

# Ravishing woodblock prints

Until May 15, Gallery House Sol will exhibit pastels, mixed media works, and new colour woodblock prints by Sharon Merkur and porcelain by Celia and Allen Hirsh.

Sharon Merkur was born in Toronto and has lived there all her life. She graduated from the Ontario College of Art and studied at York University.

For some years now, Sharon Merkur has worked on an ongoing series of mixed media works which she calls "Frieze of life". Thirteen of them are exhibited at House Sol for the first time anywhere. These works depict birth, childhood, adolescence, love, marriage, parenthood and maturity. All these events take place before a background of living and dead ancestors.

In every one of the 13 works, woodblock printing is combined with drawing and painting in pencil, crayon and pastel.

The result is a series of glowing one-of-a-kind pictures.

It is an ambitious undertaking of great beauty and I suggest that art lovers in Halton Hills should not miss it.

Celia and Allen Hirsh are a wife and husband team from Toronto, who have, for several years, turned out a very happy and decorative line of porcelain ware for people with an eye for the unusual.

House Sol is open to the public from Tuesday to Thursday from 2:00 p.m. and from Friday to Sunday from 2:00 p.m. Admission is free.



Artists in league

Celia Hirsh (left) and Sharon Merkur (right) both look at a porcelain item that Mrs. Hirsh created. The two artists had their work on display at the Gallery House Sol Saturday. Mrs. Merkur had works from a mixed media series as well as new color wood block prints and pastels. (Herald photo)



## Animal kingdom

Wild creatures of all kinds are roaring the halls of George Kennedy Public School. The beasts are not to be feared, however, as they're actors in the school's musical "The Jungle Book". The fun children's story is being performed tonight (Wednesday) and tomorrow night at the school. (Herald photo)

## GDHS pirates on center stage

The "Pirates of Penzance" will soon be brought to life by the Musical Theatre Club of the Georgetown District High School.

The story centers on an indentured pirate who is apprenticed to a pirate king because his nursemaid cannot hear very well. When she is told to send him to a pirate, the channels get crossed.

This pirate is under contract until his 21st birthday, and is looking forward to his release, as he has fallen in love with a noble woman, and can not pursue her if he is still a pirate.

Unfortunately for this pirate, it is discovered his birthday falls on

February 29. Since he is officially only five years old, the pirates try to hold him until his 21st birthday.

"It is a totally improbable story," said Judith Gooding, Artistic Director for the play. "We're setting it up, and playing it for a laugh."

"It's a tremendously funny play," she said. "Visually there are a lot of people on stage, with gorgeous costumes. The music is beautiful, and there are some wonderful voices."

However, Mrs. Gooding warned the play is not particularly suited to young children, because much of the jokes are vocal, rather than visual.

An incredible amount of work has gone into the play, she said, and

more than 50 students are involved in the production.

"Pirates" will run from May 7 to May 10, with shows starting nightly at 8 p.m. Tickets, which will go on sale soon at the school office, will cost \$6.

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## Halton Hills Arts Council

A Festival of Flowers - Flowers and spring go hand in hand. Nowhere will this theme be more evident than at Crawford's Pine Valley Farms from Friday to May 11. At this Festival of Flowers Art Show and Sale, more than 50 original pieces of floral art will be displayed in their plant house amongst the roses, begonias and chrysanthemums.

the holiday weekend, May 17, 18 and 19. The art displayed for sale by Canadian artists features new releases, originals and limited editions. The 60 booths will be in the Barn, the Greenhouse and a Marquee in a spring festival atmosphere. Charges: \$2 per person and \$1 for children under 10.

John Sommer of Gallery House Sol helped the Crawfords find established area artists who do floral work in a variety of media. When you step into their plant house, you'll literally see an explosion of flowers, both in life and art. What a perfect Mother's Day gift - a real flower for the day and a work of floral art to last for years to come!

Gallery House Sol has a new show on display. Sharon Merkur's works from a mixed media series and new colour wood block prints and pastels illustrates her theme, Frieze of Life. Porcelain by Celia and Allen Hirsh can also be enjoyed. The show will continue until May 15.

Don't forget to attend the Y.M.C.A.'s Art Auction Friday at 8 p.m. at the Holy Cross Church Hall. Not only will it be a pleasure to preview the works prior to the auction, but once the bidding gets started, the evening can become quite exciting for both buyers and viewers alike.

Chudleigh's Apple Farm in Milton is having an Art Festival

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