

NEWS RELEASE

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND LETTERS
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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND LETTERS ANNOUNCES 2007 ART AWARD WINNERS

New York, March 16, 2007 — The American Academy of Arts and Letters announces the seven recipients of this year's awards in art that total \$47,500. The winners were selected by a committee of Academy members Jennifer Bartlett, Varujan Boghosian, Vija Celmins, Eric Fischl, Richard Hunt, Yvonne Jacquette, Alex Katz, Alfred Leslie, and Kenneth Snelson. The awards will be presented at the Academy's annual Ceremonial in May.

Candidates for art awards are nominated by the members of the Academy. Thirty-four finalists were invited to participate in the Academy's annual Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts. The award committee selected the seven winners from this exhibition.

EXHIBITION OF WORK BY
NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS AND
RECIPIENTS OF HONORS AND AWARDS

Admission Free

Friday, May 18 through Sunday, June 10, 2007

Thursdays through Sundays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Memorial Day Weekend

Audubon Terrace on Broadway between 155
and 156 Streets. Enter on Broadway.

Subway: #1 to 157 Street; Bus: M4, M5 to
155 Street and Broadway

Academy Awards in Art — Five Academy Awards in Art are given each year to honor exceptional accomplishment. This year, the awards of \$7500 each will be presented to BRYAN HUNT, JACKIE GENDEL, DANA SCHUTZ, JULIAN HATTON, and SARAH OPPENHEIMER.

Jimmy Ernst Award in Art — The \$5000 Jimmy Ernst Award in Art, established by Dallas Ernst in memory of her husband, is given to a "painter or sculptor whose lifetime contribution to his or her vision has been both consistent and dedicated." This year's award will be given to SALLY HAZELET DRUMMOND.

Rosenthal Foundation Award in Painting — The annual Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation Award of \$5000 is presented to a "young American painter of distinction." This year's winner is JUAN GOMEZ.

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Dana Schutz, *Telepathy*, 2006
Oil on canvas, 84" x 104"
Courtesy of Dean Valentine, CA



Juan Gomez, *Quiet Reign*, 2006
Oil on linen, 64" x 88"
Courtesy of the artist, NY



Bryan Hunt, *Flume I*, 2006
Aqua resin, 130" x 36" x 36"
Courtesy of the artist and
Danese Gallery, NY



Jackie Gendel, *The Weight*, 2007
Oil on panel, 24" x 18"
Courtesy of the artist and
Jeff Bailey Gallery, NY



Julian Hatton, *Tree Line*, 2006
Oil on canvas on panel, 24" x 24"
Courtesy of Elizabeth Harris Gallery, NY

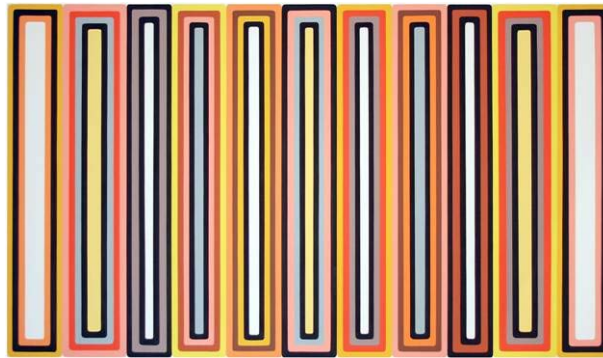
Art Purchase Program

The Academy's purchase program began in 1946 to place the work of talented, living American artists in museums across the country. Since the inauguration of the purchase program, the Academy has spent nearly \$3 million to purchase over 1100 works of art. The American Impressionist Childe Hassam (1859-1935) founded this program through the bequest of over 400 of his works with the stipulation that the accumulated income from their sale be used to establish a fund to purchase paintings and works on paper. Similar bequests were made by Academy members Eugene Speicher (1883-1962), Louis Betts (1873-1961), and Gardner Symons (1865-1930).

Works by the following artists were purchased in 2007 and will be donated to American museums: ROBERT BORDO, MARK FERGUSON, ANN PIBAL, CLYTIE ALEXANDER, SALLY HAZELET DRUMMOND, JACKIE GENDEL, JUAN GOMEZ, WARREN ISENSEE, SAUL LEITER, SALLY MANN, STEPHEN MUELLER, EMILY NELLIGAN, CYNTHIA WESTWOOD, and EMNA ZGHAL.



Robert Bordo, *shotgun*, 2006
Oil on canvas, 24" x 30"
Courtesy of the artist and
Alexander and Bonin Gallery, NY



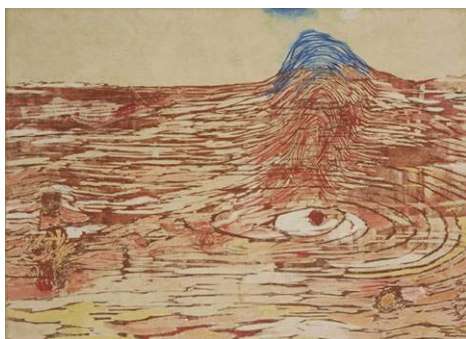
Warren Isensee, *High Beam*, 2006
Oil on canvas, 35" x 60"
Courtesy of the artist and
Danese Gallery, NY



Sally Hazelet Drummond
Within Darkness There is Light, 2001
Oil on canvas, 30" x 30"
Courtesy of the artist and
Alexander Gallery, NY

American Academy of Arts and Letters

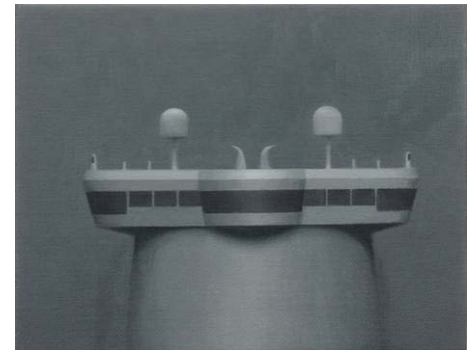
The American Academy of Arts and Letters was established in 1898 to "foster, assist, and sustain an interest in literature, music, and the fine arts." Founding members include William Merritt Chase, Kenyon Cox, Daniel Chester French, Childe Hassam, Henry James, Theodore Roosevelt, Elihu Vedder, and Woodrow Wilson. Each year, the Academy gives away just under \$1 million in awards to artists, architects, writers, and composers. It presents exhibitions of art, architecture, and manuscripts, and subsidizes readings and performances of new musicals. The 109-year-old organization is located in two landmark buildings, designed by McKim, Mead & White, and by Cass Gilbert.



Emna Zghal, *Reaching the Sky*, 2006
Mixed media, 18" x 25"
Courtesy of the artists and
M.Y. Art Prospects, NY



Sally Mann, *Jessie #6*, 2006
Gelatin silver print with varnish, 50" x 40"
Courtesy of the artist and Reynolds Gallery, VA



Mark Ferguson, *Ship's Bridge with Horns #2*, 2007
Oil on linen, 14" x 18"
Courtesy of the artist, NY