

CELEBRITY WATCH

By GEORGE CHRISTY

Happy Art & Hollywood Marriages

— Power People —

HE'S HIT UPON A MOTHER LODE WITH HER caches of "happy art" from artists of all ages.

Danielle Steel's second exhibition at her inviting Steel Gallery on Upper Sacramento Street had in-demand designer and Arts Commissioner Stanlee Gatti buying Kazaan Viveiros' Shovel, one of a series of canvases featuring items (hammers, electric mixers) that every house and garden need not be without. (The series also included a roll of toilet tissue by

Tina Lauren Vieteier.)
Open only several months, Danielle's gallery skyrocketed overnight to wham-bang success, and along with Stanlee there were art lovers such as Danielle's daughter Bede with husband Michael Seidenberg, and Kevin Monaghan who's slimmed down to his college-

age physique (Atkins diet? Yes).

Stanlee, meanwhile, has been commuting to Las Vegas where he's

Guide Dogs for the Blind, Phyllis having been a dedicated supporter.

Helen and Connie's mom, **Nini Martin**, one of the Bay Area's legendary ladies and hostesses, has entertained royalty and chums at her Hillsborough estate, and Helen recalls that one evening **Bing Crosby** and family arrived for Nini & **Fran's** annual Christmas Eve dinner. Not one to be rushed, Nini greeted them kindly but snapped, "You're too early...we're not ready... come back in an hour!"

Helen laughs that somehow there was always unexpected excitement on Christmas Eve, with power outages, etc. A bibliophile from his youth, Fran Martin collected a treasure trove of first editions, including **Charles Dickens'** popular "penny dreadfuls" that are

classics today and in Helen & Dick's library.

Helen & Dick had been to Beijing — their son Charles (named after Dick's dad Chuck

Jeanne, modern art collectors, were back from a "fantastic" week at the Art Basel Miami Beach fair that attracted the likes of Ralph Fiennes and musician Lenny Kravitz, whose roommate of late has been Nicole Kidman. The Cohens are friends of art curator Manuel Gonzalez, who runs Ella Cisneros' nonprofit museum in Miami, and who insisted they attend this year.

Masterminded by the 37-year-old **Samuel Keller** of Switzerland's Art Basel, the exhibitions included works from 175 galleries from around the world, with happenings and parties galore; avant garde performance events such as *Chicks on Speed;* and a soiree for **Muhammad Ali** hosted by publisher **Benedikt Taschen** for his current book, *Ali*.

Taschen books are in the \$200 price sphere; Benedikt's previous tome included a collection of rare photos of the young **Marilyn Monroe** on a road trip with a smitten (also young) photographer. Samuel