

CREATIVE LIVING

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1993



MARY KLEMIC

'Artful Garden' event offers brighter world

Art will be in bloom soon at Meadow Brook at Oakland University in Rochester. The Shotwell Gustafson Pavilion at Meadow Brook will be in floral finery Thursday-Sunday, April 1-4, for "The Artful Garden," a garden exposition and marketplace of artistic design for the outdoors.

"Art and nature interrelate," said Kay White Meyer of Bloomfield Hills, who is one of two general chairmen of the event.

"People are doing more for their own houses. They want a really beautiful and serene thing to look at. Even a little place can have a nice piece of art."

This event can brighten the world in different ways. By showing natural (garden) art and man-made art, the works and displays can inspire someone to beautify or enhance even the smallest space while expressing his or her individuality.

And The Artful Garden can brighten the world for many youngsters by benefiting ROPARD, the Association for Retinopathy of Prematurity and Related Diseases. ROPARD is a subcommittee of the Beaumont Foundation dedicated to finding a cure for impaired vision and blindness in children caused by premature birth and retinal disease.

Garden vignettes planned by landscape architects and designers and interior designers will display natural and formal settings, accented by original art for the garden. Among the features will be bonsai, waterfalls, reflection pools, a working greenhouse, a garden of rare conifers, and a formal garden with an English style conservatory.

Famous horticulturist and floral designer J. Barry Ferguson will demonstrate the art of arranging flowers 9:30 a.m. April 1. He will also autograph his book, "Living With Flowers," which will be available for purchase. Advance reservations are required. The \$20 admission includes a continental breakfast and admission to The Artful Garden. Call 626-6208 for more information.

A garden cafe will be open daily, serving light refreshments, coffee and tea. A garden marketplace, also open daily, will offer a collection of unusual garden art and accents. Art works for the event are by Michigan artists.

Exhibitors include Stegemann Enterprises Inc. of Rochester Hills, Robert R. Brand's Environments Inc. of Walling Lake, Goldner Walsh Nursery Inc. of Pontiac and Momany's Maintenance Inc. of Auburn Hills. Among the participating artists are Scott Brazeau, Anita Flory, Gary Griffin, Robert Hansen, Craig Hinshaw, Ray Katz, George Lantieri, Sue Linsbury, Eric Mosko, James Nami, Philip Pomeroy, Steffanie Samuels, M. Pamela Stump, Lois Telcher and Hugh Timlin.

A gala preview party, with wine and hors d'oeuvres by Opus One, will take place 7-10 p.m. Wednesday, March 31. Hours of the show are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 1-3 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 4. Admission is \$8 at the door, \$7 in advance and for groups and seniors, and \$4 for children under 10.

Advance reservations are required for the preview party. Tickets are \$50 general admission and \$100 patron. The latter includes unlimited admission to The Artful Garden.

For more ticket information, call 851-1392. For group ticket information, call 855-9071. For more information on the preview party, call 642-9585.

Steel drawings

Looks can be deceiving in the current exhibit at the O.K. Harris/David Klein Gallery, 430 N. Woodward in Birmingham. Recent works by pop artist Tom Wesselmann are on display there to Feb. 27.

At a glance the walls look as if they bear frameless drawings in felt tip marker or paint. But Wesselmann's images of nudes, bouquets and landscapes, ranging in size from about 10 by 9 inches to 69 by 90 inches, are really made of laser-cut steel.

Instead of being stiff, the steel carries the energy and fluidity of scribbled lines. Different styles and moods are brought out. The steel makes the piece stand out slightly from the wall, adding just enough shading to caress the lines.

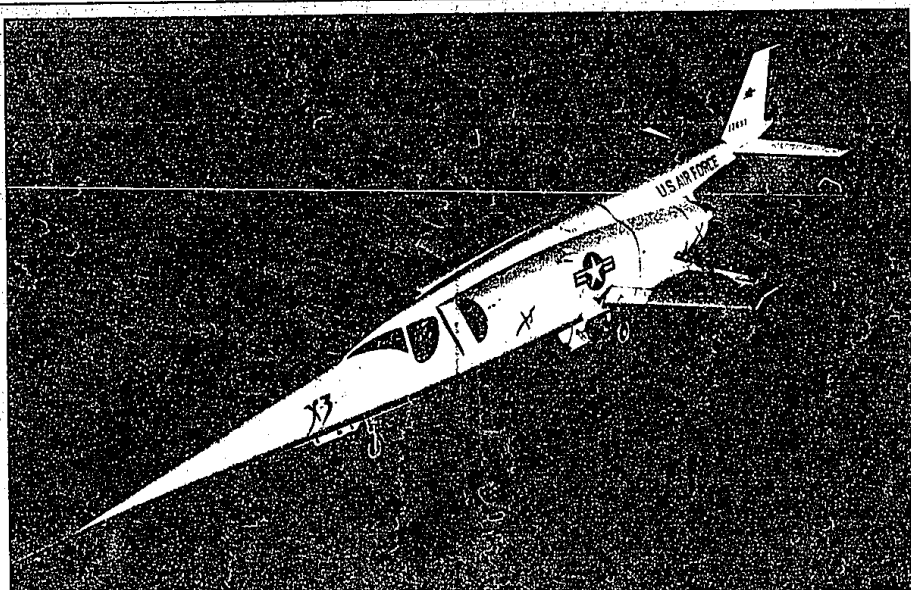
The works may be in color or all in black, as is one English scene. Details include flowers on the cuffs of a robe and shading on a vase. In one work, the curvature of the steel makes the piece more three-dimensional than others. Other works have characteristics of Matisse or Lichtenstein.

Wonderland

Visitors to the Elizabeth Stone Gallery, 550 N. Woodward in Birmingham, this month could find themselves grinning like the Cheshire Cat.

The gallery is featuring an exhibit of etchings, watercolors and other illustrations of "Alice in Wonderland." Among the works displayed are papier-mache sculpture by Anita Flory, including a sheep sitting and knitting, and paintings by Ann B. Kelly, a student at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. The Mock Turtle, the Walrus

See WONDERLAND, 6D



'Lake Bed Liftoff': This work by Mike Machat shows the Douglas X-3 Stiletto of the early and mid-1950s rising from the sun-baked surface at Edwards Air Force Base. The craft didn't lift off until it reached a speed of 260 mph.

Heads in the clouds Aviation art soars in new book



Birmingham filmmaker Philip Handleman is focusing on aviation art in his recently published book. Handleman, a pilot and avid aviation art collector, hopes to help the genre win respect as a legitimate art form.

BY LOUISE OKRUTSKY
STAFF WRITER

With the publication of his new book focusing on American aviation art, a Birmingham filmmaker hopes to help the genre win respect as a legitimate art form.

"They're not just illustrations. I believe they hold up on their own as landscapes and cloudscapes, without the plane," Philip Handleman said.

Recognized for his work in television documentaries, Handleman is a pilot and avid collector of aviation art. Works from his collection are included in his recently published book, "Aviation: A History Through Art."

In Britain, artists who concep-

trate on works with aviation themes have been organized since the 1950s. As recently as 10 years ago, it would have been impossible to compile a book of works by American aviation artists, Handleman said.

The book features works by 32 members of the American Society of Aviation Artists, founded in 1986. Published by Howell Press, the book covers aviation from its beginnings to the space program, from World War I to Vietnam.

Fine art

"Aviation art, it really is a niche. More and more as American aviation artists establish themselves,

See BOOK, 10D



'Almost Time to Go': In this 1926 scene by John Paul Jones, a pilot about to leave checks his pocket watch. His sweetheart is on hand to see him off.

Artists display views of France

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

It's not unusual for someone to share memories of a trip when they return, through slides or photos or souvenirs.

But two members of an area group that visited France last May are sharing their memories in a special way through an art exhibit continuing through Feb. 27 at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook in Birmingham.

Marilyn Blinder of Southfield and Bill Horning of Waterford were among 22 participants who went on the trip to southern France. They were on a painting class expedition, conducted by BBAA instructor Leslie Masters, that spent a 10-day journey visiting museums and studios of the great artists, as well as creating their own works of art.

"We focused on the art and the galleries. It really inspired me," said Horning, who has taught art for 23

years in the Bloomfield Hills School District and also has conducted classes at the BBAA.

"Everywhere we went you had the feeling great footsteps had preceded you," said Blinder, currently in classes at the BBAA, who won a national award in Watercolor USA and had two one-person shows in the area.

The works show different perspectives of the trip. Blinder's paintings in watercolor and white gouache on paper covered with gesso are realistic.

Horning's acrylic collages are abstract.

Both artists included their painting of a wall at La Costa in the exhibit. Blinder's work shows the red roses against the weathered wall. Horning's work shows red lines against other lines.

Blinder came upon a little yellow house, which she put on canvas for another work. When she finished, she

See FRANCE, 6D

Art Beat

Arthast 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 performance, please turn to the Entertainment section.

TOEING THE MARK

The Cecchetti Council of America sponsors the annual Ballet Day Workshop between 9:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, at Varner Hall at Oakland University. Cecchetti graded syllabus will be taught by an experienced CCA faculty, including Rose Marie Floyd of Royal Oak. Ricardo Moyano, artistic director of DancoWest Ballet in Aurora, Ill., will teach advanced and intermediate non-Cecchetti classes as well as an advanced variation class. An intermediate jazz class will be taught by Laurie Zabels, a per-

former with People Dancing, Harbinger, Ann Arbor Dance Works and the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble. For more information, call 379-4558.

MEET THE ARTIST

The Lawrence Street Gallery, 29 W. Lawrence in Pontiac, invites the public to meet its collective group of artists on its "Meet the Artist Night" Friday, Feb. 26, at the gallery. This will be a fun, casual evening with Dennis Cypore and his group setting a festive mood, playing bluegrass and jazz. Snacks and nibbles will be set up. Discounts of up to 20 percent will be offered on selected art works. For more information, call the gallery at 634-6716.

CARTOON KUDOS

Gallery Animato, 574 N. Woodward in Birmingham, has received a special award from Disney Art Editions, the official source of art work from the Walt Disney Co.

"We are delighted to be associated with Disney Art Editions," said Elaine and Robert Athey of the gallery. "Disney has always set the standards for animation art and they continue to advance the genre with artistic and technological breakthroughs. As a preferred gallery, our clients will have access to the most magical images from the Disney animated classics."

Interest in animation art as an art form, and particularly cells from the Disney films, has grown rapidly in recent years. Because many of the cells from the early classics were destroyed after the production of the film, Disney Art Editions creates limited edition cells to meet the tremendous demand for art work from those films.