, the 12th International Assembly of Lettering Artists, July 11-19.

Calligraphers from various countries will attend classes, lectures and exhibits. Openings are still available in many classes.

"The conference is an opportunity for calligraphers of all skill levels to enhance their love of letters," said Camille Schwark of Rochester Hills, director of the MOSAIC steering committee.

Sixty calligraphers from around the world including Russia, Yugoslavia, England and Ireland will offer classes to more than 350 partici-

pants. Among the U.S. instructors are William Bostick of Franklin, Elaine Graham of Farmington Hills and Jaci Sullivan of Rochester Hills.

"Calligrapher USA/USSR," an exhibit coordinated by the International Typeface Corp. of New York, will have its first U.S. showing at the Galleria in Pontiac during the week of the conference. Several Michigan artists are represented among the 150 pieces that successfully toured Russia before the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Several exhibits are planned for Meadow Brook Gallery on the OU campus, including a Lothar Hoff-

man retrospective, and a daily-changing display in the cafeteria.

Hoffman, chairman of the graphic design department at the Center for Creative Studies, is the honorary chairman of MOSAIC. The Detroit Institute of Arts will display that same week an outstanding collection of ancient manuscripts. All exhibits are open to the public. For details, call Virginia Lee Clark at 518-2743.

Local calligraphy guilds, such as the Michigan Association of Calligraphers, help encourage the art.

"One of the goals of the MAC is education," Schwark said.

Gallery brews events for Saturday

The Swidler Gallery, 308 W. Fourth in Royal Oak, will host its second morning event, "First Cup of the Day: Beauty Through Use," a show that embraces the esthetics of utilitarian objects, Saturday, July 11.

Between 9:30 a.m. and noon, the public may enjoy a cup of tea or coffee served in a handmade cup chosen by the viewer from the 200 on display. The event will continue noon to 1 p.m. with a lecture, "From Bean to Brew: Making the Perfect

Pot of Coffee," by Howard Davis, Coffee Express Co. representative.

Forty-five artists from the United States and Canada will be represented, including Michael Crumb of Rochester Hills, and John Glick and Susie Symons of Farmington Hills. The cups will be for sale, ranging in price from \$15 to \$250. For more information, call the gallery at 542-4880.

Ceramic cups are common objects in most households. Including those that are part of complete services and the one-of-a-kind mug,

most families own approximately 40. It is a form that has been used for thousands of years in all cultures.

As functional pots, cups command tactile sensations of both the hand and the lip. One might look at the latter as lip to lip, a more personal/sensual response. This event will focus on the importance of handmade functional cups as it builds a dialogue for understanding simple life-affirming experiences we often ignore.

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For additional information or a private showing please contact Linda Friedman...332-2525

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Learn how to write creatively

Cranbrook P.M. is taking registration for its creative writing workshop, "Creative Writing: Inventing the Invisible."

The workshop, for beginners and experienced writers, will be 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 1-2. Fee is \$80. To register, call Cranbrook P.M. in Bloomfield Hills at 631-2025.

Margo LaGuttata of the Goodard Writing Program, Vermont College, will conduct this experimental

workshop in writing. LaGuttata is the author of published poetry collections and a forthcoming new book, "The Dream Givers," and is a creative process teacher.

Using many techniques to tap into the doorway of the senses — the right hemisphere of the brain — participants will discover the powerful journey into the imagination. The workshop can help undo writer's block.

Paper marbling class slated

The Point Creek Center for the Arts offers a one-day adult workshop, "Turkish Paper Marbling," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 25. Participants will explore the

beautiful process of Turkish paper marbling. Registration deadline is Saturday, July 18. For more information, call the PCCA at 651-4110.

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