AT KENILWORTH GALLERY

Oils Have Strong, Stylized Touch

Reviewed by
Katharine Smith

The new Kenilworth Gallery at 165 Pierce Street has a distinctly European flavor—a window full of canvases, a door invitingly open and one wall hung with 29 paintings by Domingo Eaglimbene from—don't hold your breath—Grosse Pointe.

The European flavor is genuine, however, Saglimbene is a direct descendant of the Saglimbene brothers who were Italian fresco painters of the 14th Century.

THIS GROUP of his works one suspects may have been painted in a relatively short space of time, since the majority of them are quite similar in subject and technique, as though he were working a particular phase out of his system.

The paintings are done in oil on masonite, with a swirling impasto not necessarily related to the forms he depicts. Many of them are of somber, large-eyed figures done with a stylized distortion.

In fact, "stylized" is the word for his drawing, his color and his way of applying paint.

FLAT AREAS of color, heavily under and over painted, large forms, hard edges and eyes stick in the mind.

"The Little Fisher" is a noteworthy composition of three figures in rather somber but beautiful renaissance color.

"Rustic Table No. 1 is an attractive arrangement of fruit and pitcher, very bright and fresh.

In the window of the gallery "Monkey Organ Grinder" is a rather more complicated and effective pattern of values mainly in earth tones.

"Boy With Crow" is notable for its restraint.

IN SOME of the paintings the animals are a jarring note because they are painted in a less stylized way than the people.

In all the paintings, Saglimbene's strength and experience are apparent. He has been represented in numerous Michigan Artists Shows at the Detroit Institute of Art, has appeared in a juried show of national scope in Provincetown, Mass., and has had a one-man show in New York city. This exhibition will hang through Saturday.

Answer To Puzzle No. 775

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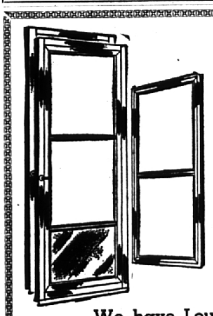
RESTAURANT ROW

A 2-block long parcel of land in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area, with ample parking, is being developed as RESTAURANT ROW. The idea being to have several fine restaurants side by side, each featuring different food. We plan to make this location the NO. 1 eating spot in Michigan, intended to attract people from all areas. Building sites are available for a Steak House, Oriental Restaurant, Sea Food Restaurant, Italian Restaurant, Pancake House, Cocktail Lounge, Supper Club. Fastest growing, highest income area in all of Michigan. If you are interested in building in this choice location, contact land owner, DI 1-5060 or 869-5547.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BAA Offers Classes In Weaving, Painting

As artist and "Art for Art's Sake" Eccentric columnist says—it's time to sign up for that art class you've always planned to take.

The Bloomfield Art Association offers art classes, with courses for those with no previous experience as well as advanced students. The 10 week sessions are conducted at the Birmingham Art Center, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, and begin the week of Sept. 23.

WAYNE STATE University professor Peter Gilleran will instruct a class in painting on Monday evenings from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Monday mornings, weaver Arlen Linn will conduct an Introduction to Weaving class from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Svea Kline will instruct three classes in ceramic sculpture on Mondays: from 9:30 a.m. to noon, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. and from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

On Tuesdays Robert Konersman will teach portrait painting from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

The same day, Dorothy Siddall will offer a basic drawing and painting class from 1 to 3:30 p.m., and life drawing will meet from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S CLASSES will include watercolor painting by Mary Jane Bigler from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

On Thursdays, Kathleen Birch will teach two oil painting classes, 9:30 a.m. to noon for advanced, and 1 to 3:30 p.m. for beginning painters.

ART CLASSES for children will also begin Sept. 23 and have been extended from six to 10 weeks this fall. Betty Conn will conduct her children's workshops for first and second grades on Monday from 4 to 5:30 p.m.; and third and fourth grades on Tuesdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Art classes taught by Gordon Hipp will be on Wednesdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for fifth and sixth grades; and on Thursdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for seventh and eighth grades. Basic concepts of line, form and composition will be offered for grades nine through 12 Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m.

Registrations are being accepted by mail or in person prior to the first class meeting.

Information and a brochure may be obtained by calling the BAA Tuesday through Saturday.

NATURE NOW

By Lydia King Frehse
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Soil Is Important In Man's Economy

The term "mother earth" is frequently on the lips of many of us. Too often, however, we take for granted the soil upon which we tread in our daily rounds ignoring our tremendous dependence upon its fertility and the unseen plant and animal life which it supports.

Soil is as old as the first land plants whose ancient growth began its slow accumulation. Scientists believe that lichens, those primitive grey-green scale-like bodies which still grow on soil and bark and stone, are typical of these early plant populations.

NOW AS THEN soil continues to undergo an intricate and constant evolution resulting from its relationship to the plants and animals which it supports as well as to the many natural and climatic forces by which it is affected.

Mrs. Frehse

On any day afield take up a handful of soil which makes up the thin outer covering of our rocky earth and you will have in your hand a mixture of rock fragments, air, water and organic material.

ONLY FIVE TO 10 per cent of the soil is organic matter which is composed of the residue of once living plants and animals.

If you use a little imagination you can interpret this to mean such things as a dead leaf, a mouse's skull, a bird's feather, a snake's skin, a bit of tree bark, a flower's petal. Yet the fertility of any soil depends greatly upon these organic substances.

Soil also involves the two energy sources of light and heat. However, its most important factor is the breaking down of the above organic wastes into the enriching substances which we call humus.

THE TERM "soil life" is one which live either on or under its surface.

It is only within recent years that this study called "soil biology" has claimed the attention of scientists. Their explorations are giving us tantalizing glimpses of a new field filled with amazing variety and complexity.

FOR INSTANCE, John Russel, author of "The World of the Soil", estimates that a teaspoon-ful of fertile soil contains bacteria in numbers which roughly equal twice the whole population of the world.

And Farb points out that a single bacterial cell producing a new generation every twenty minutes could in only two days theoretically give rise to 24 trillion trillion progeny, an amount equal to 4,000 times the weight of the earth itself. Fortunately, natural checks and balances make such runaway growth impossible.

THE MAINTENANCE of an adequate supply of soil nitrogen is one of the principal problems of the earth's fertility. Large amounts of this substance are removed from crop fields whose products in turn nourish animals and men. Although a part of these waste materials is returned to the soil as fertilizer, much of the nitrogen is lost.

The chief means of returning nitrogen to the soil is by the activity of bacteria both free-living and those living symbiotically in the roots of such plants as the legumes (peas, beans and clover).

These can "unlock" the organic compounds left by dead plants and animals and convert them into forms which can be reused in making food for new plants.

IN THIS complicated "Nitrogen cycle" the above elements are first converted from simple to complex compounds and then returned to their simple form by respiration or by fermentation induced by bacteria and other fungi.

In this process any nitrogen or carbon atom may literally be changed from oak leaf to bacterium, to wheat plant, to animal, to worm (which may destroy its dead body).

And so it is that any life cycle represents a continuum from birth, through life, past decay to life-renourished and renewed.

(To Be Continued Next Week)

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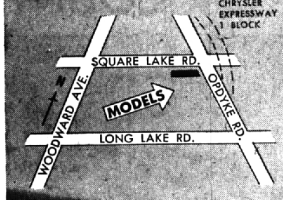

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