

# France from page 1D



STAFF PHOTOS BY JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Personal perspective: Marilyn Blinder of Southfield shows her painting of roses on a wall, one of the works exhibited at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association through Feb. 27.

saw she had included a small figure that she didn't remember.

"I said, 'That's Cezanne. He's going to help me paint the rest of the paintings.'"

The textures, flowers and light seen on the trip fascinated the artists. The water was a turquoise color they had never seen before or since, for example. Other characteristics of France were impressive as well, such as how centuries-old architecture is maintained.

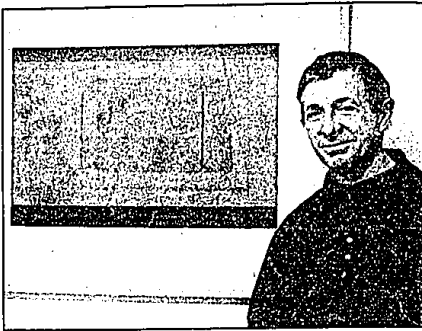
"I was very touched by the timelessness of it," Blinder said. "It's old, you don't have to rush. The French people do revere beauty."

Even such mundane arrangements as a place setting, or irises in a pickle jar, showed how "everything is beauty" in France, she said.

"One of the (group) painted a picture of how the meal was presented."

"There was hardly anything that didn't impress us," Horning said.

Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Call 644-0866.



JERRY ZOLYNSKY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Abstract art: Bill Horning of Waterford made an abstract collage of roses on a wall, one of his art works exhibited at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association from a group trip to France last May. Horning was one of 22 participants on the journey, conducted through the BBAA.

## Workshop examines collage

"An Artist's Workshop: Modern Art Through Mixed Media and Collage" will be presented by The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham. It is a course comprised of three intensive work sessions.

The class will meet 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 22 to March 8. The class is open to both beginning and advanced students.

The price is \$69. To register, call the program department at 644-5632.

Award-winning instructor Karen Halpern will acquaint students with a group of works by artists who pioneered collage and mixed media.

Focus of the course will be on experimentation with appropriate materials and styles. These include fabrics, paints, printed and hand-painted papers, and varied adhesives and tools. The emphasis will be on fostering a creative approach to image-making with a personal point of view.

Students will be guided in selection of subject, effective composition and color theory, developing three or four pieces of their own work, both two-dimensional

and in relief style. Individual assistance and a group critique session will be given.

Also featured will be guest artist Rose E. Farber of Bloomfield Hills, who will show and discuss several pieces of her work with the class.

Halpern, who has been painting for more than 30 years, has taught classes at Indiana State University. Her work has been exhibited in numerous one-artist shows, including the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse, N.Y., the J.B. Speed Museum in Louisville, Ky., St. Mary of the Woods College in Indiana, St. Bonaventure University in New York and the International Women's Arts Festival, sponsored by the Ford Foundation, New York.

In Michigan, Halpern's work has most recently been exhibited at Temple Israel's Invitational Show in West Bloomfield, the Troy Gallery in Royal Oak, the Birmingham Unitarian Church in Bloomfield Hills and the Belton Art Center in Troy.

She is also a guest lecturer and juror of shows by area organizations.

## Wonderland from page 1D

and the Carpenter, and the Mad Hatter re all there.

Flory made a series of paper-mache sculptures based on some of the Lewis Carroll characters for the wild premiere concert performers of "Wonderless," a new opera by Susan Botti. The American Artists Series will present the premiere at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, in the Kingswood Auditorium on the Cranbrook campus.

Illustrations from the gallery and the Flory sculptures will be on sale at Kingswood that day from 1:30 p.m. until performance time, during intermission and after the production. For ticket information, call 851-5044.

### Paintings presented

A display of recent paintings and drawings by Bloomfield Hills artist Gil mally mack continues to Feb. 0 at the Birmingham Unitarian church, 651 N. Woodward in Birmingham. It includes nudes and abstract work.

The nude figures by the artist are in irge art works, in which

the figure appears to be part of an abstract background that is full of energy or tension. The abstract works are dark colors or bright red, all of them seemingly organic.

### Art outlook

State Sen. Lana Pollack, D-Ann Arbor, sounded a clarion call along with a note of optimism about the state of the arts at the Feb. 3 meeting of the Cultural Council of Birmingham/Bloomfield.

Pollack is confident that the Clinton administration will be friendly to the arts. President Clinton has a musical background and is very bright and inquisitive, and Arkansas showed commitment to the arts while he was governor, she said.

"I think the White House would be very friendly to artists and wouldn't feel threatened by what artists do," Pollack said.

"Education, education, education" is needed to save the arts for the next generation, she said. The most effective way to do this is to introduce students to artists and

take them to museums, concert halls and other arts events.

Clinton can show support for the arts in health care and the infrastructure, Pollack said.

For example, artists are concerned about health care because of such areas as dancing injuries and working with toxic paints. Many artists work for themselves and are in a high-risk group for AIDS, she said.

Ann Arbor and Birmingham are destination points for people who spend money on the arts, Pollack said. Investment in the infrastructure can include art in such public places as subways. A Youth Opportunity Corps, in which young people give something back to the community, could feature teaching art to children in poor neighborhoods, or work similar to that of the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s.

Clinton can also lead by example to end the politicization of the arts, by showcasing great artists

of all media.

Pollack encouraged those present to "get to know your legislator." She gave a boost to the new citizen volunteer group, the Arts Action Alliance, which will work to persuade decision makers that government support for the arts is in the public interest.

"There's no shortcut, there's no easy answer, there's no silver bullet. It's just hard work."

"We don't have to be apologetic about it. The difference between humankind and the animal world is expressed through the arts."

"If we don't have public funding to the arts, those arts will be accessible only to those who have wealth and means."

Pollack had a scathing comment about Governor Engler, calling him "soul-less."

"He missed his arts."

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

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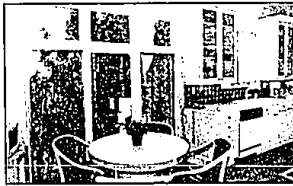
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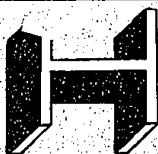


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