

## Glass art show sparkles at the West Orange Y

By SHIRLEY M. FRIEDMAN

"The gallery is neither a museum nor a sales space, but seeks to encourage artists by providing exhibits of their finest work for the enlightenment and enjoyment of our communities."

That statement appears in the unpretentious leaflet accompanying the highly distinguished "Contemporary Art Glass Exhibition and Sale" on view through May 25 at the YM-YWHA of Metropolitan New Jersey, 760 Northfield Ave., West Orange. (Exhibition and Sale hours are Sunday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The gallery is closed Saturday.)

True to its goal, the exhibition, whose chairwoman is Ruth Snyder, spotlights some of the finest work of 23 renowned artisans working in stained, blown, carved and architectural glass; mirror, sculpture and home accessories of many kinds.

The free event is distinguished not only by the caliber of the objects, but by its diverse creations hung on first-floor window and wall expanses and shown in gallery-like upper floor display. All underscore the decorative and often functional potential of the ancient media of glass in the hands of the gifted contemporary artisan.

The goal of the show, too, as outlined by the Art Committee of the Y, "will make it possible for large numbers of people within the metropolitan area to view and purchase fine examples of glass craft, while encouraging the artists who create them."

Who are some of these invited artists from New Jersey, New York, Pennsylva-

nia, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Florida? Their credentials are impressive. To name only a few:

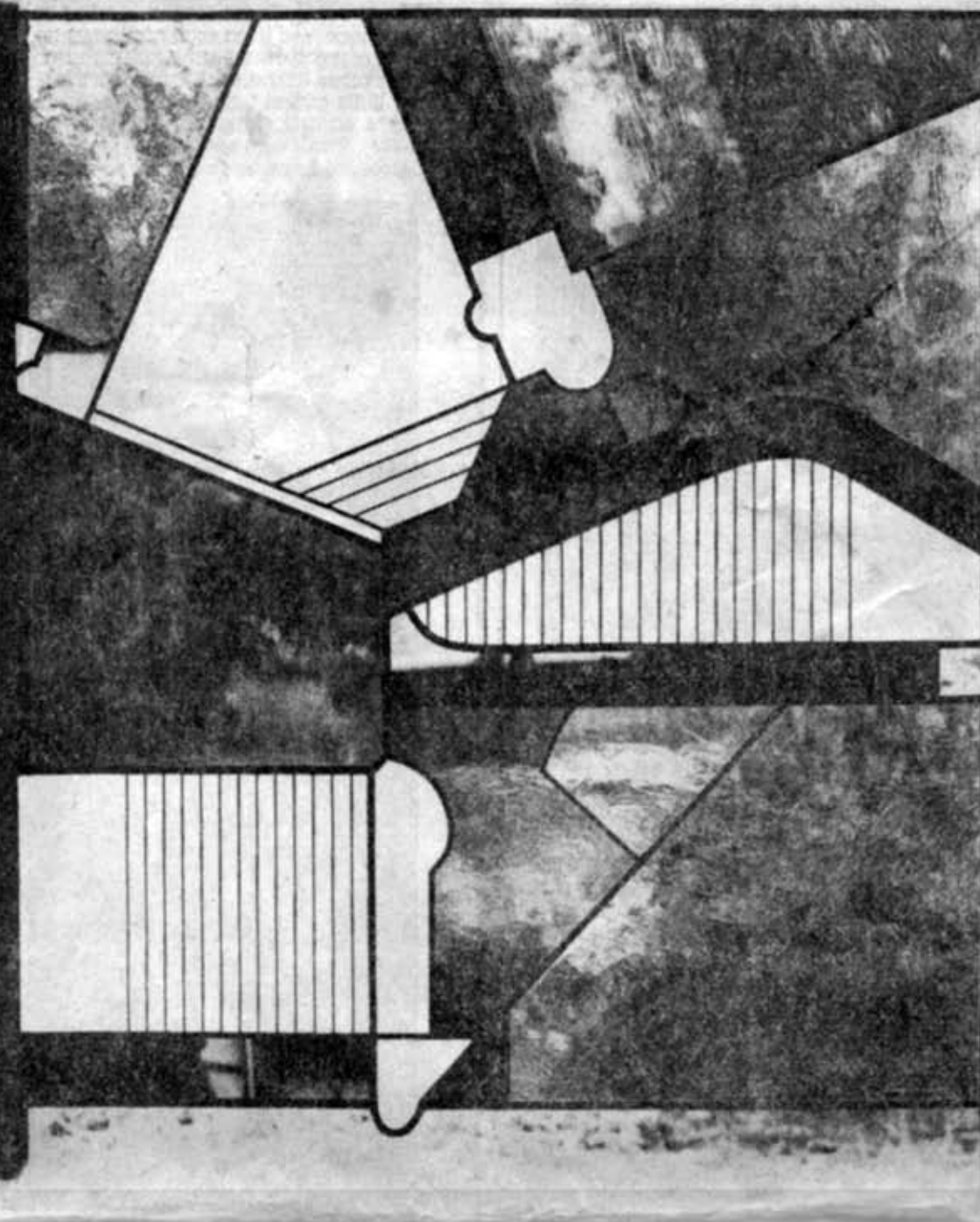
Benoit Gilsoul is called "one of the world's foremost authorities on stained glass." Among his famed creations are the "United Nations" sculpture and faceted glass window in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, New York and a glass wall for the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex at the Supreme Court, Trenton, a model of which is in the Y exhibit.

Don Gonzalez' works, created in his Stockton studio, include creations that have graced the White House and Smithsonian Institute. In the Y show, you will see his blown glass goblets and vases.

Supplementing the works of members of the noted Ann Willet Stained Glass Atelier, Ltd., are works of Teaneck's Harriet Hyams and Millburn's Art Reed, both of whose creations are included in private and museum and gallery collections throughout this country.

To decorate your home, too, or to "gift" someone with often unique glass art works, there are the American Indian motif, "Navaho Olla" blown glass vases of Leonardo DiNardo; the etched and carved mirrors and panels of Amy J. Kasindorf; the prize-winning blue-violet art glass lamps with matching, ripple-shaped glass shades by Pratt graduate Steve Fellerman, and numerous other show-stoppers.

These name only a minor sampling of objects from a show not to be missed by anyone drawn to the seeming magic of glass in the hands of the creative artist-in-glass.



Glas Architektur I; a hanging panel in greys, white and mirror, by Harriet Hyams, Teaneck, in contemporary glass show at West Orange's YM-YWHA of Metropolitan New Jersey