

CREATIVE LIVING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1992

D

DOWN TO EARTH



MARTY FIGLEY

Gardeners can reap from history lesson

Gardens of America, Three Centuries of Design," Diane Kostial McGuire (Thomasson-Grant, \$19.98), is a visual history of how Americans have adapted European style gardens in this country.

The best examples throughout the United States are represented, from Bartram's in Philadelphia to Thomas Church's in California, and others he designed. Visit famous Paen House, Monticello, Victorian flower gardens such as Celia Thaxter's on Appledore Island and plantations. The aerial photo of Mount Vernon is superb.

McGuire, an award-winning landscape architect, eloquently relays some of the reasons behind the designs. Garden history comes alive. These gardens will inspire.

Making arrangements

"Leonard Tharp: An American Style of Flower Arrangement," Lisa Ruffin, photos by Norinder Sall (Taylor Publishing, \$35), is a coffee-table sized book that shouldn't be put there just to impress. Rather, it should be enjoyed often to learn about the unusual style of flower arranging Tharp creates.

His combinations of flowers and all their parts set him apart; all are impressive from his very simple designs to more elaborate ones.

"The entire flower should be considered in all its constituent parts and in every phase of its life," he said.

In "Growing Roses for Small Gardens," Michael Gibson (Timber Press, \$27.50), we learn that roses can be used anywhere in the garden and there are ones that will work in small areas.

His ideas for displays are clever, although this English writer may confuse Americans when he refers to specific English soil mixes and other horticultural practices. An especially nice book for an English friend.

"Iusta, The Flowering Foliage Plant," Diane Grenfell (Timber Press, \$39.95), traces the history of this plant beginning in 1712 when an account of how it was first published.

The book details the work on the genus that botanists have done and explains how the nomenclature has been so disorganized. Descriptions of the species are full. Excellent botanical drawings and some striking photos are included.

Detailing gardens

Simon & Schuster has published a set of four small books, "The Library of Garden Detail" (\$9.95 each).

A particular design element of the garden is focused in each one: "The Garden Bench," Maribel Osler; "The Garden Gate," Rosemary Verey; "The Garden Path," Patrick Taylor; and "The Garden Trellis," Roy Strong.

The authors trace the history of their subject and the color photographs illustrate how lovely gardens can be with the proper use and placement of accessories, whether of a simple or elaborate design. Carry them to your garden and imagine using the stunning ideas.

"G is for GARDEN, A Healthy Garden from A to Z," Nigel Dudley and Sue Stickland (Avon Books, \$10, paper), has used every word associated with gardening beginning with Acaricide ("any pesticide used against spiders and mites") and ending with Zineb ("a widely used fungicide... try cultural control instead"). The book touches safe ways to garden using a 100-percent organic approach. Very thorough.

Also by Avon Books, "NK Lawn & Garden Step-by-Step Visual Guides," a series of books pertaining to many facets of gardening (\$6.95 each, paper).

The first six are "Garden Fresh Vegetables," "Caring for Lawns," "Improving Garden Soils," "Landscape Gardening," "Beautiful Roses" and "My First Garden Book." They all give very good basic instructions and are filled with color illustrations and examples. Solid information. This series will have 24 books.

Magic touch

The name Rosetta E. Clarkson is familiar to all herb lovers. "Magic Gardens," first published in 1939, has been reissued by Collier Books/Macmillan (\$12.95, paper).

This classic is filled with lore, medicinal "cures" and other uses for these plants, using information gleaned from old herbal and gardening books, some of it in the original writing style. Ideas for gardens of herbs and herbs in the symbolism and culinary herbs are here. Gardening tips will teach as well as entertain.

My Dillylicious and Mustardicious mixes are now available in Birmingham at Brown Street Market, 407 W. Brown; Pasta del Panta, 31109 Greenfield; and Birmingham Community Market, 130 W. 14 Mile. Ask for them when you go in. Look for the "Naturally, Marty" label.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham.

Show shares legacy

An exhibition at the Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum offers a look into the esthetics of Cranbrook founder George Booth. It features objects he selected for the original Museum Art Collection of 1930 and others made by the artists he appointed to the craft studios between 1927 and 1932.

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Perhaps the word "museum" is a little too ambitious for the group of objects here," Cranbrook founder George Booth said of the international assortment of works for Cranbrook's original Museum Art Collection

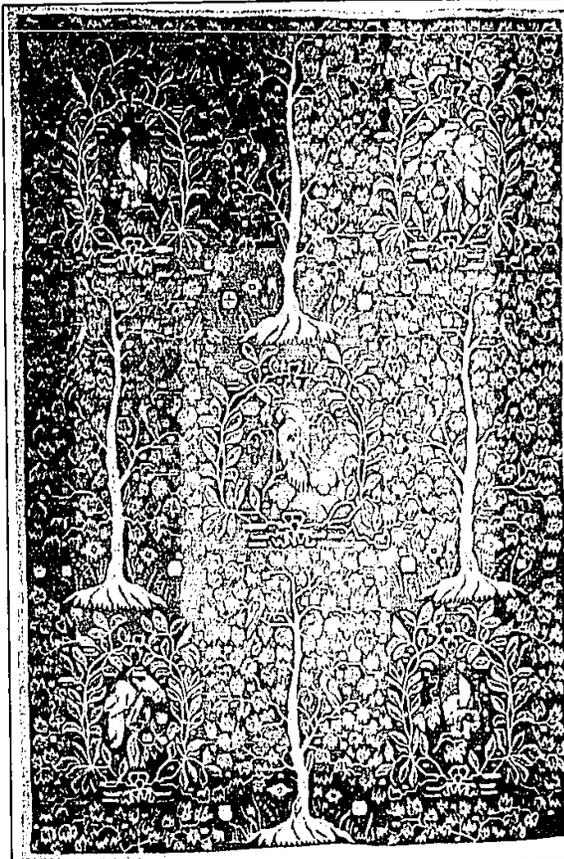
CRANBROOK

of 1930. "But rather, it is a collection of material primarily suitable for the use of students and enjoyment of the people of the community."

That was a modest account of what was to become a magnificent embodiment of the idea of a community where artists could live and work.

The art collection is now part of an exhibit, "A Glorious Finale: The Arts and Crafts Movement at Cranbrook, 1927-1932," at the Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, 500 Lone Pine Road in Bloomfield Hills, through Nov. 1. Booth was one of the leading proponents in America of the arts and crafts movement. He was a founding member of the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts in 1906, and was instrumental in the formation of the society's art school, today the Center for Creative Studies.

Booth chose some of the pieces for the Cranbrook museum collection. Others were made by the artists he named to Cranbrook's Craft Studios, which later became the art academy, between



1927 and 1932. Booth also donated money, his Cranbrook estate and books on art and architecture to the artists community.

The exhibit celebrates the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Cran-

brook Academy of Art and the 50th anniversary of the opening of the art museum in the current building, which was designed by Cranbrook resident architect and art academy president Eliel Saarinen.

Selected art: You have to look closely to see the 13 parrots in the intricate work of this blanket, one of the pieces now on display in "A Glorious Finale: The Arts and Crafts Movement at Cranbrook, 1927-1932." The exhibit at the Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum in Bloomfield Hills features items chosen by Cranbrook founder George Booth for the original museum art collection more than 60 years ago.

Adventures await

Viewing the display is embarking on a variety of adventures. It's a way of

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Tradition sparkles in new pottery



Ancient tradition: New Mexico ceramic artist Anthony Durand hand-builds micaceous pottery in traditional forms of the Picuris Pueblo. The functional ware, first recorded by Spanish settlers in 1598, sparkles with reflected light from the mica-embedded clay indigenous to the area.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Ceramicist Anthony Durand carries on a 400-year-old tradition, creating sparkling micaceous pottery of the Picuris Pueblo.

With pick and shovel, he scours the Sangre de Cristo mountains in northern New Mexico for mica-embedded clay to hand-build the functional Picuris vessels, first recorded in 1598 by Spanish settlers.

A 15-piece exhibition of Durand's coil-constructed vessels, all in traditional forms, continues through Aug. 29 at the Susanne Hilberry Gallery, 555 S. Woodward in Birmingham.

"They're so sculptural, so sensuous, the traditional form to which Anthony remains true," said gallery owner Susanne Hilberry, former curator of 20th century art at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

"What we're committed to here is to show work that we're interested in, and respect. What we realized is that work by this man is so very special, so very beautiful."

Continuing tradition

See POTTERY, 611

Arboret features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Creative Living, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

For information and reviews of musical performances, please turn to the Entertainment section.

AUGUST SHOW

A group show continues through Aug. 31 at Gallery Birmingham, 390 E. Maple in Birmingham. It includes works by J. Assaro, R. Fairchild, T. Millikan, J. McKnight, I. Owens, K. Kirsch and T. Short. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday or by appointment. Call 640-8505.

Art Beat

TASTEFUL DISPLAY

If you have a real appetite for art, stop by The Print Gallery. The gallery, 29203 Northwestern Highway in Southfield, is serving up a mouth-watering exhibit of culinary posters of Italy through Monday. Large illustrations of vegetables, meat and pasta are shown in tantalizing color.

Also at the gallery are limited edition lithographs by artist William Moss. Bridge Stadium, the Michigan Central Depot and views of the riverfront are

included. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, to 9 p.m. Thursday. Call 356-5454.

BROADCAST NEWS

Guest hosts on the "Guess Who's Playing the Classics?" program on WQRS-FM this month have an Oakland County connection. The program airs 9-10 p.m. Thursdays.

Tonight's guest host will be Sylvia Meloche-Chang, humanities teacher at St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake. Gerald H. Goslin, concert pianist and adjunct professor of piano and voice at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills, will be the guest host Aug. 13.

David Simon, chairman of the board for Franklin Bank, will be the host Aug. 20.