

## ART IS FOR EVERYONE

The Spice of Variety

ine art is alive and well in South Florida, whose growing reputation as a flourishing fine arts community got a boost recently with the opening of DeBerz Galleries in Coconut Grove. Half a block from Mayfair House, the gallery "fills an artistic void by bringing major, world-class artists here who have had little or no exposure in our community," comments Gallery Director Ned Billig. De-Berz premieres with Erte, the Russianborn (1892) "father of Art Deco." Erte, an amazingly vital figure at 92, lives in Paris and describes his favorite creation as "the one I am going to do tomorrow." His light line and exquisite detailing, his dramatic curvilinear female forms and his rich colorings make his works, whether sculptures, oils, watercolors or jewelry—unmistakable. In the 1920s and 30s, Erte set the world of Parisian stage and costume design ablaze with his glittering opulence. His work was rediscovered in the Art Deco revival of the 1960s. Now, the DeBerz Galleries provides a permanent home for original and limited edition graphics by Erte. Another permanent artist at DeBerz is Thomas McKnight, whose colorful style has been described as visionary, primitive, naive, poetic and realist. DeBerz Galleries are at 3317 Virginia Street, Coconut Grove. Unless noted, all items are for sale. Open every day but Monday. For hours and infor-

mation call 443-2107 or 443-2108.

Another recent addition to the Grove art scene is Netsky Gallery at 3107 Grand Avenue. The "development" approach pretty much reflects the course

of gallery owner Harriet Netsky's life. She sees art in a craft medium as an adventure in concepts, contrasts and evolution. Her apprenticeship in the field is ongoing . . . a process of continuous visits to folk and contemporary museums and galleries, artist's studios and world marketplaces. She is an avid traveller whose fascinating experiences with people's cultures, artifacts and native craft has prompted her to share her knowledge with others. Her most remarkable credential is a natural ability to recognize and tap into universal soul, sensitivity, excellence and creativity as expressed through art/craft. June features gallery artists. For more information call 448-6163.

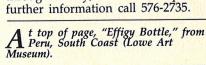
In nearby Coral Gables, the Lowe Art Museum is located on the University of Miami Campus. It is the oldest visual arts institution in Dade County and has been accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1971. It's emphasis is on an active and diversified schedule of changing exhibitions drawn from the resources of its own collection and from other institutions. Highlights of the Lowe's collections include the Kress Collection of Renaissance and Baroque Art, the Virgil Barker Memorial Collection of American Art, the Barton Collection of Southwest Indian Art, the Esso Collection of Latin American Art and the Samuel K. Lothrop Collection of Guatemalan Textiles. Now through August 18 you can view "The Art of the Andes: Pre-Colombian Sculptured and Painted Ceramics from the Arthur M. Sackler Collections." Beginning June 15, the exhibitions "Contemporary Works



on Paper, Recent Acquisitions" and entries from Tropic Magazine's competition "A Moment for Miami," are on display. Located at 1301 Standford Drive (UM campus, Coral Gables), the Lowe is open every day but Monday. Admission is free. For hours and information call 284-3535.

Still in Coral Gables, there's Virginia Miller Galleries at 169 Madeira. The 4,000 square-foot gallery was a Stutz Bearcat Showroom in 1925 and still has a hardwood floor from the 1950s when it was Florida's most important ballet school. For more than ten years this gallery has introduced South Florida to some of the nation's most important visual artists. Most recently was an exhibition of mini-retrospective paintings from the 1940s to the present by Richard Pousette-Dart, one of the original members of the now legendary New York School of abstract expressionists. For more information on the gallery call 444-4493.

Lyn Rafe-Lawyer introduces you to the world of primitive art at Ethnic Artifacts, Miami's most comprehensive and extensive collection showcased at Stendig International in the heart of Miami's design district. The strength, drama, mysticism and symbolism of African art has long intrigued European collectors and exerted a powerful influence on Picasso and other famous cubists. Virtually all the modern major sculptors are known to have drawn upon African culture for inspiration. At Ethnic Artifacts, a personally conducted tour and fascinating lectures bring you face to face with man's beginnings. Located at 3621 N.E. Miami Court, Miami, the showplace is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For further information call 576-2735.





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