

# BEST BETS

By Susan Subtle

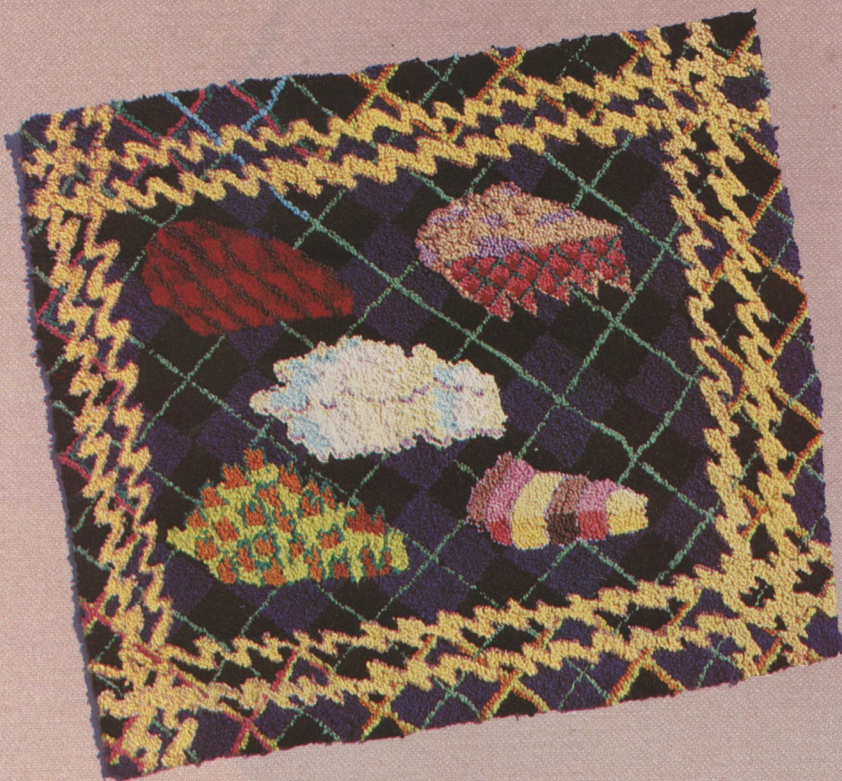
## Handmade in California

**Y**OU MAY BE ALL THUMBS, but Carma Odenrider is handy with a needle, and she will keep you in stitches. Send her a snapshot or illustration and she will embroider the image onto your favorite garment. If you don't want to part with your best-loved clothes, she will create patches that can be sewn on at home.

EMBROIDERY/Carma Odenrider, (415) 676-4383/Allow two weeks for delivery/\$5 to \$100

**R**ECOVER your lost childhood—Jody “Captain Marbles” Fine makes classic cat’s eyes, shark eggs, onion skins, propellers, and melon balls, plus a few of his own design.

MARBLES/Jody Fine Studio, 1800 4th Street, Berkeley/Also at Contemporary Artisans, 530 Bush Street, San Francisco/Ivor Kurland Glass Art Gallery, 8742½ Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles/Elizabeth Forner Gallery, 1114 State Street, Santa Barbara/Small marble \$6, large \$16, egg \$30



**Y**OU’LL GET HOOKED ON STEPHANI LESH’S HANDMADE RUGS. THE artist, who paints scenery for the San Francisco Opera during the day, uses her spare time to hook vivid, one-of-a-kind modern throw rugs. The price may seem high, but rug hooking is a long, slow labor of love.

RUGS/Stephani Lesh, (415) 843-9493 home, (415) 565-6424 work/\$3,000



**D**EBORAH BARRETT’S handmade dolls are definitely disarming. Her charming twenty-first-century “planet babies” and whimsical monsters are made of felt and antique fabrics, and they are completely sewn, not glued, so you don’t even have to handle them with care.

DOLLS/Tail of the Yak, 2632 Ashby Avenue, Berkeley \$75 to \$300





**I**N INDONESIA, THE ART OF MAKING PUPPETS IS HANDED DOWN FROM ONE MEMBER OF THE FAMILY TO THE next. Herman Suwanda learned the art from his uncle, a famous puppeteer. Suwanda sticks largely to the repertoire of 99 traditional figures, but he will create individual characters to your taste. Incidentally, when Suwanda isn't carving puppets, he is busy teaching traditional Indonesian hand-to-hand combat.

PUPPETS/Herman Suwanda, (415) 431-6096 or (415) 434-3900/\$125 and up

**E**XQUISITE-ly crafted, full of witty ideas that might have been considered sound design a generation ago but now look somehow off kilter, and fashioned from exotic materials (cowhide, cork, lacquered wood, glass) in kinky finishes, Philip Agee's handmade furniture is cool, sexy, and available only in very limited editions of one.

—Ken Dollar

FURNITURE/20th Century Furnishings, 1666 Market Street, San Francisco/\$300 to \$7,500



STEPHEN PENKOWSKI



**H**AND-ME-DOWN BUTTONS ARE DORIS FELDMAN's passion. She has been collecting them for fifteen years and recently began turning them into elegant necklaces and belts. If you have your own favorites, you can hand them over to her and she will string them into a very personal piece of jewelry.

BUTTONS/Doris Feldman, (415) 495-5485/\$50 to \$75