

## JUNK DRAWER



**Leaves felt poster by Shari Cornish:** The North Carolina-based surface designer uses synthetic industrial felt as a canvas on which to paint, print and stencil. Painting was the chosen technique for Leaves, which can be used as a floor cloth, although its life span will be longer if displayed as wall art. The piece is 20 by 40 inches and costs \$60; other sizes, including custom ones that could span an entire wall, are available.



**Spalted maple table by John Houshmand:** A musician, contractor and farmer (he has a 300-



**Piotr Kler sofa from Idea Furniture:** Nothing demure about this orange leather (and aluminum-legged) sofa from the Polish designer Kler, whose works are showcased at Idea Furniture stores in Chicago, where Polish-designed and made pieces are the specialty of the house. The 86½-inch sofa costs \$2,370.



**Steam Bubbles tapestry by Lynn Basa:** Fiber artist Lynn Basa, who moved to Chicago from Seattle a little more than a year ago, is showing her limited-edition silk and wool tapestries and rugs. All of them are hand-woven in Nepal according to Basa's designs. This wall piece is 42 inches square and costs \$2,600 unframed, \$3,200 framed.

# Getting contemporary

7TH ANNUAL  
CHICAGO  
DESIGN SHOW

**By Karen Klages**  
Tribune staff reporter

Folks in the market for contemporary home furnishings might want to check out the 7th annual Chicago Design Show, which opens officially on Friday at The Merchandise Mart for a three-day run. (Those who are eager can preview the show Thursday night at The Mart's Party on the Spot, which costs \$55 at the door.)

Although Mart officials bill the annual show as a trade and consumer event, it has evolved strongly into the latter, with the general public being welcome on all