

At Home

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INTERIOR DESIGN ■ DIY ■ GARDENING

Ken Abramczyk, editor
(248) 901-2591
Fax: (248) 644-1314
kabrachczyk@oe.homecomm.net

C1 (F) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 27, 2003

Accents

The chef's kitchen

The country's top chefs work in state-of-the-art kitchens at hotels and trendy restaurants, but their personal choices vary in the privacy of their own homes. For example, Dwayne Clark, executive chef at the Our



Lucaya Beach and Gold Resort in the Bahamas, prefers to work at an oversized island in the center of the kitchen. Robert Carter, executive chef of the Peninsula Grill in Charleston, S.C., opts for laminate countertops instead of granite and other expensive stones because laminate is easy to clean and doesn't stain. The above counters and island is Wisconsin's Sunstone, the newest addition to the company's Stone Series of laminate designs. Sunstone's warm, golden tones illustrate the union of natural stone and man-made concrete.

Light up!

The Michigan Association of Illuminating Engineering Society of North America is sponsoring its annual product show 3:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 20, at Burton Manor in Livonia.

The newest technology from the lighting industry will be displayed from more than 60 lighting manufacturers. Products and displays include lighting for commercial, industrial, health care, hospitality, residential and exterior applications. The show is open to the public and is \$30 per person (\$20 for students). Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres are included and advance reservations are required by March 17.

To register, mail check payable to IES Michigan Section and your business card to Cheryl Yates at the Lighting Group, P.O. Box 21445, Auburn Hills, MI 48321. For more information and reservations, call Yates at (248) 852-0731.

Wanted: Your remodeling project

Do you have a home improvement project that you boast about to relatives, friends or neighbors? Did you transform a room into something totally different or something brand new and bright? Or did you run into a major headache and how did you resolve it? We'd like to write about your do-it-yourself project and share your story with our readers. Please submit your project to Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or e-mail him at kabrachczyk@oe.homecomm.net.



Marshall Field's designer Mario Kocaj's *Sitting Rooms* is just one of 60 room vignettes featured at Orchestrations for the Home, a showcase of work by local designers at the Michigan Design Center in Troy to benefit the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Harmonious orchestration

Designers instrumental in DSO benefit

BY HARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

For the past several years, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Volunteer Council Designer

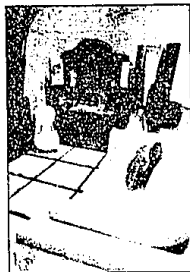
Showhouse has opened special doors in grand style. The showhouse involved designers from around the area donating their talents to furnish a house

that would then be open for public tours, with proceeds benefiting the DSO.

This year, different doors will be open as the Michigan Design Center in Troy is the site of Orchestrations for the Home: A Design Showcase. This venue and featured events promise to be as noteworthy as a visit to a showhouse.

"It will be quite a feast for the senses," said Maureen D'Avanzo, DSO Volunteer Council president.

Orchestrations for the Home, a fund-raiser for the DSO, will



Troy designer Randie Federman's *Sunroom, Fresh Clean Simple!*, is a fantasy vignette that blurs the line between indoors and outdoors.

take place Friday-Sunday, March 7-9, at MDC, 1700 Stutz. The public will be able to visit more than 40 showrooms featuring between 60 and 65 vignettes by area designers, and hear lectures by local professionals. Four nationally acclaimed design experts will also give presentations.

A gala premiere is scheduled Thursday, March 6, featuring a performance by DSO musicians, and a strolling supper catered by Opus One. (See related articles.) "Visitors" could stay as little or as much as they like," said

Susan Zinger, MDC executive vice president and general manager. "There's that much to see and hear, between the lectures and the vignettes, you could spend the whole day."

"We're all excited about it," said Barbara Czamanske, event chair.

"There's a mystique about the design center. On these days you don't have to have a designer (with you), you can go in."

Plans for Orchestrations for the Home have been in the pipeline since August. It was modeled after a similar event in Chicago.

"I had been at the Chicago Merchandise Mart event about five years ago," D'Avanzo said. "I thought, 'Gee, this is a great event! While I like showhouses, I thought 'What can we do different?'"

Designer Judith Langenbach said that MDC wanted to get involved with the symphony, council approached the design center with the idea.

"It was one of the great synergies, all of us thinking at the same level," D'Avanzo said.

"We loved the idea and really wanted to support the symphony and do an event," Zinger said. "We went to our showrooms and they overwhelmingly said yes, so off we went."

PLEASE SEE DESIGNERS, C4



Artwork pops against the metallic hand-rubbed fresco walls in Mario Kocaj's *Sitting Room*. Kocaj is a designer at Marshall Field's at Northland in Southfield.

Local designers accent the possibilities

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

There's no contrived continuity here, just beautiful design and roomfuls of possibilities.

Orchestrations for the Home, a showcase of more than 60 room vignettes by local designers, is in the making at the Michigan Design Center in Troy.

The event, slated March 6-9, benefits the

Detroit Symphony Orchestra and is open to the public.

With such a diversity of designers, styles and living spaces represented, Orchestrations will no doubt inspire and astonish. And attendees will likely depart with not only new appreciation for interior design, but also a plethora of ideas and concepts to

PLEASE SEE ACCENT, C4

MARKET PLACE

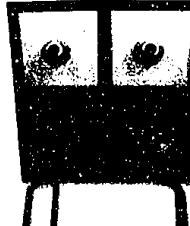
Submissions

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Marketplace on the front of At Home? We'd like to feature it! Send a photo or slide of the piece, along with information, to Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

Style in a snap

Stick'n Stile design appliques bring a splash of color, texture and creativity to your bathroom. Show here is the Orchid and Narcissus design, a spray of fragile white flowers against a light, sand-colored background by well-known artist Cheryl Dium. These easy-to-use appliques - just peel and stick - offer an inexpensive option to change the look of your bathroom at a fraction of the cost to replace plain tile. Stick'n Stile also covers "ugly" tile and will add color, enhancing

your current decor. The appliques adhere to bathroom tile, shower doors, tub and shower surrounds and mirrors. They have a raised design, and look and feel like ceramic tile, not just a flat decal. They are water resistant, won't peel or yellow over time, and are easy to clean with a mild household cleaner. The appliques can be easily removed by loosening the adhesive with the heat of a hairdryer. Available at Bed, Bath & Beyond.



Let's face it

Decorating should be fun. This Funny Face furniture, made by Pylone Studio in the south of France, will put smiles on your family's faces. Ideal as a child's night stand, an eye-catching entranceway accent, or a funky family room focal point, this wooden chest of drawers sitting atop a colorful metal stand is 36 inches tall, 16 inches wide and 14 inches deep. Whimsical drawer pulls are high-lacquered resin. Available at The Print Gallery, 29173 Northwestern Highway in Southfield. Call (248) 356-5454 or visit www.everythingart.com.

Did you miss the deadline for Thursday's Classifieds?

You have a second chance to make Thursday's edition, if you call us by noon on Wednesday we'll put your ad in a special mini-directory, "Too late to Classified," which appears in Arts & Entertainment. Call 1-800-579-SELL (preferably by deadline) to place your ad.