

## 'Glorious Greece Today' Sets Program Theme

(See PHOTO, 4-D)

"Glorious Greece Today," a travel lecture program, will be presented by the Birmingham Optimist Club at 8:15 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Community House.

The program will be narrated by Frank J. McGinnis who also was the photographer of the films, on all of Greece and the Greek Islands.

Tickets are available from any member of the Optimist Club, at Lake Jewelers or from Conn Eklens at the Birmingham YMCA.

McGINNIS BILLS himself as a "refugee from the rat race" because he spent 35 years in various fields of advertising in Toledo, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Detroit.

During this time he became head of the Chevrolet account for Campbell-Ewald and for the last year he was an advertising manager for the Ford Motor Co.

In 1961 he retired to realize his dream of exploring and enjoying the world. He set up Worldwide Pictures, Inc., gathered the latest in camera and sound equipment and launched a new career.

HIS TRAVEL articles have been published in the Detroit Athletic Club News and other magazines.

His color film on Greece is being shown to travel-lecture audiences and on TV programs across the nation.

In 1963 McGinnis spent three months in Spain, France and Italy gathering material for "Europe's Fabulous Rivers," his latest picture planned for release in early 1964.

### Marriot To Perform Final Concert in Cranbrook Series

Frederick Marriot, carillonneur and composer, will give the final carillon concert of this season at 4 p.m., Sunday, in Christ Church Cranbrook.

Marriot, 6840 E. Dartmoor, Birmingham, is organist-chiefmaster at Central Methodist Church, Detroit. A graduate and holder of the first honorary degree of "Meritorious Laureate" from the International Royal Carillon School at Mechelen, Belgium, he represented the United States at the International Carillon competition held in the Netherlands.

He has performed many times on the 62-bell carillon at Christ Church.



A MAN WHO tries many media, Clifford West is currently devoting a large part of his time to experimenting with art films. He currently is working on a study of 14th and 15th Century Renaissance art. Usually, about once a year, he shows some of his films for one of the Friday night Bloomfield Art Association programs.

## He's Both Artist and Patron

By ROBIN BAHR  
Special Writer

"What matters in art is the integrity of the artist and the process of growth," according to Clifford West, one painter in this area who looks upon much of contemporary art with misgiving.

"We hope of course that the interchange of creative people from a wide range of fields in an atmosphere free of any pressure will result in fresh thinking and new works."

"But," he added, "we do not demand concrete results. We are encouraged to see creative people leave refreshed."

AS A SERIOUS successful painter whose works have been exhibited throughout the country, as an art instructor in anatomy and art history on and off for the past 20 years at the Cranbrook institutions and as a sophisticated, urbane person, West is knowledgeable and articulate about his field. And he is disillusioned.

"There are just too many painters today who are slapping paint on a canvas before they've learned to draw. This stuff passes as abstract expressionism, but this to me is not art."

"AND THERE IS no independence," he added. "Abstract expressionism has taken over the art world. The new young painters fall right in line rather than strike out on their own as they did in 1936 when I was a student at the Cranbrook Art Academy working with people like the late Eric Saarinen and Charles Ramee—people responsible for the major breakthroughs in design and architecture."

literature could come from for two to six months to work and rest in complete freedom.

A BOARD of supervisors composed of outstanding people from every field selected by the West passes on applications. Nothing is required of the participants.

With the completion of several films (which have been used in schools throughout the country), West became fascinated with the camera as a new, exciting art medium.

RIGHT NOW he is working on his most ambitious film to date—a study of 14th and 15th Century Renaissance art.

TWO YEARS AGO West began experimenting with art films. Partly because as a teacher he felt the need for visual material, that portrayed the three-dimensional form of a work of art. Partly, too, because of his discouragement with the "status quo" in art.

With the completion of several films (which have been used in schools throughout the country), West became fascinated with the camera as a new, exciting art medium.

RIGHT NOW he is working on his most ambitious film to date—a study of 14th and 15th Century Renaissance art.

"This has been a tremendous undertaking—a monumental project in fact, but one which has given us tremendous satisfaction," said West, who has just returned from seven months in Florence where most of the shooting took place.

"Us" includes his whole family. Mrs. West and their daughter Gillian, a 23-year-old Radcliffe graduate, spent the seven months on research for the scripts.

Justin, their nine-year-old son, held cameras and untangled lines for his father when he wasn't doing his homework in the back row of a famous church such as San Lorenzo.

The work has resulted in 18 movies.

THIS IS AN important first in art films, says West, because "these are the first art movies ever produced where the camera has been used as an artistic eye rather than a documentary reflection."

He added, "We wanted to give the greatest number of people possible an understanding of creative form—and we think we have succeeded."

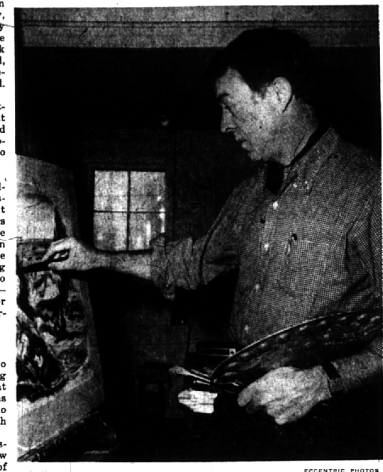
This is an important beginning for West too. He is eager to do more work in Italy, in Greece and eventually on the American art. This does not preclude painting however. "I am a painter first and I always will paint," he said.

ALONG WITH the movies, West brought back from Italy notebooks filled with drawings, mostly of people.

As a teacher of anatomy, West has always been absorbed with the human form as the most effective means to express his own point of view.

It is, in fact, the human element that seeps the dominant theme in West's career—in his work on Oasabay, in his paintings, in teaching and in his films.

It is good to see a man of West's talents give so much to the art world, and to the intangible but all important process of creativity.



"I AM A PAINTER first, and I will always paint," claims versatile Clifford West, whose home and studio are on Lone Pine Road in Bloomfield Hills. West's work has been in shows throughout the country.

### ART FOR ART'S SAKE

## America House: Crafts-Lovers' Haven

Patrons of America House are not so much customers as they are devotees. You can recognize them easily. They enter this unique shop of handmade crafts with a rapid aura of anticipation.

A member of this craft-conscious cult is an architect on his lunch hour or a new bride with educated taste or an engineer on his way past the windows but drawn in by the compelling display or a career girl looking for gems for her apartment.

Anyone can join this group. All you need is an appreciation for good design and a sensitivity to the warm depth of color, texture and form of these hand-crafted art objects—the eagerness to learn.

WHEN THE devotee first enters America House on E. Maple, his eye is taken with the impressive display and the subtle combinations of materials. A deep lush blue, brown and orange floral rug's colors are echoed in a beautiful large pot. (In the ceramic vernacular a vase is known simply as a "pot.")

A rhythmic metal sculptured tree sways over the rug and above this group hangs a wasp-nest shaped ceramic bird house for cheerful birds.

To his right the craft enthusiast sees a low row of walnut cabinets and shelves displaying ceramics and other useful objects.

SOME OF THESE objects are useful in a functional sense: you can pour tea out of them. Some, like wall hangings, are useful aesthetically: they delight the eye and enrich the environment.

Standing tall and important are ceramics that are serious in intent. The forms are considered and unusual and the colors are natural and consistent but provocative. These creations of mud and melted minerals rival paintings for aesthetic beauty and philosophic impact. And you can expect an argument from the painting cult on THAT statement.

A SHIFT OF pace shows a batch of whimsical little ceramic animals who have such nutty expressions that the viewer finds himself twisting his own mouth just to see if such faces are possible.

An exquisitely graceful silver service reminds the browser of Christmas, and wouldn't it be great to give a really spectacular gift to the folks this year.

The spun pewter cream and

sugar in contemporary design encourage the shopper to forget his altruistic thoughts and buy this set for himself.

NOW HE HASN't get past the silver and gold jewelry sparkling in dark cases.

It is no easy to decide that you NEED a cast gold brooch with a natural faceted stone setting, or those sophisticated silver and ebony earrings.

None of the early modern erudite workmanship is apparent in these pieces by master craftsmen.

Also in this case are some tiny sculptures that appeared on the back page of the Craft Horizons magazine. What a shock! On the printed page they looked nine feet tall and they are really only a few inches high. Many other pieces in America House are recognizable to



ECCENTRIC PHOTO

exhibition-goers and art publication readers.

THE ARTISTS whose works are shown are some of the best craftsmen in America. Some are local but the rest are from California, New York and places in between.

Each piece shown has met the approval of the jury made up of outstanding Michigan craftsmen. All of the pieces exhibit good quality craftsmanship, tasteful design and the inventive originality of the artist—craftsman—designer who made them.

SO FAR the craft admirer is only half way around the shop. He has yet to marvel at the brilliance of color and curious melted glass effects of the enameled bowls.

He has the surprise of finding a ceramic samovar with a candle warmer niche.

By CAROLYN HALL

He has the curiosity of inspecting closely the varying stitches and various yarns that make up the gay stitcheries.

Casually draped on the floor and visible as part of the window display he will discover a woven stool of such earthy rich colors and loopy, warm tactile sense that he can't resist feeling it.

THE TOUR of this impressive shop, comparable only to Den Permanente, the national crafts display store in Denmark, convinces the visitor of the vitality and range of American crafts.

These art works are not archaic reminders of a bygone era of handmade artifacts but a prognostication of product design yet to come.

The artist-craftsman maintains contact with the natural expression of the materials and inventively examines the endless possibilities. Even though many of these ideas will run the course of industrial production the originals have the timeless touch of the craftsman.

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever," and America House is a place to find one.

### Musicale To Open Its Fall Season

The Birmingham Musicale season begins Oct. 10 with an open meeting.

Natalie Moeckel, mezzo-soprano; Joan Schmidt, pianist; and a string trio make up the program. The trio consists of Jean Holmeyer and Helen Conrad on violin and Lois Holmes at the piano.

Mrs. Moeckel is a graduate of New England Conservatory and the Academy of Vocal Arts. She is a member of the faculty at the Royal Oak School of Music and is presently also soloist at the First Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak.

A group of German leader by Schumann and an aria from Donizetti will be her program. Her accompanist will be Adalyn (Mrs. Vernon L.) Venman, Michigan State Federation.

THE PIANO soloist, Joan Schmidt, will play a contemporary program including music by Kabalevsky, Toulenc and Ravel. She is a faculty member of Echo Park Primary School in Bloomfield Hills and has been musical director for productions given by the Village Players of The National Federation of Music Club's Crusade for Strings.

The chairman of the day, Mrs. Edward J. Hahn, will be assisted by Mrs. Marlin Campbell, Mrs. William Easton, Mrs. E. Philip French, Mrs. Burke Bartlett and Mrs. Russell Zollar.

The string trio, composed of members of the musicale, will perform the Vivaldi Concerto in A Minor. The trio has worked in behalf of The National Federation of Music Club's Crusade for Strings.

The chairman of the day, Mrs. Edward J. Hahn, will be assisted by Mrs. Marlin Campbell, Mrs. William Easton, Mrs. E. Philip French, Mrs. Burke Bartlett and Mrs. Russell Zollar.

THE EXHIBITION will remain on view through Oct. 27 and is open 2 to 5 p.m. daily except Mondays.

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## BAA Interior Design Show 'Designed' around Fine Art

On exhibition at the Bloomfield Art Association beginning Sunday will be the display of works by some of the outstanding interior designers in the area. It will feature a number of interiors planned around pieces of fine art.

The exhibitors include Hugh Eaton, designer and manufacturer of his own contemporary furniture, who with his wife Doty, is co-chairman of the exhibition.

Displayed will be a collection of interiors, designed to show how art can be used significantly in the everyday life of the home.

SOME OF THE artists whose works will be seen are Glen Michaels, Al Pezyczny, Francis Moran, Baltazar Korab and Sanic de Erdely.

Other exhibitors are Roger L. Bracey, A.I.D., and Louis J. Sapington, A.I.D., two Birmingham interior designers; Pippen Saarinen and Roy, N.S.L.A., nationally famous landscape architects—winners of awards in House & Garden and the Life Award.

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and interior planner and recipient of numerous design awards.

James Allison, A.I.D., coordinator of American House; Dean Corrie, manager of the Commercial Interiors division of Triangle Furniture and Johnson, Johnson and Roy, N.S.L.A., nationally famous landscape architects—winners of awards in House & Garden and the Life Award.

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