

CREATIVE LIVING

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MARY KLEMIC

New artists serve up new look for exhibit

With such items as coffee cans, juicers, salt shakers and corn kernels, artists serve up a different look in the summer show now at the Sybaris Gallery, 301 W. Fourth in Royal Oak.

The exhibit, running through Aug. 29, features work by three new gallery artists who received master of fine arts degrees in 1991. The gallery works to present new artists in its summer show.

Two of the artists in the current exhibit earned their degrees from the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills: Taylor Bradley, in ceramics, and Daniel Eaves, in metalworking. The third, Karen Sullivan, earned her degree from the Claremont Graduate School in Claremont, Calif.

New looks

The works by the three artists show a new way of looking at everyday things. They present the items in a new way.

Eaves takes common objects and makes items to be looked at rather than used. He adds aluminum, silver, gold, velvet and other materials to make the "usual" into unusual sculpture.

So you'll see such sights as a coffee pot and mugs made from coffee cans, and a sculpture featuring a juicer and refrigerator magnets.

Another focus of Eaves' work is rural in nature. Corn cobs and kernels are components of this art, along with tiny tractors and corn stalks. They meet in a small wooden house, or a cylinder that looks like a drum.

Sullivan also takes common objects, like salt shakers, figurines and porcelain fixtures, and puts them in clay boxes that hang on the wall. The items look as if they came from a flea market or garage sale. But when they are inside a box, they become icons or objects for study and appreciation.

Bradley's abstract sculpture reminds me of a puzzle I learned in grade school.

You take a thin strip of paper, twist it once loosely and fasten the ends together. Then you hold a crayon or pencil to the center of the strip and pull the paper until you have a continuous line. The puzzle is that technically the line shows the paper has only one side (you never lifted the crayon, did you?), but you can point to two sides of the paper.

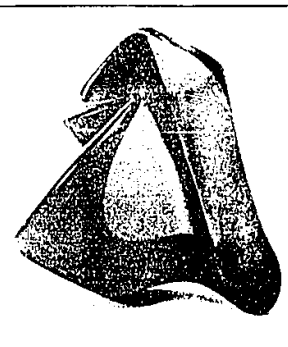
In a similar way, Bradley's clay sculpture sensuously and smoothly curves the inside around to the outside, and vice versa. Both sides are the same, but each has its own beauty.

Block talk

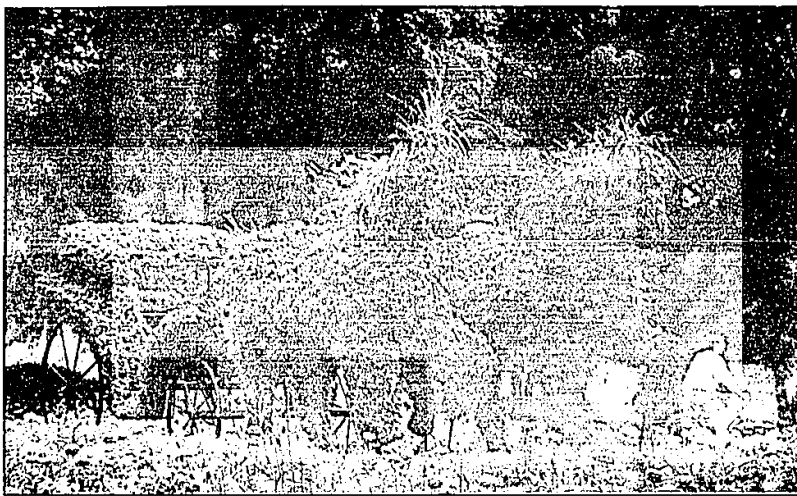
Woodcuts by Sean Scully are on display this month at the Lemberg Gallery, 538 N. Woodward in Birmingham.

Scully carved his own blocks for the six woodcuts, which were printed on handmade paper. Each print was made from multiple sets of blocks. The colors were applied individually. The effect is that the work looks like a painting.

Many of the images are lined so they resemble wood. Others have solid bands of colors.



Artistic turn: This clay sculpture by Taylor Bradley brings the inside to the outside. Bradley, who graduated from the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills last year, is one of three new artists featured at the Sybaris Gallery in Royal Oak this month.



Island art: These horses, 9 feet long, "pull" a carriage in the Triangle Garden on Mackinac Island. The horses and carriage are made of moss and ivy over a steel frame. They are the creation of Deborah Silver, who runs a landscaping firm in Orchard Lake.

Carriage is ivy league wonder

■ A landscape designer who runs a firm in Oakland County has fashioned an ivy and moss toposy of a horse and carriage on Mackinac Island. She also made magnificent floral displays on the island.

Larger than life-size, each horse is 9 feet long and 7 feet tall. The wheels on the carriage they seem to be pulling can roll so it can be moved. It is an exact replica of the antique carriage in the Grand Hotel logo, called "The Victorias."

The horses and carriage are made of ivy and moss. They are the creation of Deborah Silver, horticulturist, landscaper and garden designer for Grand Hotel. She owns and runs Deborah Silver and Co. in Orchard Lake, and designs for private homes and businesses locally and out of state. Silver is assisted by Yedlnak and a crew of six.

"When you see the doylilies bloom-

ing you realize it's a living sculpture in addition to being a representation of the logo of Grand Hotel," Silver said.

"I think the flowers blooming add to the romance of the sculpture. They make that Triangle Garden a place to be."

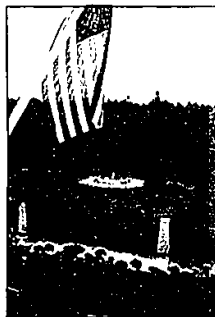
Frame work

These toposy creations are made of heavy 18-gauge steel with the main form fashioned from one- and two-inch pipe. A spider web of heavy fishing line was painstakingly tied between the squares of steel to create a firm support for the soil, moss and plants.

Small bags of plastic foam peanuts were stuffed into the frame, then the frame was covered with two inches of soil. Next, florist sheet moss was put over that, laid (beginning at the bottom of the structure) in four- to six-inch strips.

When a strip of the sheet moss was securely fastened, Hedera Helix ivy, a needlepoint variety with small leaves, Greenfinger, was packed in, then the next layer of moss was attached, followed by a layer of ivy. The carriage was created in the same manner. This was a long and tedious job!

The ears, hooves and noses of the horses weren't planted with ivy so that the moss could give a realistic look.



Seeing red: Thousands of red geraniums bloom in boxes on the Grand Hotel front porch.

The manes and tails of the horses are resplendent with Stella d'oro doylilies, repeat bloomers that provide a fanciful look to the horses.

The frames were made by a firm in Pennsylvania. Landscape designer Robert Yedlnak helped Silver plant the toposies.

See GARDENS, 81D



Splendor in grass: Plants form a colorful bunting in the gardens surrounding Grand Hotel.

Display at center celebrates Michigan artists

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Talent is in full bloom at the Point Creek Center for the Arts.

And quite a bouquet has been gathered to showcase in the center's sixth annual Celebrate Michigan Artists exhibition, running through Sept. 25 in the PCCA Main Gallery, 407 Pine in Rochester.

The exhibit opens with a public reception and awards ceremony 7 p.m. Saturday. Henry Feinberg, keyboard,

and Ralph Kozlarski, woodwind and percussion, will play rhythmic jazz music.

The all-media show this year features 58 works by 44 artists from 26 communities in the state. Sculptor Lola Teicher juried the 275 works submitted by 141 artists from 61 communities.

Carla Anderson of Detroit won the first place award (\$1,000) for her color photograph, "Sharkey County, Mississippi Delta, Mississippi, 1991." This work will be reproduced as a limited

edition poster, available for purchase at the PCCA and the Art 'n' Apples Festival Sept. 12-13 in Rochester Municipal Park.

The "Sharkey County" photo of a field has an almost dreamlike air about it. The green rows of crops stretch out to a horizon veiled in mist.

Second prize (\$500) went to Deborah Danielson of Chelsea for her platinum/palladium print, "Paradise Gardens." This features flower-shaped lights gracefully draped around a tree. Third

prize (\$250) went to Delphine Miller of Clarkston for her oil on canvas painting, "Beyond the Trees." It is a scene of dogs on a swirling white ground stretching toward a red flash in the distance.

Honorable mention winners, who received \$50 each, were Connie De Simulare of Columbusville for her oil pastel of clothes waving on a line, "Hangin' Out 1"; Rose DeSloover of Detroit for "March 22-June 22, 1992," her abstract

See CELEBRATE, 8D

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.

ARTFEST

Roeper City and Country School's Booster Club will present the Roeper International Artfest, "an outdoor festival of the arts," 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday at the school's Bloomfield Hills campus, on Woodward just north of Long Lake Road. Admission is free.

Art Beat

Eighty-six artists will display fine arts and crafts in the juried show. Entertainment and refreshments will be available. All proceeds will go to the Roeper Athletic Department. Call 642-1500 for more information.

RIGHT MOVES

The Halsted Gallery, 500 N. Woodward in Birmingham, will host an exciting benefit opening, 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3, that will kick off the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble's 1992-93 season.

The benefit will feature photographs of Mark Morris and Mikhail Baryshnikov by Annie Leibovitz, a well-known journalistic photographer whose photos are seen in Vanity Fair and Rolling Stone magazines. Proceeds from the opening will benefit the dance ensemble. Call 644-8284 for more information.

LOVE-LY AUCTION

The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road in Birmingham, is presenting its seventh "For the Love of Art" silent and live auction to benefit the BBA galleries and art school Saturday, Oct. 17. It is asking artists, collectors and dealers to donate works to the event. Call the BBA at 644-0866 for more information.

Collected items will be available for preview Oct. 15-17.