

# CREATIVE LIVING

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THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1994

**PERSPECTIVES**



MARY KLEMIC

## Supporting the arts benefits one and all

**A** is for April, which is Arts Advocacy Month. During this month arts advocates are urged to meet with elected officials in their home offices to reinforce the importance of federal support for the arts and humanities. Monday-Tuesday, April 11-12, are National Arts Advocacy Days. On these days, advocates from around the United States will gather in Washington, D.C. They will promote federal policies beneficial to the arts and humanities, take part in advocate training sessions and meet with senators and representatives. (Anyone interested in going to Washington should call Concerned Citizens for the Arts in Michigan at (313) 961-1776.)

It is for something, as in "The Arts and Humanities - There's Something In It For You," a public awareness campaign launched last year to emphasize the importance of arts in everyday life. Art appeals to what is best in human beings - their intelligence and their soul. Art works can soothe or challenge the viewer, and offer insights to life and society. They are signs of creativity that open lines of communication.

"Music, painting, sculpture, architecture, dance, theater, film and the folk arts all awaken our minds and our senses," President Clinton has said. "The arts and humanities enable Americans from every walk of life to respond to both their individuality and their shared experiences in ways that make the human spirit soar."

Arts extend from the individual to the community. They spark civic pride. When people decide where to live, and businesses decide where to locate or have a conference, arts offerings are among the considerations.

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## East meets West



JOHN NYROMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Elegant antique:** This early 18th century English Chippendale cabinet from China may be seen at Sylvia Sullivan's Bloomfield Hills home, one of the area residences featured Tuesday on a tour of antiques collections as part of the Birmingham Antiques Festival. The story and more photos are inside the Creative Living section.

## LOOKING AHEAD

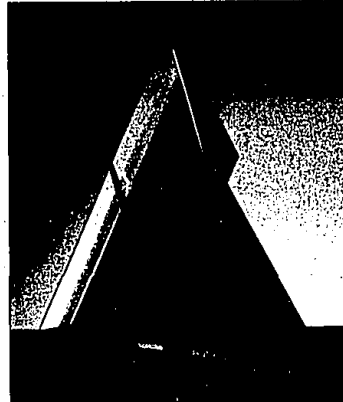
What to watch for in Creative Living next week:

■ A visit with members of the Oakland County Quilt Guild, which is planning a quilt exhibit and contest in Rochester Hills.

■ A visit with artist Eileen Aboulafia of Farmington Hills, who is participating in the "Once Upon a Time - Happily Ever After" exhibit and sale at the Galleria Offcenter in Southfield to benefit the Michigan Opera Theatre production of "Cinderella."

■ A preview of what's in store at the Artful Garden, an event emphasizing artistic design in outdoor living, taking place at Oakland University in Rochester.

# SHOW SPOTLIGHTS GLOBAL GLASS



Dazzling: The spectacular items in the exhibit at Habatat Galleries include "Untitled No. 22" (left), a fused and slumped glass sculpture by Klaus Moje, and "Autumn" (below), a laminated glass sculpture by Pavel Hlava.

■ The 22nd annual International Glass Invitational at Habatat Galleries in Farmington Hills educates as well as stimulates, presenting works by more than 100 artists.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
SPECIAL WRITER



The art of contemporary studio glass goes global April 7 to May 7 at the 22nd annual International Glass Invitational presented by Habatat Galleries in the Triatria Building, 32255 Northwestern Highway in Farmington Hills.

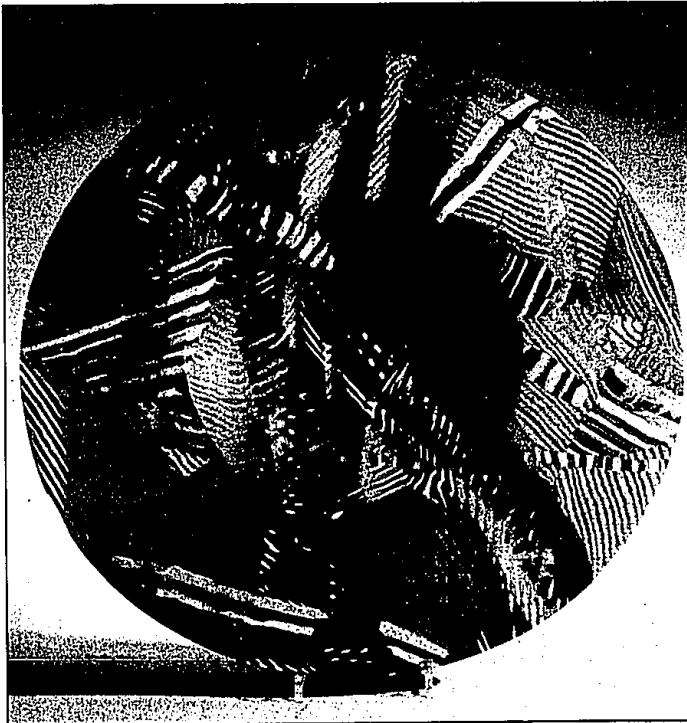
Whether you're an old hand at collecting glass art works or would simply like to know more about the phenomena, Habatat's glass extravaganza educates as well as stimulates.

Last year's exhibition touted more than 750 glass works by 95 artists from around the world. This year's spotlights more than 100 artists from Ireland to Italy with separate exhibits focusing on Czechoslovakia, France, Japan, Scandinavia and the United States as well as a group exhibit of artists from 20 other countries.

"We're trying to top last year's show, the most attended international in the show's 22-year history," said Ferdinand Hampson, president of Habatat Galleries in Farmington Hills, Boca Raton and Aspen.

"We'll have Therman Statom's glass house, an entrance way by

See GLASS, 8D



## Inuit art finding new horizons

BY MARY KLEMIC  
STAFF WRITER

For more than 40 years, Eskimo Art Inc. has bridged miles and centuries.

The non-profit corporation, with its gallery in Ann Arbor, presents art work by the Inuit people of the Canadian arctic. The Inuits have been making art since about 600 B.C. Today the works are a popular contemporary art form. The Inuits have developed a major source of income through the marketing of their art.

Since Eskimo Art Inc. was founded in 1953, \$1 million has been raised for the Inuit people. Next month the gallery will have a final show and sale of its entire inventory of carvings, prints and other Inuit materials. The gallery and retail sales will be terminated and the permanent collection will be donated to a museum for public display and research.

"This is doing something so that people can help themselves and simultaneously broaden the understanding of the American art market for a remarkable kind of art," Philip Power said of the corporation's original purpose.

Power, chairman of the Suburban Communications Corp., which owns the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers; his father, Eugene Power; and James Houston founded Eskimo Art Inc. The gallery is in a beautiful setting at Domino's Farms in Ann Arbor. Deer, raccoon and other wildlife sometimes appear on the gently sloping grounds outside the building.

Inside the gallery is another form of nature. Animal, human and spiritual figures in lithographs, carvings and other art forms are keys to a special culture.

"There's something nice about every one," said Irma Thompson, sales manager.

Viewing the work brings a remote place and time right at hand, with touches of mystery, whimsy, drama and history. The Inuit population of about 25,000 is distributed across northern Canada. Each of the 30 art-producing communities has its favorite subjects and distinctive style.

"Inuit" has replaced "eskimo" as the preferred term. "Inuit" means "the people" in Inuktitut.

See INUIT, 8D



'Drummer': This figure in yellow and green soapstone is one of the Inuit carvings at Eskimo Art Inc.

Artsbeat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Creative Living, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or fax them by calling (810) 644-1314.

### ■ TASTEFUL PROJECT

Birmingham talent has contributed to the A Taste of History restaurant, opening today at Grand Village in Donorbert. The building design is by Luckenbach/Ziegelman & Partners Inc., the interior is by Peterhansen Design, and the kitchen design is by E.F. Whitney, all of Birmingham.

The restaurant, on the Village Green, next to Eagle Tavern, delivers the Grandfield Village experience in an edible way. It serves menu items developed from regional fa-

## Art Beat

avorites plus adaptations of historic dishes to illustrate the many ways in which Americans have used natural resources and their own ingenuity to put food on the table. Seating capacity is 240 indoors, 60 outdoors.

### ■ ART BIRMINGHAM

Sunday, April 10, is the closing postmark date for applications for Art Birmingham, a show scheduled for Saturday-Sunday, June 18-19, in downtown Birmingham. Applications will be accepted in sculpture, glass, jewelry, ceramics, painting and graphics. Awards will be

based on the quality of the art, presentation and overall look of the booth. Prizes will be Best of Show, \$5,000; and best of each category: first place, \$475, second place, \$275, and third place, \$100. Sponsors are sought for the event. To become a sponsor or for other information, call Robert Nagy at DreamCatcher's at (810) 644-2150 or fax (810) 644-2484.

### ■ ART AWARD

Birmingham City Hall will be presented with a work by Marcella Pich of Oak Park, winner of the James W. Atkinson Fund award at the 1994 student art show at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. The BBA will buy the work from the artist and give it to City Hall. The show continues through Saturday at the BBA, 1516 S. Cranbrook in Birmingham.