

CREATIVE LIVING

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1993



Preview presents a hearty bounty of art

Hearty souls filled the elegant Goldstein home in Bloomfield Hills Sunday night. It wasn't that they had to brave extreme cold or other difficulties. They were on hand to preview the items in the fifth annual Art from the Heart auction, taking place 7-10 p.m. Monday, Feb. 1, at the Machus Sly Fox Restaurant, 725 S. Hunter in Birmingham. Phebe and Dr. Sidney Goldstein, director of the Henry Ford Heart and Vascular Institute, are co-chairs of the event, along with Nina and Bob Machus of the restaurant.

Among the many items available for live and silent auctions Monday, by almost 100 artists, are metal furniture by Scott Brazzau, paintings by Bertha Cohen, Julie Dawson and Leslie Masters, papier-mache sculpture by Anita Flory, ceramics by John Glick, silk clothing by Rosemary Gratch, collage art by Joan Marie McKnight, a book of antique games by George and Kay White Meyer, jewelry by Charlotte Quinn, and donations from the Rubiner Gallery of West Bloomfield and the Swidler Gallery of Royal Oak. The beautiful bounty on display Sunday night included antique lace purses, calligraphy, place mats, a doll with a teapot for a head, bowls, mugs and original newspaper cartoons.

Admission is \$65 per person, \$40 of which is a tax-deductible gift to the institute. Proceeds will benefit the cholesterol research program of the institute, aimed at the early identification, treatment and prevention of coronary artery disease. WJR Radio personality Jimmie Louince will host the auction. The event will feature a hearty Heart Smart Machus buffet. Pianist Mary Agnello will provide entertainment.

For more information, or to make reservations, call Vicki Robinson at 876-9393.

TAG, you're it
Earlier Sunday, The Artists' Gallery Inc. had a grand reopening at its new location, in the Orchard Place Mall at 30995 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Its sign bearing the large letters "TAG" is easy to spot.

The gallery is a co-op featuring the work of local artists, from Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Franklin, Southfield, Bloomfield Hills, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Livonia and Royal Oak, among other communities. Started in 1990, it used to be in Applegate Square on Northwestern Highway in Southfield. It gives artists a chance to show their work and get to know each other.

Interior designer Andrea Tama of Farmington Hills, who designed the new gallery, is the featured artist. Her bright paintings of flowers and figures are included in the artists' wide variety of work, from jewelry to painted furniture, on display. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 855-8832.

Crafty ways
This is "The Year of American Craft," and the Swidler Gallery, 308 W. Fourth in Royal Oak, celebrates that with its exhibit, "American Ingenuity," continuing through Feb. 10. The display features the work of five young ceramic artists.

The wall-mounted sculptures by James Shrobb are 6 inches in size. Some seem like organisms attached to the wall by a crocheted foot. Others look as though they are natural, colorful extensions of the surface.

Katherine Blacklock, who attended the University of Michigan, makes earthenware vessels that suggest the female form. One, "Milk and Honey," seems full of bounty, dripping gold and bearing pods that look ready to burst.

Janet Newswider, who studied at the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, builds forms out of dipped organic objects. Leaves, pine needles, pine cones, copper, steel and porcelain, are among the materials she combines, sometimes adding bright colors and glazes.

Lisa Orr serves up decorative cups, saucers and teapots with glazes, raised figures, and lively designs and patterns. Brook LeVan uses ceramics and photography.

After four years, owners Dulcy and Allan Swidler will close the gallery doors and retire Feb. 10. They will have a sale of contemporary ceramics and jewelry. Call 542-4680 for more information.

Walk on the wild side
It's a jungle out there, in the rotunda of the Somerset Collection, 2801 W. Big Beaver at Coolidge in Troy. That's because of the Andy Warhol "Endangered Species" exhibit, on display there through Wednesday, Feb. 10. Presented by the Detroit Zoological Society, this is the first time the works have been shown in the Detroit area.

Mary Klemic is editor of the Oakland County Creative Living section. You may call her at 644-1100, Ext. 245.

Photographer focuses on personality, faces

By MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER
Often, something is forever linked with a famous person, something that becomes his or her signature item. It could be a movie role or a song or a speech, or a portrait by Arnold Newman.

Newman has been photographing artists, politicians and celebrities for more than 50 years. His black and white artistry captures the color of his famous subjects, presenting their personality in stark but sensitive works.

Forty images of the famous by Newman are on display at the Halsted Gallery, 500 N. Woodward in Birmingham, through April 4. In an interview before he discussed his work with gallery visitors at the exhibit opening Saturday, Newman was asked to name his favorite portrait.

"My favorite is the next photo I'm going to take," he replied. "Another corner answer is, 'How do you choose among your children?'"

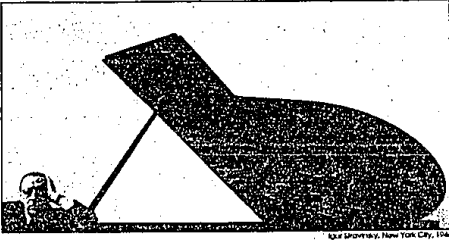
In arranging the setting for the por-

traits, Newman works with what is available. He may plan it mentally and then work with the subject. To illustrate, he told a bystander "Don't move," pointing out how the bookshelves behind that person made a good background.

Newman wants to present the people both as they are and how he sees them.

"Like any art form, what you're doing is observing things all the time." One of Newman's portraits at Halsted shows a young John Fitzgerald Kennedy at the Capitol, looking out as he stands among the pillars outside the building. The photo came from an assignment on the U.S. Senate for Holiday magazine in 1953.

The project brought Newman historic and humorous stories. He photographed various senators, including Kennedy, who at that time was known for dating beautiful young women. He also photographed Vice President Richard Nixon and the Senate majority leader, "a chap by



Artistic pose: This portrait of Igor Stravinsky by Arnold Newman is among the images now exhibited at the Halsted Gallery in Birmingham.

the name of Lyndon Baines Johnson." So on one assignment, Newman photographed the next three presidents.

A few years later, when Kennedy was president, Newman was photographing him at the White House. Kennedy asked whatever became of the 1953 picture of him, which didn't run in the magazine. Newman replied that not all the photos could be used, so the picture of the person consid-

ered least likely to succeed was eliminated.

"I thought he'd get a big laugh over it, he had a marvelous sense of humor. Instead, his face went rigid and he got very cold. With all those Secret Service people around, you know, you want to crawl under the grass. He walked off."

See NEWMAN, 4D

Watercolors share joyful view

Louis Redstone, founder and chairman of Redstone Architects Inc. of Southfield, builds a joyful, high-energy view of the world in watercolors now exhibited in Ann Arbor.

By LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Imagine a watercolor palette afloat with brilliant blues, yellows and greens, fluid shapes of jewel-like colors sometimes intertwining at the parameters of melting land and water. Then you'll have dreamed the dream that reflects Louis Redstone's watercolors.

Sixteen of his semi-transparent paintings continue on exhibition through Feb. 15 as part of a two-part show, with pastels by Joan Rosenblum, at T'Marra Gallery, 111 N. First in Ann Arbor.

An artist of rigid architecture, a master of watercolor swimming and softly lyrical, Redstone exists as a dichotomy in the art field.

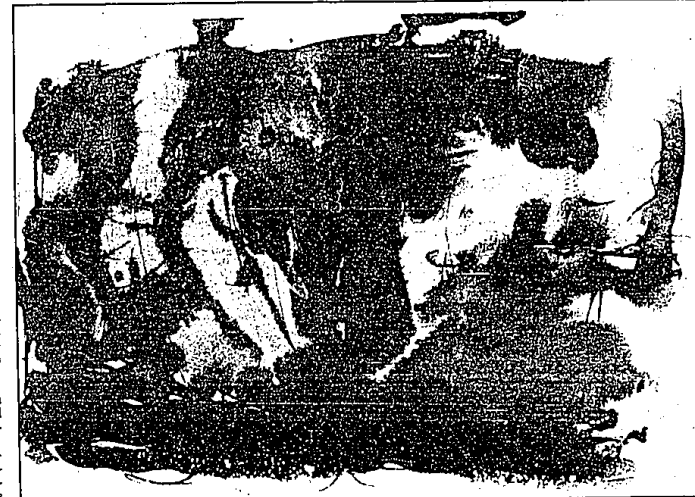
Controlling cement and steel or fluid seas of vibrant color, his experience as founder and chairman of the 50-year-old firm Redstone Architects Inc., along with 65 years of handling watercolors, create a joyful, high-energy view of the world in this exhibition.

"I use very few colors. I use the primary colors, sometimes straight out of the tube," Redstone said in an interview at his Southfield office, where he still works every day.

A vibrantly alive green landfall meeting rich blue water, a blazing midday sun, Redstone's watercolors seem at once to capture the light and subject matter releasing their wonders to the imagination. Painters struggle their entire lives to find the luminosity found in Redstone's paintings.

"I don't know what I'd do without the skylight and north light in my studio. I appreciate art that is full of light. I like the light to come through my work."

In the tradition of representational abstraction, although non-objective abstract also is represented here, Redstone passes on to the viewer 90



Master of color: "The Sun is Still There" is one of 16 watercolors by Louis Redstone on exhibit at T'Marra Gallery in Ann Arbor through Feb. 15. Vibrant hues, yellows and greens were accented with reds, and black Oriental-like brushstrokes, by the 90-year-old artist.

years of "seeing" the world. Born in Grodno, Russia, Redstone (formerly Reutenstein) at the tender age of 17 left home in search of freedom. Trapped and unable to escape, Redstone had lived through German, Lithuanian and Polish occupations of his homeland before finally fleeing an encroaching Russian cavalry in 1920.

Emerging from these trials and tribulations, he arrived in Palestine to build a Jewish homeland as a pioneer through exhausting physical labor before coming to this country in 1923.

Redstone's paintings come alive with an intense energy, hope and a kaleidoscope of colors. His palette is reminiscent of German expressionist Franz Marc, most notably the blue found in Marc's "Little Blue Horses." It is an invigorating blue full of ener-

gy that Redstone employs, a generous use of white space that expresses the found joys of freedom, and a yellow that seems to shout hope.

"I think his works are magical. His works are so fluid, which is different from what an architect does," said gallery owner Terri Marra.

Redstone became enamored with watercolor his last semester at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where he was studying for his bachelor of science degree in architecture. His love for the medium continued through studies for a master's in urban design with Eliel Saarinen at the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills.

"It's been watercolor ever since my last semester at U of M. All of a sudden it just grabbed me," Redstone said.

At Cranbrook, Redstone developed an interest that later promoted the use of art in architecture. Throughout his years as an architect, he managed to allot a small part of the budget to incorporate art into the building's overall design, employing artists like Louise Nevelson, Samuel Coshwan, Marshall Fredericks and Robert Youngman.

Using a direct painting method, Redstone begins laying down color, unaware of the final outcome.

"It might be subconscious. As the color flows, you control the color. There's no sketching. I use the liquidity for shapes, the reaction of one color against the other."

Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Friday, by appointment Monday-Wednesday. Call 769-3223.

Arboretum 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.

FIGURATIVE FOCUS
Prof. Michael Farrell will lecture on "The Re-emergence of the Human Figure" Wednesday, Feb. 3, at Circle Gallery in the Somerset Collection, 2801 W. Big Beaver Road at Coolidge in Troy.

Seating is limited and reservations are required. Admission is \$10 per person. The lecture will take place promptly at 7 p.m. Reception will take place 6:30-7 p.m. and after the lecture. To make reservations, or for more information, call the gallery at 649-1779.

Farrell, director of the Art House in Detroit and a member of the art history faculty at the

Art Beat

University of Windsor, has lectured extensively both locally and nationally. In his lecture he will address recent claims to contemporary art's rediscovery of figurative art, and will examine the presentation of the human figure in the work of artists represented by Circle Gallery, including Sandro Chia, Jan Balet, Norman Rockwell and Erte.

WINTER STUDY
Jonathan Boos of the Frank Boos Gallery of Bloomfield Hills has been accepted to and will attend the 1993 Winter Institute at Winterthur in Wilmington, Del. The program is one of intensive study on 18th and 19th century American furniture, ceramics, silver and other decorative items.

DIRECTORY AVAILABLE
A directory of many of Michigan's visual arts/crafts fairs and festivals taking place throughout the state in 1993 is now available.

The directory, produced by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, provides such basic information on each event as the date, location, deadline for submitting work and contacts. For a free copy, write the MCACA, 1200 Sixth St., Suite 1180, Detroit 48226. Include a self-addressed, stamped (75 cents), business-size envelope. Money for postage won't be accepted.

"The art fairs listed in the directory truly represent the diversity of Michigan's art industry," said MCACA executive director Betty Boone. "The fairs provide a valuable showcase for participating artists and craftspersons, vendors, sponsoring organizations and communities throughout the state. We are proud of the vast wealth of creativity which surrounds each and every one of us and ask you to join us in celebrating the Year of Crafts."