emicertainment

Dazzling woodcuts in new gallery show

Sharon Merkur, considered Toronto's foremost practitioner in the woodcut medium, has returned to Halton Hills for her fourth local exhibition in eight years.

Exploring a landscape theme, Merkur greeted visitors to Gallery House Sol on Charles St. for the opening of a show she shares with Owen Sound furniture designer and woodturner Tom Carnahan.

The show continues through June 7. Gallery proprietor John Sommer says Merkur's large, original color woodcuts 'meet the secret wish of every true collector: to own something very few other people will also own."

The larger pieces on exhibit are printed in low editions, Sommer explained. Also in the show are small pastels also following the landscape theme.

"Sharon has developed the color woodcut to its utmost refinement," Sommer said.

Merkur's work represents a substantial variation on the woodcut process. Instead of following the age-old method of using a separate block for each color, she works with the same block, cutting away new layers and areas after each color is printed. The effect is remarkable.

Drawing heavily-and mostly from memory-on her travels in Galilee, Merkur depicts the already impressive natural landscape in a wash of pastel colors which, combined with the unusual textures produced by her woodcut style, produce consistently dazzling images.

In this first Georgetown exhibition, Tom Carnahan offers a series of imaginative designs in wood displaying a youthful flair that gallery visitors will enjoy.

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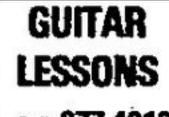
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LANGEST WOODOR & OUTDOOR

One of 12 central partners in the Owen Sound-based "Makers" artisans' collective which also counts broom maker Bob Lyons, a Georgetown native, among its 32 members, Carnahan is a graduate of Sheridan College's School of Design and spent three years designing furniture.

As well as delightfully surprising structural ideas, his work at House Sol reflects his careful attention to color and contrast and a marked tendency toward perfectionism.

Most of Carnahan's pieces are func-



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Last year over 350 pecals attended the derty. This year the Conservation Authority



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tional-knife blocks, a coffee table and cookie jars-but each is a work of art demanding critical study. Alongside maple and cherry, and in some cases within the same work, are such exotic woods as Africa's bubings and the aromatic imbuya,

Several non-functional wood turnings housed for the show in Carpahan's magnificent, airy, hexagonal display case also feature brass and copper components specially designed for the pieces by fellow "Makers" Andrew Goss and Ian Masters.

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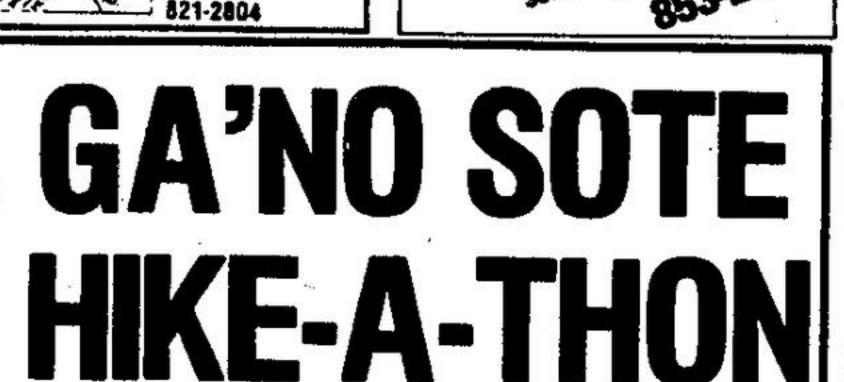


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HOW:

Purchase a Family Pass (\$10.00) or an Individual Pass (\$4.00).

Passes are available through: Burlington Georgetown

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You can purchase your pass at the following locations prior to boarding the buses which will take you to the starting point for the hike. BURLINGTON MALL, 8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. GEORGETOWN MARKETPLACE, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. MILTON MALL, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

HOPEDALE MALL, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

Hike and tour of Crawford Lake will take approximately 4-5 hours. Food will be available at Crawford Lake.

Participants will be bused back to the malls from Crawford Lake: Centre For Inland Waters will have displays at Crawford Lake to kick off Environmental Week.

> **WEAR COMFORTABLE CLOTHING** Automobiles will not be allowed into the Crawford Lake area on June 3rd.



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