

FINE ARTS

Artistic 'Intervention' inspires works



MARY KLEMIC

"Intervention," a current exhibit at the Detroit Institute of Arts featuring works by 46 Detroit-area artists, shows that inspiration and intervention are unbroken in the artistic process.

In the display, continuing through Sept. 3 at 5200 Woodward (call (313) 833-7900), contemporary artists "intervene" by relating works to objects or groups of objects of their choice from the museum's permanent collection. These contemporary pieces are placed near the places in the permanent collection.

Sometimes the artists related their works to ones that inspired them. Other times they intervened on the relationship of art and the viewer or culture. The exhibit is the first of its kind in the country in that it extends throughout the museum. Maps identify where the "interventions" are situated. It's a visual exploration well worth taking.

Jef Bourgeois of Rochester relates his "Drowning by Numbers" with its video images in a fishbowl to a painting called "The Massacre of the Innocents" from the 1480s. The old painting depicts a moment in history. Bourgeois' work suggests universal innocence and danger.

John Piet of Southfield presents "Dancing" at the Savoy Ballroom, Piet Style, an arrangement of drawing and metal forms. It transforms the lively "Savoy Ballroom" by Reginald Marsh into marks that are like shorthand for movement and rhythm. The met-

al pieces represent the drawings becoming three-dimensional.

Tony Hepburn of the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills offers "Analog," related to Picasso's "Seated Woman." Part of Hepburn's piece is a sculptural version of Picasso's painting. Another part is a drawing like a blueprint or study of the work, suggesting the creative process involved. Together, the works of Hepburn and Picasso become a series.

In "Yoken," near African art, Joseph Wesner of Birmingham shows cultural continuation of accumulated shared experiences. Segments in wood, steel and paint seem to have been chosen at random but really are in exact places for balance. Wesner's "African Neck Rest Table," with a glass top resting on a steel base that is curved like a cupped hand, represents a society or culture holding or supporting art.

Gerhardt Knodel of Cranbrook places fiber works above, below and around a rug from the Middle East. Knodel's "Night Shade" is like a tent over the rug, the rug is viewed through holes in the covering. Shiny material under the rug conveys cold and at the same time the mysterious shimmering of moonlight. Knodel's work is about how a piece of art's meaning can be changed when the piece is put on display.

"Matrix" by Wendy MacGaw of Farmington Hills and "Means of Self-Narcosis" by Heather McGill of Cranbrook are in the same room of 19th century landscapes. McGill's fibrous piece, hanging from the wall so that it appears to be piercing through it, is like a tool or pro of a ship. It "cuts" into idyllic romanticism. MacGaw's work is of steel and

glass and resembles a vacant skyscraper model, unused and undefined. It is like a marker in the center of the room, noting society's change from industrialization to computerization.

Contemporary meets antiquity in "Song of the Siren" by Robert Schefman of West Bloomfield. Schefman's watercolor, placed among ancient Greek statues, depicts a scene from the Odyssey that suggests anxiety. The men on the boat are in contemporary garb and have their ears blocked. One figure stands unbound against mast; whether the person will be able to ignore the siren's call isn't clear.

"The Garden" by Gary Griffin of Cranbrook is in Riviera Court, surrounded by Diego Rivera's industry frescoes. Griffin's work carries the idea of cultivating industrial resources while Rivera's shows one way the resources are put to use. The garden, at ground level, consists of scrap metal bordered by a little conveyor belt.

Above the wall in the court is "Rebirth" by Kyong Ae Cho of Birmingham. The piece is a delicate arrangement of branches and wire; in the environment it contrasts natural with factory, lightweight and possibly fragile with heavy and solid.

Untitled pieces by Beverly Fishman of Cranbrook adorn a wall in the Great Hall, arranged like planets in an artistic universe. The works are photobased collages and painting on wood. Round in shape, large and small in size, they look like something being viewed in a microscope or a telescope, biological or astrological, exploring the universe of identity, inside and outside.

Stamp of approval
Congratulations to Larry Cory

of Bloomfield Hills, who has won this year's Michigan trout/salmon stamp design competition at the Great Lakes Wildlife and Art Festival in Clare with a painting of a rainbow trout, and to Mike Todoroff of Westland, who was among the top 10 finishers in the waterfowl stamp competition. The winning designs will be featured on Michigan's 1996 waterfowl and trout/salmon stamps bought by waterfowl hunters and trout/salmon anglers. The top 10 entries for each contest will be displayed at various wildlife galleries in Michigan for seven months; the locations will be announced by Aug. 1.

In show
Oakland County artists are among those who will exhibit their work in the 23rd St. Clair Art Fair Saturday-Sunday, June 24-25, in St. Clair, Mich. Seventy artists were chosen from 125 applicants. Local artists and their media include Rick Burger of Rochester, watercolor; Nancy Parker of Rochester Hills, oil and watercolor; Dale and Madelyn Upiger of Rochester Hills, acrylic; and Susan Hall of Rochester Hills, basketry. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. St. Clair is off I-904 at Exit 257.

Open doors
Don't let the construction work on Cranbrook Road between 13 Mile and Maple in Birmingham confuse you. The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association at 1616 S. Cranbrook Road is still open.

Mary Klemic is Oakland County arts editor. You may call her at (810) 901-2569. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

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Exhibition Admission
(ticket includes recorded tour)

\$5 - Adults; \$2 - children and students with ID; members free. Free on Wednesdays with museum admission.

Hours

Wednesday-Friday 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; weekends 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (Closed Monday and Tuesday)

Special Programs and Activities

Videos: Selected videos from the series Ocean of Dreams—Currents of Change will be shown. Weekends at 2 p.m., Holley Room.

Lecture: Saturday, August 5—Michael Kan, curator of African, Oceanic and New World cultures and curator of the exhibition, discusses the exhibition. 2 p.m., Lecture Hall.

THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
5200 WOODWARD, DETROIT, MI 48202, (313) 833-7900

The exhibition was organized by the Detroit Institute of Arts with support from the Masco Corporation.

DIA volunteer answers cry for help

"Should you find yourself wandering aimlessly in the museum in search of a particular gallery or work of art, help is at hand—Terry Hand, the Detroit Institute of Arts' April Volunteer of the Month and Gallery Information Committee member for the past 14 years.

Hand admitted that the most frequently asked question is "Where are the nearest facilities?"

"Volunteers actually go back 30 years, so that new pins had to be designed for 30-, 20- and 10-year recipients," she said. "At that time volunteers were mostly women whose families were grown and who had the time. Now we see a new type of volunteer: individuals who work full time at their regular jobs and spend

weekend hours helping at the museum. They are to be commended."

Hand was pleased to see about 200 new volunteers at a recent orientation.

Volunteer committees, which now number eight, perform a valuable service in helping to keep the museum open and in serving as community resource people.

Apart from her work with gallery information, Hand has served as day captain, vice chairman and chairman of the present committee, chairman of personnel placement and treasurer of the executive board. She is Founder's Openings chairman and a member of the Nominating Committee. While working on her committees, Hand was surprised to learn of the large number of international visitors the museum welcomes each year.

Born in Canada, Hand crossed the border into Maine one fateful summer, met a young man, and Therese Bourgon of Montreal became Mrs. Frank Hand. That was about 42 years ago.

The Hand's married life took them to Chicago, Louisville, Livonia and finally Farmington Hills.

"My husband has his own insurance agency in Livonia. He's hired, fired and rehired me," she laughed.

Hand and her husband raised four children, one son and three daughters.

"April through May is a busy time of the year for us since five of our six grandchildren and my husband share the Taurus sign."

While living in Livonia, Hand was active in the Livonia Children's Entertainment Guild, Girl Scouts, Town Hall and the Livonia Arts Commission.

Family visits to the museum spawned her interest in art, an interest that hasn't waned.

Of her volunteer duties, she said, "Who could ask for an easier job or a better place to work? Besides, I love people."

Away from the museum, Hand is a member of the travel group Nomads. She and her husband have traveled to Indonesia, Japan and Europe, among other places. They spent two weeks recently in Austria, Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

No golf widow, Hand plays along with her husband.

"I like golf because my husband does. On occasion when I spot a bird or something interesting, he has to caution me to 'watch the ball.'"

No admonition here. Hand has a lot on the ball, and her energy and enthusiasm make you want to follow her as she heads in the direction of the nearest cry for "Help!"

Photographer presents travel seminar

Get out your calendar, and mark these dates. There are a lot of opportunities these summer to brush-up your artistic skills.

Fine art photographer Marji Silk will present a photography travel seminar 2 p.m. Sunday, June 25, in the Janice Charach Epstein Museum/Gallery in West Bloomfield.

Focus on turning your snapshots into works of art. Fee is \$65. For reservations and more information, call (810) 661-7641.

Several art classes are being offered on the Cranbrook grounds in Bloomfield Hills this summer.

All sessions begin the week of July 9. Call (810) 645-3678 for information.

A six-week class for painters 9:30-11:30 a.m. Sundays allows

them to paint in the gardens with professional artist. To work with colorful bouquets of flowers and beautiful settings gives the artist a great opportunity to relax and paint. Artists in watercolor, oil and acrylic, as well as those who like to work in pastel, are invited to join the class.

A seven-week class in life drawing 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays explores the human figure in charcoal, pencil and conte drawing. Work done in this class might be used for a future portfolio presentation. If basic drawing skills need to be understood, a six-week class in drawing 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sundays for adults and 2-4 p.m. Tuesdays for children in grades 6-8 is available.

Weaving has always been a

CLASSES

trademark at Cranbrook and a five-week summer weaving course will be offered 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday-Thursday. Spend a beautiful morning at Cranbrook-Kingswood weaving a project that will create a memorable moment in time for the future.

Register now for the five-week season of summer classes, July 17 to Aug. 19, at the Paint Creek Center for the Arts.

Enroll early—classes fill quickly. Registration may be made in person at the art center or by phone. The PCCA is at 407 Pine, two blocks west of Main in downtown Rochester. For a brochure of summer classes, call the PCCA at (810) 651-4110, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

Four- and five-year-olds can experience the wonderful world of art through introductory classes encouraging self-expression in various media. Older youngsters, ages 6-14, have their choice of studio classes in clay, drawing, painting, mixed media or cartooning.

Offerings for adults include calligraphy, clay, drawing, painting, papermaking and photography. High school students are welcome in the adult program.

All PCCA classes and workshops are taught by professional artists who share their enthusiasm for the creative process with students of all skill levels.

Has your Mom had a mammogram?

The risk of breast cancer increases with age. And the earlier you detect it through regular mammograms, the more likely you are to prevent many of these deaths. Yet as women get older, they are less likely to get mammograms. Has your Mom had a mammogram? If not, encourage her to get one. It might be your chance to give her good advice.

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THE PUBLIC'S LINK TO CANCER INFORMATION

1-800-4-CANCER

First of America Bank supports arts exhibit

Rochester's First of America Bank-Michigan has donated \$10,000 to the upcoming Celebrate Michigan Artists exhibit at the Paint Creek Center for the Arts.

"First of America likes to give back to the communities it serves," said vice president and regional executive Sherry McBroon in presenting the check to PCCA executive director Betty Ruedisueli.

Rochester's First of America branch is the first corporate sponsor of the ninth annual Celebrate Michigan Artists exhibit, sched-

uled Aug. 18 to Sept. 22 in the PCCA's Main Gallery. Corporate sponsorship underwrites the Celebrate Michigan Artists prize structure and also defrays the production cost of the exhibit poster.

The PCCA, at 407 Pine in downtown Rochester, provides studio art classes, contemporary exhibits and community programs. Each September the PCCA sponsors the Art 'n' Apples Festival, a juried multimedia art fair in Rochester Municipal Park.