

Cranbrook offers appraisal day

The Cranbrook Academy of Art and Museum Women's Committee is sponsoring a Conservation and Appraisal Day 10 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 13, at the museum, 1221 N. Woodward in Bloomfield Hills. The event is an opportunity for participants to have works of art, heirlooms and treasures appraised in terms of condition or value. Conservators from the International Conservation Association in Oberlin, Ohio, and auctioneers and appraisers Frank Boos and Jonathan Boos of the Frank Boos Gallery in Bloomfield Hills will offer verbal condition reports and verbal appraisals of

value for art and antiques in color. The conservators and appraisers are donating their services, with all proceeds benefiting the Cranbrook Academy of Art and Museum.

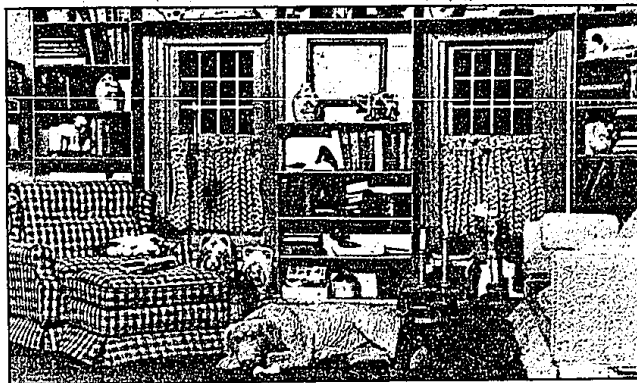
Reservations must be made, using a form, no later than March 1. For more information, call museum secretary Kristine Kohls at 646-3323.

Examinations for condition reports will last about 15 minutes for each object, and cost \$25 each for the general public and \$20 each for museum members. During the examination, the conservators won't be able to remove frames or unframe works of art or

artifacts on paper.

Monetary appraisals will last about five minutes and cost \$12 for each object for the general public and \$10 for each object for museum members. Participants may ask that the appraisals reflect either the object's replacement cost/insurance value or resale/auction value.

For large items of furniture, a good (preferably color) photograph and one drawer (if appropriate) may be brought instead to allow the appraisers to view the finish and hardware. They won't appraise any gemstones, jewelry or art work produced by living area artists.



STAFF PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMEAND

Special place: You'll feel like a giant looking at this vignette of a family room, complete with upholstered furniture and knickknacks on walls and shelves. The setting is one of the miniature masterpieces on display at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association.

Latvia from page 1D

They talked with representatives at the Hill Gallery, Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Donald Morris Gallery, Galerie 454 and O.K. Harris/David Klein Gallery in Birmingham, the Meadow Brook Art Gallery in Rochester and the Detroit Institute of Arts.

"I think Latvian art, when you look at the tapestries and graphics, is lively, interesting and very professional," Dagnija Lucis said. "The comments we heard were 'I've never seen anything like this. It's different.'"

"I thought it was very good," said Mark Dorn of Galerie 454. "The people that they selected were high quality that had been celebrated there."

"What I liked about the work, it wasn't political. It was very universal. That was a real surprise too."

"I think it has some very interesting ideas going on," said Tim Hill of the Hill Gallery.

Occupation

Latvia, which is on the Baltic Sea, had been occupied by the Soviets from 1917. It declared its independence in 1991.

"They were trying to occupy not only our land but our brains," Jurkane said.

"Art, literature, music was something they did not manage to occupy. We retained our cultural identity."

Under socialism, the state subsidized artists but they had to comply, restricting their work to expression in all possible ways, Jurkane said. For example, an artist would include images in a painting that were forms of "silent protest."

"It's always fun to go there and try to see these things (in art) . . . to try to read between the lines. You think that this picture doesn't speak. The silence sometimes was so loud."

Keeping informed

Such sources as tourists and relatives abroad helped the artists in Latvia stay informed on what was happening in art elsewhere in the world. They worked on their own themes in their private studios. But if the pieces were sold to tourists, the state profited instead of the artists.

"No one would put (the artist) into prison for what he was making, but he would never be exhibited."

Now the artists are free to exhibit but they must learn to survive, Jurkane said.

"My idea was to help some of those people and to show what we

are doing back home. "I think if we could organize an exhibition of our best artists here in the United States, I think that would help."

Exchange

A cultural exchange between Latvia and the United States is one possibility, Jurkane said. An exhibit of American art "would be the event of the year" in his country, he said.

"The idea is to remind people that we still exist in the world." Reaction from area gallery representatives has been positive, Jurkane said.

"They say 'Wow, it's great.' 'They understand that our artists are . . . not lagging behind. There is a high degree of professionalism in this art.'"

Art is "the best way to bring people together and help people understand each other," said Jurkane, who was in this area visiting friends.

"Art is a very good communicator to help understand each other. Just through art people can come closer."

Asked about his background in art, Jurkane replied that he loved art.

"I love to go and see pictures and exhibitions."

"You can stand for half an hour and just admire it," he said of Latvian pieces he has seen.

Miniatures from page 1D

Basswood and cherrywood are among the materials used. Dentist tools and hand tools are used to define delightful detail. There are secrets to such touches as giving an aged look to wood, and making marks in a table where a hot pot would have rested. An educational display at the show illustrates tools and processes used in making fine miniatures.

"If they look natural, that's what you're trying to get," Goad said.

The exhibit also features six handcrafted clock cases from a traveling exhibit on loan from the International Guild of Miniature Artisans. The cases contain museum quality miniatures representing historical periods in France, England and the United States.

Diminutive dwelling: Criss Goad of Birmingham (left) and Duffy Wineman of Bloomfield Village show a miniature Maine cottage created by a local collector and filled with the work of many national artists.

Both Goad and Wineman are members of the guild's board of trustees. Goad, an accomplished jeweler and metalsmith, was working in jewelry when she became interested in miniatures. Wineman was home with small children when she became attracted to miniatures.

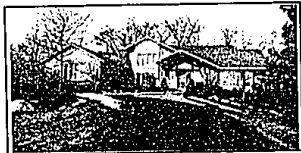
Two of the more popular settings in the display are "The God-

awful Bathroom," a mini masterpiece complete with grime, and an attic, with newspaper insulation.

Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Call the BBAA at 644-0866, or Miniature Makers' Workshop at 649-1395, for more information.



HOMES OF QUALITY ARE OUR SPECIALTY!



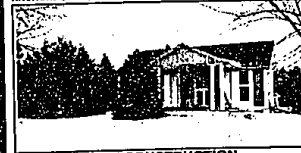
LOVELY ECHO PARK

Spacious contemporary in a beautiful location! Extensive use of fine hardwoods and elegant marble, two-story foyer and living room, island kitchen with vaulted ceiling and skylights. Lower level exercise room! \$795,000 B-09391



NEW ENGLAND CHARM

Gracious family home situated on 1.4 acres with close-to-town convenience. Hardwood floors, 6 panel doors, new master suite with private stairway, large dining room, custom top-of-the-line kitchen. \$445,000 B-09145

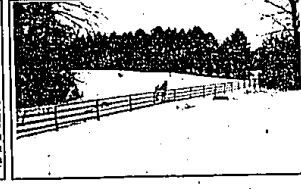


NEW CONSTRUCTION

Dramatic contemporary on ten acres. Open in design! Great room with 38 ft. ceiling. All six bedrooms have baths, laundrys up and down, custom glass stairway, extensive mirror-work, 4 car garage. Large pool area. \$975,000 B-08958



Country Estate Plus Lake Privileges



Outstanding secluded eleven acres with privileges on all sports Upper Straits Lake. Custom built Tudor with approximately 7,500 square feet including hard-to-find in-law suite connected to main house but with total privacy. Six bedrooms, 8 baths, 4 fireplaces, 2 family rooms, great room, library. Board your own horse...fine stable and riding paths! \$1,475,000 B-08912



CITY OF BLOOMFIELD HILLS

Nearly 2 acres of wooded grounds complete with pond! Almost 5,000 sq. ft. including lower level suite and entertainment area plus large indoor pool area! A premium location. Phone for more information. \$799,000 B-09181



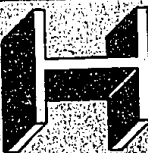
PREMIUM AREA

Wonderful contemporary situated on nearly two acres of wooded secluded grounds. Unusual open floor plan perfect for the professional couple. Large expanse of windows and walls for art! Ask about lease. \$539,000 B-08883



CASS LAKE

Lakefront property of 3.5 acres! Dramatic contemporary with vaulted ceilings, extensive use of mirrors, luxurious master suite with jacuzzi. Inground pool with 3,000 sq. ft. of decking. Entertainment center. \$669,900 B-08997



Hannett, Inc. Realtors

2511 W. Maple at Cranbrook 646-6200 bloomfield hills, MI 48301

open Monday through Friday 8:30-8:30 p.m., Saturday 9-6 p.m. and Sunday 10-6 p.m.



Estates Club

Club for the world's leading real estate firms

