

Arts & Entertainment

### Club keeps Oriental painting style alive

By TIFFANY L. KNOELL  
Special to The Daily Herald

Out of a few simple brushes, ink and a great deal of concentration, an elegant goldfish begins to appear at a recent summer workshop for the Chung Hai Painting Club in Salt Lake City.

The Chung Hai Painting Club had its beginnings 10 years ago after a workshop presented by Dr. Ning Yeh, a master of the art of Oriental brush painting. Mary Lou Romney, a teacher and prominent Oriental artist, served as founder and first president of the society. The club is based in the Salt Lake

area, currently has 30 plus members including some from Utah County.

Last year a exhibit was held at the Utah County Courthouse. One of the focuses of the club is to educate the public and attract attention to this time-honored art form. To accomplish this goal, the club has donated books on the subject to the Sandy and Green Public Libraries.

Club meetings are usually centered on a specific theme — water, flowers, or dragons, or others on birds. The most recent meeting was focused around the goldfish and other fish.

Oriental brush painting is very different from the traditional style



The painting of fish by Shirley DeGris of Salt Lake City is an example of the art work done by the Chung Hai Painting Club. Based in Salt Lake City, the club has several members from Utah County as well.

### Park City hosts art festival

Park City's Main Street will host the 26th annual Park City Art Festival Saturday and Sunday.

Since its inception in 1970, the festival has grown into a major event in the mountain town. It is the largest of its kind in the state, according to Sunrise Artist magazine.

Visitors to the 1995 Park City Art Festival will see art displays from 200 of the nation's top festival artists. Artwork in 14 categories ranging in genre from painting and woodwork to fiber and sculpture will be on display.

Over 40 performing art groups will play on five stages located along Main Street. Musical entertainment varies from acoustic to hip band sounds to ethnic rhythms. Mime and street entertainers will also participate.

Statements of Park City's restaurants operated as "voluntary artists" at the Festival Food Pavilion on both days serving visitors a variety of dishes.

Returning to the festival this year is the Demonteering Art Show and the Youth Fair.

both designed to afford families, young and old, an occasion to view art in progress and in the case of youngsters, an opportunity to participate in a group art project. The Demonteering Artists Stage will feature festival artists as well as other local and regional artists performing contemporary jazz.

New to the festival this year is a musical jazz music-concert on Friday. The concert will feature three recording artists performing contemporary jazz.

The Park City Art Festival is produced by the Kimball Art Center, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of the visual arts. Admission is \$3 per adult.

For more information call 801-649-8882.

Volunteers are also needed for the festival. Volunteers will receive discounts on festival memorabilia and on admission to festival concerts. To volunteer, call Carol Gardner at 801-649-8209 or Lew Fine at 801-649-2691.

### 'Oriental brush painting takes a different kind of control. It stretches your imagination.'

— Celeste Allen-Metz, member of the Chung Hai Painting Club

"When in traditional Western painting, for instance, in Western art, shadows are solid. However, in Oriental brush painting, shading is used while shadows are seldom or never used. I think the thing about most Western painters is that they start right in. We meditate on what we do before we begin," said Peggy Wilkinson, a longtime member of the club and resident of Oregon.

The tools and materials used are unique to Oriental brush painting as the art produced. The ink is kept in powdered form until it is combined with small amounts of water to make some of the darkest ink in the world. The ink is ground by hand by the artist. Some watercolor artists use, but these are distinctly different from the type found in a child's watercolor box. Rice paper, a highly absorbent paper, is used as the canvas. A variety of brushes are used, and many of these carry names — Flower, Bird, Big Idea.

Another unique aspect of Oriental brush painting is what to do with the finished product.

"Mounting rice paper in different from mounting normal art. You can't just slip rice paper into a mat and a frame," said Wilkinson. Framing the rice paper requires spreading a layer of glue to the back of the painting, attaching it to the post or board, and then making sure there are no wrinkles in the paper.

Oriental brush painting involves a great deal of observation, time and time spent in observation, yet for the artist this style of art seems more abstract and more of a traditional Western art.

"When in traditional Western any type of art, a degree of control and mastery is required," said Celeste Allen-Metz, a member of the club from the Salt Lake area.

"Oriental brush painting takes a different kind of control. It stretches your imagination."

### Barry Manilow concert changes venue

The venue for the Barry Manilow concert has changed from Abrahams Hall to the Delta Center in Salt Lake City. The concert will be Aug. 10 at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at Smith's. The artist can be called 801-463-TICK (or 1-800-858-TICK). Patrons who have Abrahams Hall tickets may exchange them at the Delta Center

box office or receive a refund where the tickets were purchased. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$22.50.

A license field is usually 80 yards long with 15 yards of clear space behind each goal.

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