Abstract artists looking forward to show

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Masonry in Whitby and has since brought countless treasures to life using sandstone, limestone and granite.

Specializing in Japanese-type designs, his sculptures are made to hold and reflect water — in garden settings mainly — while some even move as water flows through them.

He's been commissioned by everyone from garden lovers to large corporations. His largest piece, which took over a month to complete, is a four-tone sculpture that dresses up a conference centre in London.

"Most of my designs are abstract, but some are of people like Madonna and an old man emerging from a stone," explained Mr. Rickli. "The key is to show people how the pieces reflect water or move with it, so I'm going to have to be pretty creative with my craft show area.

Concert to take stage

Milton Concert Presentations' final concert of the season, 'Beethoven, Beethoven', will take the stage next month.

The Friday, April 17 concert will feature pianist Jane Coop performing Piano Concert No. 5 in E flat major, op. 73, 'Emperor' with the North York Symphony Orchestra conducted by Kerry Stratton.

The popular 'Emperor' Concerto, written at the beginning of the Romantic era, assumes truly symphonic properties yet provides a piano part that will leave no doubt as to the ascendant role of pianist, a group spokesperson said.

Ms Coop's numerous recitals, orchestral appearances, recordings and countless radio broadcasts have brought her international attention from critics and music lovers alike.

Well known for her "virtuosic ease" and "pristine musicianship," she has built a reputation as one of Canada's leading pianists. She has toured extensively, giving performances in New York, London, Washington, Toronto, St. Petersburg and Hong Kong.

The concert at Milton Alliance Church on Derry Road is the last of Milton Concert Presentations' Nocturne Series. A silent auction and raffle will also be held. Tickets cost \$20 for adults or \$15 for seniors and students and may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling Caroline at 878-4427.

"It would be nice to sell some of my work at the show, but I'm really just hoping to spark some interest. I'd love to do this full time someday."

Among those who've already used the One of a Kind Craft Show to bolster their business are operators of Milton's All Fired

Eleven-year veterans of Canada's largest craft show, Teresa Lee Beal and brother Dave Carson say the fair "draws quality customers who are there to buy and not just browse."

Their main 'one-of-a-kind' contribution are ceramic lightswitch plates. They offer more than 160 different designs, everything from highly popular floral patterns to cats and dinosaurs.

"The One of a Kind show is a great place to test which designs are most popular and come up with new ideas," said Ms Beal.

Her family has been producing light switch plates for almost two decades now — starting out in her basement and ending up at a shop on Nipissing Road. They affectionately refer to the business as "a hobby that got way out of hand."

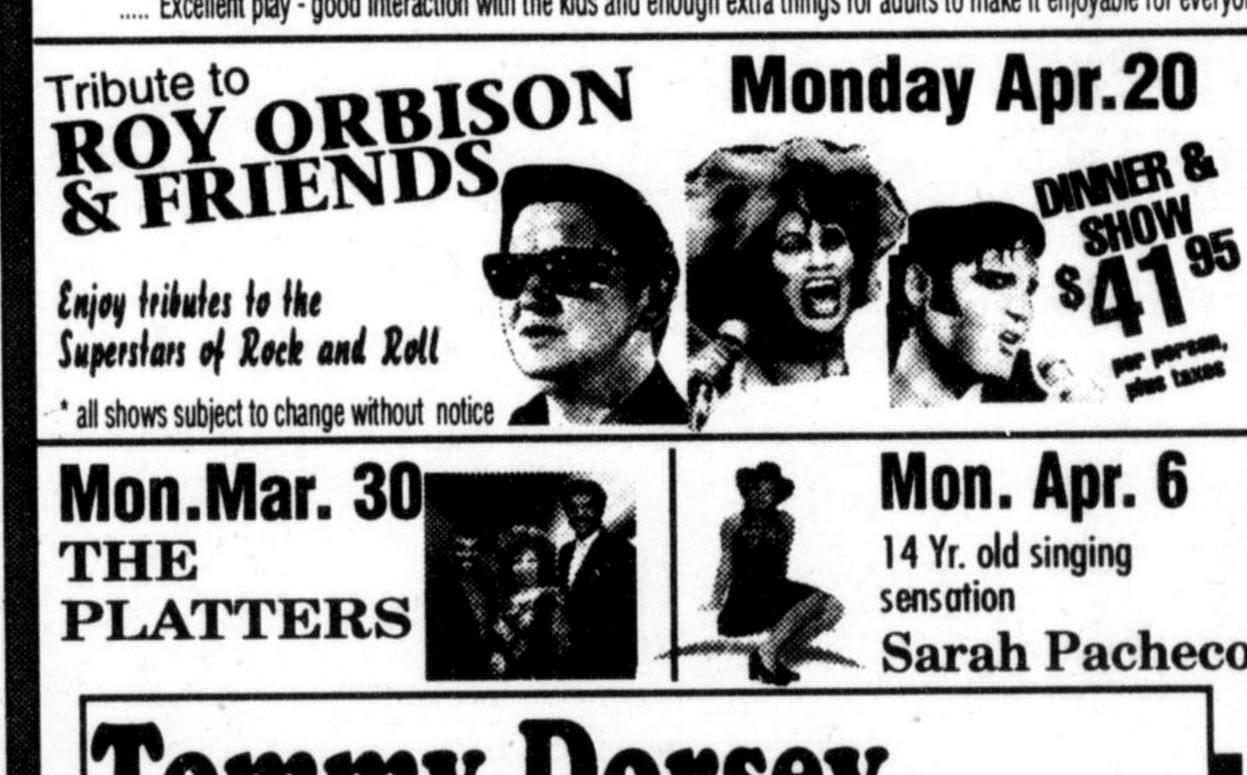
Lately, All Fired Up designers have expanded their production to include attractive, hand painted clocks and funky flower pots — made from their light switch cover waste.

"These flower pots are truly one of a kind because no two bits of waste are quite alike. They can't be reproduced by us or anyone," Mr. Carson explained.

The One of a Kind Craft Show will run this Wednesday to Sunday (March 25 to 29) in the National Trade Centre at Exhibition Place.

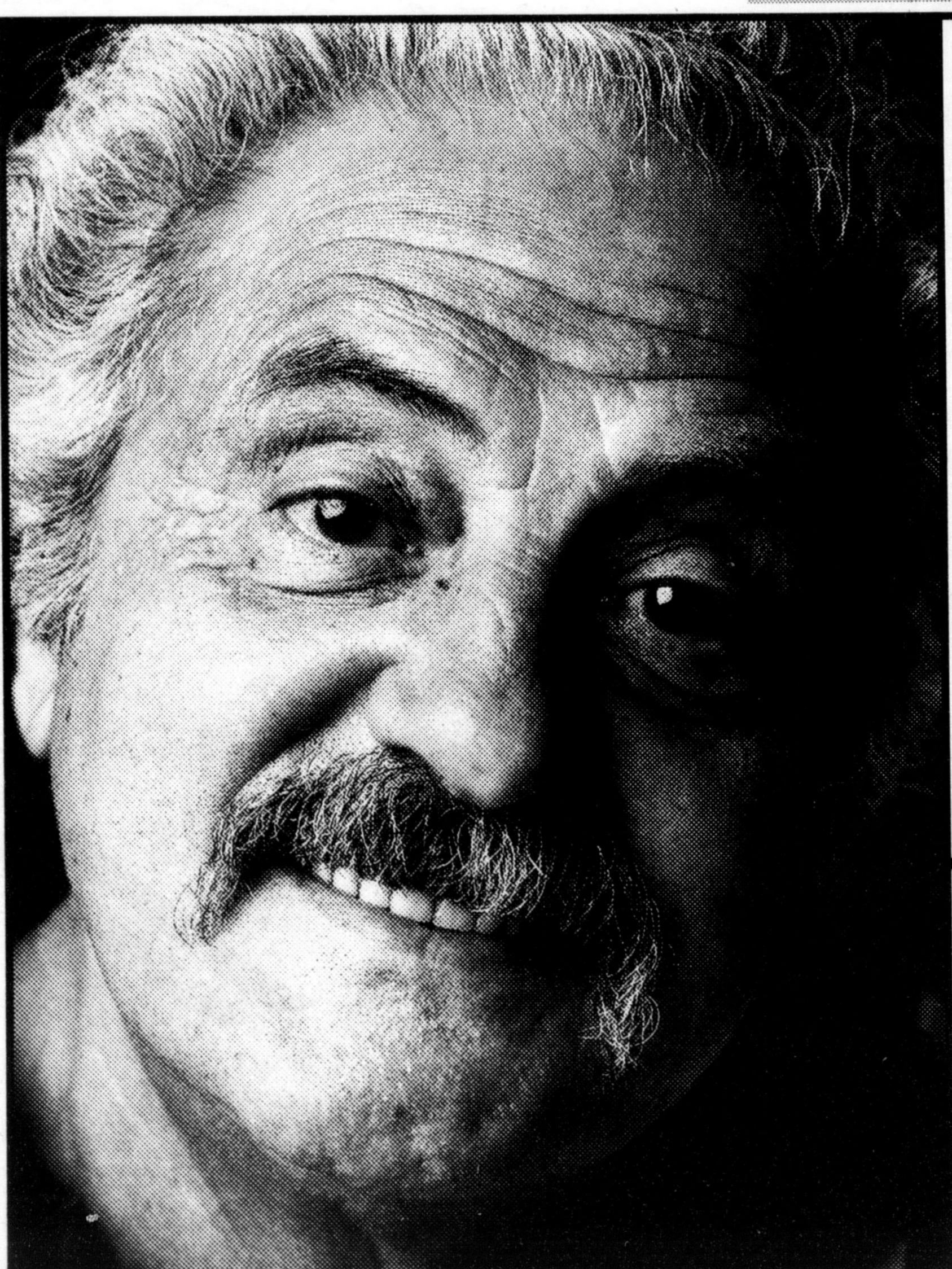






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