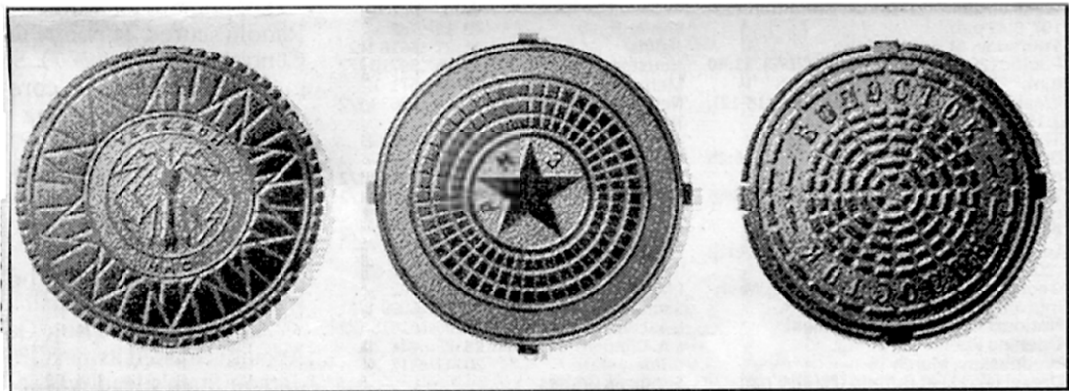


ARTS, ETC.

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Submitted photos

MOCA prepares for auction at Arlington on April 24

BY JOHN LOVETT
The Sentinel-Record

Having returned from the New York Art Expo last week, Hot Springs Museum of Contemporary Art President Richard Gipe is in the last long stretch of activity before the first big MOCA auction and fund-raiser, Sunday, April 24, at the Arlington Resort Hotel & Spa's Crystal Ballroom.

The Lamar Bath House downtown has been eyed by Gipe and others as the optimum spot for the future MOCA of Hot Springs. About \$200,000 is needed to get the project off the ground.

Gipe said Thursday he will have at least 50 art pieces up for bid at the Arlington gala, with a possible link to the auction on the Internet. A \$20 donation will be requested to attend the auction, with food and drinks offered.

"There will be some minimum reserves of \$300 to \$1,500 but it's all reasonably priced work," Gipe said. "This is not some cheap stuff an artist can't sell. These are top-name

artists donating."

One of those artists donating a piece to the auction is Yuroz, a cubist of Soviet Armenian descent living in Los Angeles. Like famous cubist Juan Gris, Yuroz has a strong emphasis on creating a mood in his paintings.

In Yuroz' booklet, National Endowment for the Arts fellow Bruce Helander expresses admiration for his style because it seems to "vibrate with interlocking passages that lend a spirit of movement and grace to his compositions."

Another interesting artist who will become a part of the museum when that day comes is manhole artist Bobbi Mastrangelo of Poinciana, Fla.

Since 1979 she has focused on the theme of grates and manhole covers, capturing their unique design in prints, cast paper, sculpture relief and sculpture.

Mastrangelo's tromp l'oeil manhole covers may seem simple and conceptual at first, but the illusion is realistic enough for her to be accused of theft.

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MOCA AUCTION: "The Music In Her Soul" by Yuroz, pictured right, and Bobbi Mastrangelo's manhole reproductions from foreign countries are examples of works by two of the many artists who have donated art for the Hot Springs Museum of Contemporary Art fundraiser Sunday, April 24, at the Arlington Resort Hotel & Spa.

