



Smithsonian
***Donald W. Reynolds Center for
American Art and Portraiture***
National Portrait Gallery

News

Media only: Bethany Bentley (202) 275-1768; bentleyb@si.edu
Noelle Myers (202) 275-1771; myersnb@si.edu

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**The National Portrait Gallery Announces
Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition 2006 People's Choice Awards**

*Visitors Choose Oil Painting by James Seward of Brooklyn, N.Y.
Second Prize goes to David Lenz of Shorewood, Wis.*

The National Portrait Gallery is pleased to announce that James Seward of Brooklyn, N.Y., has been awarded first prize for the Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition 2006, People's Choice Award by visitors of the National Portrait Gallery. Seward's oil painting entitled "My Father in the Living Room of Our 10th House," depicts his father's face in large format.

The Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition 2006 included two different awards: One by the expert jury who selected the pieces featured in the exhibition and the seven prize winners, and the People's Choice Award which allowed visitors to the exhibition, both in the gallery and online, to cast votes for their favorite of the 51 pieces chosen for the exhibition. There were 14,000 votes, nearly 9,000 of those cast within the exhibition. Voting officially closed on Aug. 31.

Seward received more than 1,200 votes for his strikingly detailed portrait of his father. David Lenz's "Sam and the Perfect World," (chosen by the expert jury for first prize), was chosen second by the voters and Will Wilson's "Convexed" was chosen third. Voters will be asked if they would like to submit a one-page reflection or statement about their attraction to the winning portrait, which may be posted on the portrait competition Web site: portraitcompetition.si.edu.

"In recent years, many visual artists have again taken up the challenge of 'capturing' human individuality in their art," said Marc Pachter, director of the National Portrait Gallery.

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION MRC 973 PO Box 37012 Washington DC 20013-7012 Telephone 202.275.1764 Fax 202.275.1895

“Through this competition, the gallery welcomes the continuing reinvention of portraiture as a vital art form for the 21st century.”

The first-ever U.S. national portrait competition, the Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition 2006, received entries of painting and sculpture from emerging and mid-career portrait and figurative artists, demonstrating that portraiture is alive and thriving across the United States. Future competitions, to be held triennially, may explore other forms of portraiture, including watercolor, drawing, photography, film, video, and electronic and digital media.

Finalists for the 2006 competition were chosen in early March, and the first-prize winner was announced at the Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition awards celebration on June 23. (A list of the official prize winners and the finalists follows at the end of this release.) Jurors for the competition include independent scholar and curator Trevor Fairbrother; Thelma Golden, director of The Studio Museum in Harlem, N.Y.; the artist Sidney Goodman; art critic and scholar Katy Siegel; National Portrait Gallery director Marc Pachter; deputy director Carolyn K. Carr; and associate curator of painting and sculpture Brandon Fortune.

This competition is made possible by the generosity of Virginia Outwin Boochever, whose gift will foster the acquisition of innovative contemporary portraiture for the Portrait Gallery. This exhibition is open to the public through Feb. 19, 2007.

The Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery tells the stories of America through the individuals who have built America’s society and culture. Through the visual arts, performing arts and new media, the gallery portrays poets and presidents, visionaries and villains, actors and activists who speak American history.

The National Portrait Gallery was established by an Act of Congress in 1962 and opened to the public in 1968. The museum’s collection of nearly 20,000 works ranges from paintings and sculpture to photographs and drawings. The National Portrait Gallery is housed in the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture at Eighth and F streets N.W., Washington, D.C. Smithsonian Information: (202) 633-1000; (202) 357-1729 (TTY). Web sites: npg.si.edu and reynoldscenter.org.

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Images: High-resolution images are available at <ftp://npg-pa-gst1@ftp.si.edu/>. Call (202) 275-1771 for the password.

Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition Finalists and Prize Winners 2006

Doug Auld, Hoboken, N.J.
Robert Bauer, Providence, R.I.
Brett Bigbee, Portland, ME* (commended)
Brian Bishop, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Chris Campbell, Honolulu
Susanna Coffey, New York
Nuno de Campos, Brooklyn, N.Y.* (third prize)
Steve DeFrank, New York
Marc Dennis, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Marita Dingus, Auburn, Wash.
Armando Dominguez, Miami
Bryan Drury, Salt Lake City
Jenny Dubnau, Jackson Heights, N.Y.* (commended)
Lucy Fradkin, Long Island City, N.Y.
Kathleen Gilje, New York
Justin Hayward, Bountiful, Utah* (commended)
Jared Joslin, Chicago
Jenny Kanzler, Baltimore, Md.
Amber Kappes, Odessa, Texas
Laura Karetzky, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Kris Kuksi, Hays, Kan.
Nathaniel Lang, Lawrenceville, Ga.
William Lawrance, Chicago
David Lenz, Shorewood, Wis.* (first prize)
Nina Levy, Brooklyn, N.Y.
John Manion, Randolph, Mass.

Sam Messer, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Tina Mion, Winslow, Ariz.
Jenny Morgan, Denver
Tina (Rita) Newberry, Philadelphia
Jennifer Oldis Kryczka, Westchester, Ill.
Paul Oxborough, St. Louis Park, Minn.
Sara Pedigo, Amherst, Mass.
Catherine Prescott, Mechanicsburg, Pa.
Demi Raven, Seattle
James Seward, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Carle Shi, New York
Burton Silverman, New York
Zak Smith, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Kimanne Smith, Wayne, N.J.
Sarah Sohn, La Verne, Calif.
Sharon Sprung, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Ginny Stanford, Sebastopol, Calif.
Costa Vavagiakis, Long Island City, N.Y.
Yuqi Wang, Brooklyn, N.Y.* (second prize)
Richard Weaver, Charlottesville, Va.
Kent Williams, Los Angeles
Will Wilson, San Francisco
Alan Caomin Xie, Atlanta* (commended)
John Younger, Ivy, Va.
Brenda Zlamany, Brooklyn, N.Y.

*Denotes the artists whose work was selected for the seven top prizes.

Bold font denotes winner of the People's Choice Award.