

CREATIVE LIVING

D

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1993



MARY KLEMIC

Photo exhibit gets to core of Big Apple

East side, west side, all around the town. The current exhibit at the Pierce Street Gallery, 217 Pierce in Birmingham (call 646-6960), lovingly looks at the people and places of New York. The show, "Sid Kaplan: My New York," runs through May 8.

Featured in the show are black and white photographs recorded by Kaplan over 28 years. The images show more than the city. Social signs and special scenes are revealed as well.

Some photos carry nostalgia for the 1950s. Two young girls are shown putting on lipstick, gloved hands at work. Boys are shown from the back, slicked hair just so, the lettering on their jackets proudly identifying them as "Saxons" and "Dudes." There's a ballpuck shot of "The Last Giants Game." A '50 Ford bears hearts and names.

The great and small are featured. One photo shows the Woolworth Building framed by the World Trade Towers. Others show handprints on a door, arched windows with flowerpots, clothes hanging on a street like welcoming banners. Sunset between tall buildings is shown, as is a foggy diner window on a winter night.

Featured are shots of the Loew's Pitkin theater, one outside Saturday morning and one inside Saturday night.

Life goes on. Steam rises in the street outside St. Paul's Cathedral. Children swim in the Hudson River. Young people watch the sunrise from the Staten Island ferry after prom night.

Kaplan has been an instructor at the School for Visual Arts for 20 years, and has written many technical articles on photography. His photos are in many museums.

Warm feeling

Carol LaChiusa shares a different kind of warm feeling in the exhibit of her watercolors continuing to May 15 at the Troy Art Gallery, 615 S. Lafayette in Royal Oak (call 548-7919).

LaChiusa's joyful paintings are from her travels to such places as Italy, Mexico and Hawaii. A Mexican flower market is sunny. Soft colors carry the feeling of mist rising in a Michigan water scene. In a work called "Redwood Cathedral," the deep colors fill the canvas like light shining through stained glass.

The gallery is one of the Royal Oak businesses taking part in "Women Helping Women," 9 a.m. Thursday, May 13. Ten percent of that evening's sales will be donated to HAVEN, a non-profit organization providing shelter and assistance to women who are victims of domestic violence. Visitors may register to win a \$1,000 shopping spree at any participating retailer. Free refreshments, demonstrations and surprises will be featured at each shop.

Images

A display of vintage and modern photographs by Edward Weston continues to May 29 at the Haled Gallery, 560 N. Woodward in Birmingham (call 644-8284). Weston's work from 40 years is exhibited.

Weston focused on simple objects, such as a vegetable. His closeup of a pepper or shell shows its smooth, flowing beauty, much like the lines of sculpture. He also photographed nudes, capturing the human form in a plain yet poetic way. And landscapes were another of his subjects. Smoketacks and sand dunes revealed their own grace to his lens.

Ancient glass

As Michigan Glass Month winds to a close, don't forget to visit the beginnings of glass art. The Donna Jacobs Gallery Ltd., 574 N. Woodward in Birmingham (call 640-1600) continues its 14th annual exhibit of ancient glass through May 9. More than 100 examples of marbled, cone-formed, cast and blown glass are featured, dating from the fifth or fourth century B.C. to around the 12th century A.D. The works come from the Eastern Mediterranean, Egypt, the Near East and the Roman Empire.

Vials, flasks, jars and beads are among the items on display. They come in many different colors and styles, bearing tiny details or large patterns. The shapes are graceful, the colors subtle or strong. Not just the art involved, but the durability of the pieces is a tribute to whoever made them, long ago.

Step lively

Last week's Creative Living section featured a story about Rose Marie Floyd's Contemporary Civic Ballet Company giving a concert to aid the Detroit Institute of Arts 3 p.m. Sunday, May 2, in the Southfield-Lathrup High School auditorium. Master classes with three dancers including Lloyd Storey, who toured with legendary tap dancer Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, will take place Saturday, May 1, at Floyd's Royal Oak studio. To register in advance, call 646-7464.

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



A new leaf: This leaf-like work by Kazuo Honma is one of the pieces in the fourth annual Basketry Invitational at the Sybaris Gallery in Royal Oak. A reception and lecture will take place at the gallery Saturday.

Basket show carries artistic challenges



Artists make magic with a variety of materials in the fourth annual Basketry Invitational, now at the Sybaris Gallery in Royal Oak. The works are more sculptural than functional, some of them resembling plants or sea creatures rather than containers.

By MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

The basket has taken on new stature in recent years.

For examples, visit the exhibit at the Sybaris Gallery, 301 W. Fourth in Royal Oak. The 24 artists whose works are in the display, the gallery's fourth annual Basketry Invitational, meet a wide variety of challenges in shapes, materials and sizes to create pieces that are more sculptural than functional. The exhibit continues through May 22.

As another indication of the current strong interest in basketry, the Friends of Fiber Art International has arranged to visit the Royal Oak exhibit. This organization has more than 300 members in 38 states and 12 other countries.

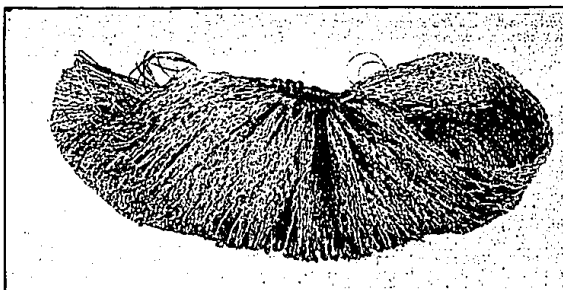
And the art museums of Cleveland and Minneapolis have received significant collections of basket works. The director of a fine arts museum in Racine, Wis., will speak about the museum's new basket acquisitions 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Call the gallery for

reservations. A reception to meet the artists featured in the Sybaris show will take place 6-8 p.m. that day.

The exhibit shows wizardry with both old and new materials, the familiar and the fantastic. Twigs, vines and bark are here, and so are wires and plastic tubing and film. Containers are visible, and so are forms that look more like works of nature or as if they come from a different culture.

What looks like a plant or a leaf is really a work by Kazuo Honma that is made of such materials as raffia, paper string bands and slide film. Hisako Sekijima uses maple bark and dogwood shavings to create nest-like works. Susie Colquitt fashions reclaimed zippers in silver, gold and

See BASKETS, 3D



Fascinating form: Joanne Segal Brandford combines rattan, nylon, dye and paint to make this work, "Blue Speckled Pouch."

Dancer returns to area to perform

By DEBBIE WALLIS LANDAU
SPECIAL WRITER

Most people analyze their career choices energetically. But dancer Tracey Theodoroff found her niche differently.

"You don't choose dance," she insists. "Dance chooses you."

The 22-year-old former Rochester Hills resident will enjoy a homecoming Saturday, May 8, when the Indianapolis Dance Company teams up with Detroit Dance Collective for a concert in the Lila Jones Johnson Theatre of Oakland Community College's Royal Oak campus.

The special event is being sponsored by Target Stores with a grant to both companies to perform together in each other's cities.

Like family

Theodoroff, who has been part of the seven-member Indianapolis group for about three years, said IDC feels like family to her.

Under director and choreographer Greg Hancock, she said, the dancers have a lot of artistic freedom. All seven of them have classical training, but their performances encompass jazz, ballet, pointe and ethnic dance. They typically rehearse three times a week.

"Greg has a very diversified background as not simply a dancer and choreographer, but also as a musician and visual artist. He has studied internationally and choreographed for musicals, opera, industrial and even Olympic figure skaters."

For the joint dance concert, IDC will perform "Book of Days" and "River's Edge." DDC, co-directed by Barbara Selinger and Paula Kramer, will perform "Approaching Infinity," "Zydeco Songs" and "The Green Curtain." Tickets are \$10 general admission and \$8 student and senior citizens. Call the DDC at 644-5550 for information.

See DANCER, 3D



Tracey Theodoroff: The Rochester Hills dancer will return to the area to perform next week.

Arthart 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.

TEA TIME

"Celebration of Spring," a fine collection of original, antique, handpainted botanicals by Paxton, Andrews and Curtis, will be featured May 1-30 at Barclay's, 280 Merrill in Birmingham. The exhibit will open with an English garden tea noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 1. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, to 8 p.m. Thursday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Call 646-5430.

RECEPTION

The Elizabeth Stone Gallery, 580 N. Woodward in Birmingham, will present a collection of original art by award-winning illustrator-author Diane Stanley. A reception and exhibition will take place 2-4 p.m. Sunday, May 2. Stanley will visit and give presentations to students in 10 Birmingham schools May 5-7, speaking about her creative process of writing and illustrating.

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC

The Birmingham and Farmington Musicales

Art Beat

will present various musical programs May 3-6 in observance of National Music Week, sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs. Concerts will take place all day, every day, at Tel-Twelve Mall, 12 Mile and Telegraph in Southfield.

SPRING SHOW

Award-winning watercolorist Gwen Tomkow of Farmington Hills judged the Visual Arts Association of Livonia spring art exhibit, showing May 2-23 in the lobby of the Livonia City Hall, Farmington Road south of Five Mile. The multimedia exhibit will open with a reception 2-4 p.m. Sunday.

BOOK LOOK

Celebrate National Photography Month with Linda Solomon of Birmingham, the nationally known photojournalist who specializes in taking pictures of celebrities. She is one of 10 featured photographers in a new book, "American Photographers at the Turn of the Century." Solomon will be at Borders Book Shop, Southfield Road at 13 Mile, 7-8 p.m. Thursday, May 6. For more

information, call Borders at 644-1515.

Solomon is national spokeswoman for the Photography Information Council, a trade association of camera, studio, and accessory manufacturers and distributors. In a project Solomon began in 1990, she conducts seminars nationally with schoolchildren to introduce them to the joys of photography.

Her project is to let children "really appreciate the positive things in their lives... looking closely at what makes them happy," she said.

Roz Warren, editor of "MOTHERS!", a book of cartoons by women, will be at Borders 2-3 p.m. Saturday, May 8. Warren is the editor of "Women's Glib," "Kitty Libber," "Women's Glibber" and the "Women's Glib Calendar." A Pennsylvania resident, she is interested in providing a "women-only space" in her book.

A reception for Og Mandino will take place 4-5 p.m. Sunday, May 9, at Borders. Mandino will be signing his new book, "The Twelfth Angel." His 15 previous books have sold more than 25 million copies in 20 languages. In 1976, at age 62, he surprised the publishing industry by resigning the presidency of Success Unlimited magazine to devote all his time to writing books.

NOW SHOWING

Eight area artists are among those who have works in the spring exhibit of the Detroit Society of Women Painters and Sculptors, continuing through May 11 at Urban Park, on the third floor at 508 Monroe in Detroit. Call 963-5445.