

## LONG ISLAND JOURNAL



Francesco Scavullo, photographer, with Hedy Klineman's portrait of him.

By DIANE KETCHAM

### Clothes Make the Art

**T**HE things people wear says a lot about them," said Hedy Klineman, an artist from East Hampton. "The spirit of a person is in his clothes."

For Ms. Klineman, clothes not only make the man, they make the art. When she does a portrait, it's the subjects' clothing that usually winds up on the canvas, not their physical features.

Shirts, pants, hats, glasses, handbags, even a saxophone have been glued on in Ms. Klineman's collages or "fashion portraits," as she calls them. Seven of her newer ones, costing from \$3,000 to \$6,000, are on display at the Vered Gallery in East Hampton, and the portraits' subjects, all East End notables, often drop by to take a look.

"That's me," said the photographer Francesco Scavullo as he admired his Klineman portrait, which consists mainly of his black fedora hat glued to canvas. "I never go out without a hat," Mr. Scavullo said, "and it's not because I'm bald," he added, taking off his current chapeau, a captain's cap, to prove his point.

Ruth Vered, the owner of the gallery, showed off her Klineman portrait, a black silk blouse, gold chain and bracelet, and a mannequin hand holding a painting of a nude. "That's very much me," she said. Oh no, not the nude — "although her face does look like me," Ms. Vered said — but the entire portrait.

Ms. Klineman's art consists of "taking one's treasures and putting them out so they can be seen forever." For a portrait of the handbag designer Judith Leiber, that meant five of her elegant bags became part of the artwork, and for the portrait of Southampton artist Larry Rivers, a saxophone now rests near his painting clothes. Mr. Rivers loves playing music almost as much as painting, Ms. Klineman said, and that's why, she added, the saxophone in his portrait is not really his. "He just wasn't ready to give up his saxophone," she said, "so I bought this used one for \$15."



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Hedy Klineman, an artist from East Hampton, with her portrait of Larry Rivers, an artist from Southampton, that is on exhibit at the Vered Gallery.

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