

## ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

## Quartet thrives on chamber music

Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy grew up with a fondness for garage sales. The Plymouth violinist laughs when she thinks of tricking her mother into buying a Snoopy wind-up plastic guitar on sale for a dime. Kennedy was five at the time. Her passion to play violin began after watching the daughter of a family friend perform on the instrument. Kennedy subsequently used the wind-up guitar as part of a scheme to take lessons.

"I insisted my mother buy it then I put it under my chin and used a pencil and

wound it up and she got the message I wanted to play violin," said Kennedy.

Now she's living her dream of becoming a professional musician. After training at the University of Michigan

**Vivace Series**  
What: The Sonnet Quartet performs the music of Mozart, Hindemith and Brahms  
When: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7  
Where: Birmingham Temple, 28611 West 12 Mile Road, between Inkster and Middlebelt, Farmington Hills  
Tickets: \$18 non-members, \$15 seniors/students and Temple members, call (248) 788-9338

School of Music, and Harid Conservatory in Florida, Kennedy joined the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in 1998. While she loves performing orchestral music, something was still lacking. Five years ago she joined The Sonnet Quartet, which is performing as part of the Vivace Series on Sunday, April 7 at Birmingham Temple in Farmington Hills.

"Being in the quartet is a great opportunity to play chamber music and to have a venue to perform," said Kennedy. "Having an outlet to perform outside of an orchestra is important for the health of a musician. It helps to keep the artistic and technical side fine-tuned."

### Calling

Glenn Mellow's shared enthusiasm for chamber music is the reason he founded The Sonnet Quartet. Like Kennedy, Mellow was fortunate to realize he wanted to play a string instrument at a young age and sees his chosen profession "almost like a calling." Even though he's played

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**Chamber concert: Sonnet Quartet** members Sarah Cleveland (left), Glenn Mellow, Hai Xin Wu, and Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy performing a varied program at Birmingham Temple.



**Majestic steed:** David Bennett created his "Rearing Bronze Horse" by blowing glass into an armature he first welded from bronze.

### MICHIGAN GLASS MONTH EXHIBITS

■ **Habatat Galleries** - 30th International Glass Invitational Thursday, April 4 to Monday, May 6. Opening reception 8 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at the Royal Oak location, 4400 Fermelee. Call (248) 544-0594. Runs concurrently with *The Contemporary Glass Exhibition: From East to West* at Habatat's former space in Pontiac, 7 North Saginaw

■ **Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center** - *The Italian Influence on Contemporary American Glass* opens with a slide presentation on what inspires art by Daniel Clayman 3 p.m. Friday, April 5, followed by panel discussion 4-5:30 p.m., and an opening reception 5:30-7 p.m., continues to Friday, May 3, 1516 South Cranbrook, north of 14 Mile Road, call (248) 644-0866

■ **Janice Chasch Epstein Gallery** - 5 Artists: 5 Directions in Glass continues to Thursday, April 25, meet the artists 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 11, in the Jewish Community Center, 5000 W. Maple at Drake, West Bloomfield, call (248) 432-5448

■ **York Street Glassworks** - Don Schneider shows a variety of his works, 875 York Street in Plymouth's Old Village, call (734) 459-6419

■ **Epiphany** - April Wagner and Jason Ruff hold an open studio with glass blowing demonstrations noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 6, 170 Orchard Lake Road, east of Telegraph, Pontiac, call (248) 745-3786

## Exhibits spotlight material's versatility

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER  
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Glass has come a long way since Ferdinand Hampson held the first national exhibition at Habatat Galleries 30 years ago. Artists continue to experiment with technique and concept as the medium grows in popularity.

Fortunately, former Gov. William Milliken recognized glass's ability to enchant 22 years ago and proclaimed April as Michigan Glass Month. Today, it is the fastest growing medium with galleries, art centers and museums who celebrate the magic of glass with dozens of exhibits and events.

Hampson curates three separate shows including the 30th annual International Glass Invitational with 80 artists from nearly 20 countries at his new space in Royal Oak. Six exhibition rooms, totaling 10,000 square feet, document the progression of the contemporary glass movement with 320 new works. The show is dedicated to internationally acclaimed Czech artist Stanislav Libensky who died a few weeks ago. Libensky first exhibited at Habatat in 1983.

### Challenge to experiment

"This year I challenged the artists to experiment," said Hampson, founder of the oldest and largest annual exhibition of contemporary studio glass in the U.S., and president of Habatat Galleries in Boca Raton, Chicago, Royal Oak, and Birmingham as of June 1, 2002. "We're celebrating the diversity of the material. Daniel Clayman's work is minimal but compelling. Warren Langley from Australia uses lots of color - blue, yellow and red. The reason for the different spaces is because glass can take on so many forms. From its infancy, glass has become versatile. Artists make all sorts of objects and scales."

David Bennett welds bronze into an armature then blows glass inside the form to flesh out majestic horses. Glass master Dale Chihuly cre-

ates a large-scale chandelier, wall piece, and Ikobana for the 30th International. Shinichi and Kimiaki Higuchi return with works incorporating an insect and plant motif. Nature seems to be a favorite subject with Japanese artists including Hiroshi Yamano who continues the *From East to West* series with new vessels featuring fish as the theme.

Light shines through the nooks and hollows of a tree trunk-like sculpture with an emerging face by Irene Frolic of Canada. Steven Weinberg, known for creating interior worlds in crystal, adds facets to exterior surfaces. Miriam DiFiore incorporates a glass forest scene into an old cast iron bucket. Richard Ritter keeps his signature cane work imagery but positions it so the sphere appears to be emerging from an egg.

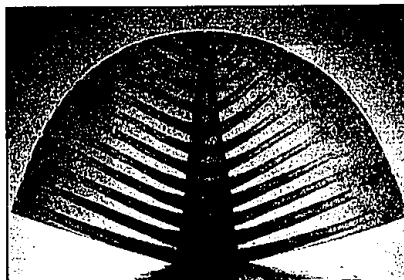
### From craft to fine art

If not for the foresight of Harvey Littleton and Dominick Labino who held hot glass workshops behind the Toledo Museum of Art 40 years ago, none of this work would have been possible. Until 1962, American glass was created by teams at Steubani and Tiffany, and considered a craft. Process and technology explored by Labino and Littleton led to artists producing fine art in private studios. In time, artists began looking to Europe to learn more about the material which had a long history there. By 1987, the national became an international.

At Habatat's old space in Pontiac, Hampson showcases international glass curated for a 240-piece exhibit sponsored by the Cultural Ministry of China at museums in Shanghai and Beijing. The Italian influence shines through a smaller show at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center where Hampson serves on the board. A panel discussion with Hampson, artists Richard Ritter and Stephen Powell, and critic William Varnus opens the exhibit Friday, April 6. Earlier in the day, Daniel Clayman will give a slide presentation and talk about what inspires glass art.

"Italian techniques have been used for hundreds of years; they were tremendous secrets for years," said Hampson. "Glass artists were not

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**Cast glass:** Michael Pavlik and Vladimira Klumpar cast this dramatic work in glass. It is one of 320 works on display at Habatat Galleries.

■ **'We're celebrating the diversity of the material. The reason for the different spaces is because glass can take on so many forms. From its infancy, glass has become versatile. Artists make all sorts of objects and scales.'**

Ferdinand Hampson  
Founder

## DANCE

Leading role:  
American Ballet Theatre's production of *Le Corsaire* is reputed to showcase superb male dancing.



## Dancer's photo exhibit accompanies 'Le Corsaire'

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
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No doubt dance lovers anticipate the American Ballet Theatre's annual visits to the Detroit Opera House.

This year, the company's production of *Le Corsaire*, Thursday-Sunday, April 4-7, will be accompanied by an exhibit of photographs by ABT corps dancer Ronelle O'Connor.

Carol Halsted, a dance photography collector, and partner at the Halsted Gallery in downtown

■ **'And one thing led to another, and I said wouldn't it be great to do a tie-in with your photography and ABT's visit.'**

Carol Halsted  
Dance photography collector

Birmingham, arranged the exhibit entitled *Through the Eye of the Dancer*.

Last year, O'Connor viewed an exhibit of Hal-

sted's photography collection at the Detroit Institute of the Arts while in town performing with ABT. O'Connor later contacted Halsted about her own work.

"And one thing led to another, and I said wouldn't it be great to do a tie-in with your photography and ABT's visit," recalls Halsted, who founded Oakland University's dance department and served as chair of the music, theater and dance department for six years. Halsted also recently

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