TIMOTHY	APPHO	MAGEP	AINTIN	GS

EXHIBITION

February 20, 2009 through April 17, 2009

Goya Contemporary · Goya-Girl Press

TIMOTHYAPPHOMAGEPAINTINGS

A THEATER OF FORMS

Can abstraction communicate about the dramas of human existence as representational painting has done in the past?

Our world is filled with human bodies, architecture, flora, and fauna, but it is additionally defined by color, line, shape, and spatial interactions. What one might respectively call the "embodied" and formal are intertwined in that which we perceive around us: flesh is color, buildings are shape, trees are line, and, to broaden this path of thought, emotional dynamics might be seen as relationships between individual, living forms. For instance, love suggests two or more entities that are close rather than distant, while power implies the quality of bigness compared to something smaller. As proximity and scale shift in these examples, so does feeling.

However, a schism has arisen between formal abstraction and representational imagery over the course of the last one hundred some years of art. By the middle decades of the twentieth-century, this growing divide yielded discourse-defining exchanges by such celebrated critics as Clement Greenberg, Michael Fried, and Donald Judd around the notion of autonomous abstraction – of visual form freed not only from illusionism but from reference to events and experiences outside of its own optical, spatial, or material presence. Timothy App investigates and rethinks the categories of abstraction and representation in his *Homage* paintings and related works on paper. By distilling canonical paintings of Western art into eloquent geometries, the artist has made a convincing case for abstraction's capacities to deliver quite human narrative content and to be made more compelling rather than compromised through its embracing of allusion.

That being said, App's *Homages* do not rely on their predecessors. Although the artist has studied in person each of the pictures of Caravaggio, Poussin, Titian, Vermeer and others that serve as his sources, his works achieve impact within their own borders. Therefore, they might equally be considered heirs to Color Field and other earlier types of reductive geometric painting. But App complicates the non-representational lineage of his imagery. Shapes billow, bully, cup, cut, emerge from, or eclipse each other, engaging in an array of anthropomorphic activity that produces a narrative effect alongside his intersecting circles, trapezoids, and triangles. Theatrical analogies are also rife within the series. The artist's canvases include "platforms" and "stages," as well as "curtains" and "windows," which either foreground or obscure their surrounding elements. The result is a defiantly depictive abstraction.

KIRSTEN HILEMAN

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She currently works at the Hirshhorn
Museum and Sculpture Garden
and has taught at George Washington
University and the Corcoran College
of Art and Design.

A carefully conceived system of color overlays App's theater of forms. After building his compositions in tonal grays, the artist uses color as "an agent of transformation," applying glazes of cadmium yellow, ultramarine blue, cadmium red, and Hooker's green to catalyze certain shapes, which are further juxtaposed with areas of white ground and opaque black. While this clearly defined and unified palette is more than satisfying as an end in itself, intensity and variance of color distinguish and enliven some forms, while causing others to fade or settle into supporting roles. Each overall scheme is keyed to (but, importantly, does not attempt to replicate) both the color and narrative structure of the source painting. Of note, App applies paint with his canvases positioned horizontally on sawhorses rather than in a vertical orientation. He follows the weave of the canvas so that no errant drips or erratic brushstrokes distract from the pure force of color and shape, and the relational meanings they convey.

In the artist's *Medusa*, 2006 [Plate 06], the placement of the almost eye-shaped dark green and grey form dominating the left side of the canvas appears pivotal to the imperiled stability of the world contained in the composition even if a viewer is not aware that the shape is linked to the taut sail in Gericault's tension-filled canvas *The Raft of the 'Medusa*,' 1818-1819. Likewise, one does not need the reference of Velazquez's *Las Meninas*, 1656, to read the receding spaces of App's *Meninas*, 2006 [Plate 05], or wonder at what is implied by the disparity between the central curving, rosy volume and the darker, weightier rectilinear shapes that flank it. Ultimately the optical and the emotional are allied in the powerful equilibrium of these examples. As one reasons out objective boundaries, position, and inter-connections, a subjective evaluation seeps in and the story that has been developed in contour becomes animated.

Despite the self-sufficiency of the paintings, App consciously guides his viewers back to art history with evocative titles and his own commentary on the series.* This intentional framework reminds that the compositional strategies of the Old Masters are anything but incidental to the tragic, triumphant, and transcendent moments they made manifest. It also establishes the place of App's individual project within a continuum of image production that is centuries rather than decades long and confronts the endeavor of contemporary abstraction as a whole with the invigorating potential of a vast, and as yet under-explored, world of non-illusionistic depiction.

NOTE*

Rasmussen, Jack. "A Conversation with Timothy App," *Homage: Timothy App*, The Angie Newman Johnson Gallery, Episcopal High School, Alexandria, va 2007.

THE HOMAGE PAINTINGS

For a long time I have marveled at the theatrical drama, emotional power, and formal complexity of certain revered paintings from the history of Western art.

The idea of human events played out through dramatic compositions, whether grandly or intimately, appeals to a fundamental human desire to narrate in a powerful and convincing way through pictorial expression. With this in mind, the Homage Paintings are my respectful, honest and direct response to each of these extraordinary narrative masterworks and their creators.

Paradoxically, these works are both an objective formal analysis of astonishing compositions from the past and simultaneously a contemplative revery of their artistic gravitas. Through my continued use of systematic proportioning of space, elemental geometry, and color as an agent of transformation, I have gathered various objects, figures, and environments in the original works and have merged them into singular forms. These amalgamations are then conjoined to hopefully create a dramatic compositional wholeness that parallels the chosen works. Ultimately, I believe in the autonomy of my paintings and in the notion that these pictorial artifacts, their subject matter notwithstanding, possess an aesthetic life of their own.

The longer I have painted the more I have felt the past coming to bare on the artistic present, that in and through art, the past and present coalesce. The invisible undertow of history is deeply and inevitably felt as I work with elemental forms, coaxing depiction out of abstraction, witnessing reality mingling with imagination. Time has shown that the more I become the dispassionate agent of the universal, the more personal and interior the work becomes. Through these paintings, I am seeking artistic and spiritual continuity with the past.

TIMOTHY APP

Baltimore, Maryland



Martyr 2005acrylic on canvas 66×72 inches



Allegory
2005
acrylic on canvas 66×55 inches



Bacchanal 2005 acrylic on canvas 60×66 inches



Sabine 2006 acrylic on canvas 56×84 inches



Meninas 2006 acrylic on canvas 72×66 inches



Medusa 2006acrylic on canvas 54×72 inches



Tyrania 2007acrylic on canvas 48×72 inches



Tymbos
2007
acrylic on canvas 78×60 inches



Socrat
2007
acrylic on canvas 54×72 inches



Crucifer
2007
acrylic on canvas
84 × 62 inches



Concumbere
2008
acrylic on canvas 46×68 inches



Nuptual 2008 acrylic on canvas 66×50 inches



Annunciator 2008 acrylic on canvas 60×60 inches



Imagos 2008 acrylic on canvas 72 × 54 inches



LIST OF PAINTINGS AND REFERENT MASTERWORKS

Plate 01 Martyr

Caravaggio, The Martyrdom of Saint Matthew

1599-1600 oil on canvas

128 × 135 inches

Contrelli Chapel, Church of San Luigi dei Francesi, Rome

Plate 02

Allegory

Vermeer, The Allegory of Painting

1666-67 oil on canvas

48 × 40 inches

Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna

Plate 03

Bacchanal

Titian, The Bacchanal of the Andrians

1518

oil on canvas

69 × 76 inches

The Prado, Madrid

Plate 04

Sabine

Poussin, The Rape of the Sabine Women

1634

oil on canvas

61 × 82 inches

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Plate 05

Meninas

Velasquez, The Maids of Honor

1656

oil on canvas

125 × 108 inches

The Prado, Madrid

Plate 06

Medusa

Gericault, The Raft of the "Medusa"

1818-19

oil on canvas

192 × 288 inches

The Louvre, Paris

Plate 07

Tyrania

Goya, The Third of May, 1808

1814-15

oil on canvas

105 × 173 inches

The Prado, Madrid

Plate 08

Tymbos

El Greco, The Burial of Count Orgaz

1586

oil on canvas

192 × 142 inches

Santo Tome, Toledo, Spain

Plate 09

Socrat

David, The Death of Socrates

1787

oil on canvas

59 × 78 inches

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Plate 10

Crucifer

Rubens, The Raising of the Cross

center panel of an altarpiece

1609-10

oil on canvas

180 × 134 inches

Antwerp Cathedral

Plate 11

Concumbere

Ingres, Odalisque with Slave

1814

oil on canvas

28 × 40 inches

Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Plate 12

Nuptual

Van Eyck, Wedding Portrait

1434

oil on panel

33 × 22 inches

The National Gallery, London

Plate 13

Annunciator

The Master of Flemalle (Robert Campin?), *The Annuciation* center panel of the Merode Altarpiece

1425-28

oil on panel

300 × 25 inches

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Plate 14

Imagos

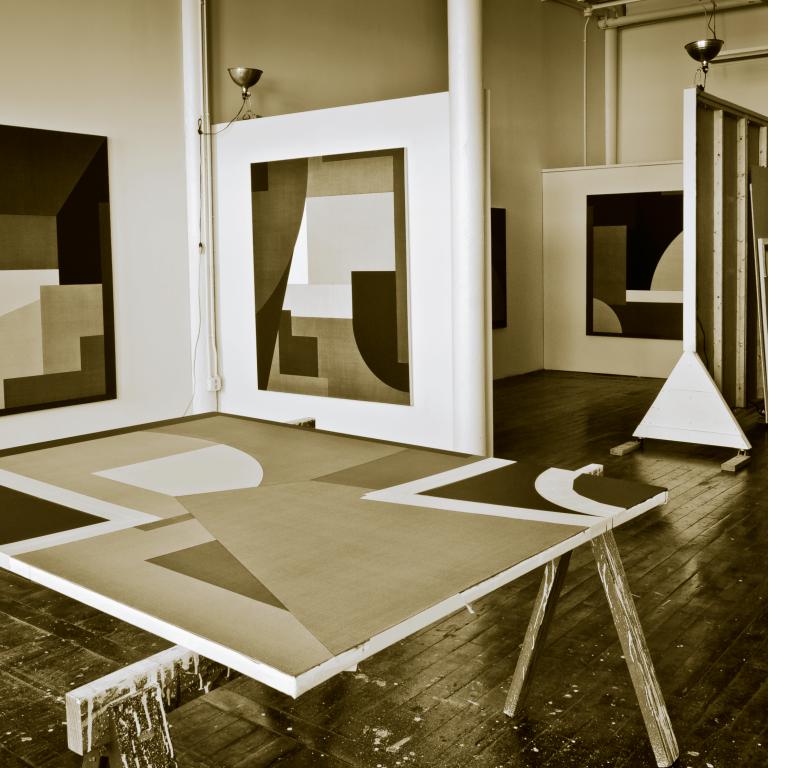
Ingres, Vicomtesse d'Haussonville

1845

oil on canvas

52 × 36 inches

The Frick Collection, New York



TIMOTHY APP

1947 Born, Akron, OH

1970 BFA, Kent State University, Kent, OH

1974 MFA, Tyler School of Art of Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Albright-Knox Art Gallery (Foreman Collection), Buffalo, NY

Alston & Bird, Ilp, Atlanta, GA

Art & Automation, Burlington, Ontario, CA

Atlantic Richfield Company, Denver, CO

Avalere Health, Washington, DC

Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD

Bernalillo County Medical Center, Albuquerque, NM

Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas, Austin, TX

Emporia State University, Emporia, KS

Freddie Mac, McLean, VA

Gensler & Associates, San Francisco, CA

Hallmark Cards, Inc, Kansas City, MO

Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Baltimore, MD

Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE

Kent State University, Kent, OH

Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA

McDermott, Will & Emory, Washington, DC

Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne, Australia

Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, Inc, New York, NY

Mulvane Art Museum, Topeka, KS

Museum of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM

Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, NM

Pomona College, Claremont, CA

Principal Financial Group, Des Moines, IA

Registry Hotel, Dallas, TX

Roswell Museum & Art Center, Roswell, NM

Sheppard Pratt Health Systems, Baltimore, MD

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, Washington, DC

Tamarind Institute, Albuquerque, NM

The Cordish Company, Baltimore, MD

Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, AZ

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

Westin Galleria, Houston, TX

Ziger Snead Architects, Baltimore, MD

	ONE-PERSON EXHIBITIONS		SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS
2009	Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD	2009	"The Grey Zone: Paintings and Drawings by
	Catalogue essay by Kristen Hileman		Timothy App and Howie Lee Weiss,"
2007	Angie Newman Johnson Gallery, Alexandria, VA		Howard Community College, Columbia, MD
2006	Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD	2008	"Works on Paper:
2000	doya contomporary, parimore, mp		The Natalie and Irving Forman Collection,"
2005	Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD		Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo, NY
	Catalogue essay by Terrie Sultan and Christopher French		Catalogue essay by Lilly Wei
2003	District Fine Arts, Washington, DC	2007	Denise Bibro Fine Art,
	Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD		Platform Project Gallery, New York, NY
2001	Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD		"Strictly Painting 6,"
2001	or Goya Contemporary, Battimore, MD		McLean Project for the Arts, McLean, VA
2000	Kiang Gallery, Atlanta, GA		Curated by Kristen Hileman
1995	York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA		"By Any Means:
1992	Linda Durham Gallery, Santa Fe, NM		Works from the National Drawing Invitationals,"
1992	Ellida Bulliam Gallery, Gallia 1 c, IVW		University Center Galleries,
1991	Wade Wilson Gallery, Chicago, IL		J. Wayne Stark University, College Station, TX
1989	Linda Durham Gallery, Santa Fe, NM		Perspective Gallery, Blacksburg, VA
			Art Museum, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
	Anthony Ralph Gallery, New York, NY		Essay by Donald D. Perry
1988	Linda Durham Gallery, Santa Fe, NM	2006	"Point of View,"
	Catalogue essay by William Peterson		Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD
1987	Anthony Ralph Gallery, New York, NY		"Shine On,"
1985	Linda Durham Gallery, Santa Fe, NM		Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD
	Heirania, Ask Massacra Heirania, et New Marie		"Mapping the Alternative,"
1984	University Art Museum, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM		20th Annual Critics' Residency Program,
	Albuquerque, Nivi		Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD
1983	Linda Durham Gallery, Santa Fe, NM		Catalogue essays by Lilly Wei, Justin Gershwin, Brooke
	Mattingly-Baker Gallery, Dallas, TX		Lampley, and Lauren Pennell
	Library College Hall and College Market Allege and Alle		"Soft Openings,"
1982	Johnson Gallery, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM		American University Museum at the Katzen Center,
1980	Baum-Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA		Washington, DC
1979	Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA "Engaging the Structural,"		"Engaging the Structural,"
			Broadway Gallery, New York, NY
			Essay by Lilly Wei

"The Forman Collection," Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY

Catalogue essay by Lilly Wei 2004 "Conversations with the Collection," Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA "Conversations: Influence and Collaboration in Contemporary Art," Evergreen House, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD Delaware Center for Contemporary Art, Wilmington, DE Bevier Gallery, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY Curated and catalogue essay by Barry Nemett 2002 "2002 Biennial Exhibition," Memphis College of Art, Memphis, TN Curated by Cynthia Thompson Catalogue essay by Faye Hirsch "Poetic Minimalism," District Fine Arts, Washington, DC 2001 "Mixing Realities," "Selected Prints," Barbara Krakow Gallery, Boston, MA "Summer 2001: Prints and Drawings," Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD 2000 "In Good Form," Kiang Gallery, Atlanta, GA "Strictly Painting III," McLean Project for the Arts, McLean, VA 1999 "Painters Who Make Prints," University of Maryland, College Park, MD Catalogue, essay by Barbara Rose "More than Paper & Ink," Villa Julie College, Stevenson, MD

Muzeum Okregowe W Bydgoszcy, Bydgoszcz, Poland Kennedy Museum of American Art, Ohio University, Athens, OH "47th Annual Exhibition," Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Nagoya, Japan

"That Certain Look: The Minimalist Tradition in New Mexico," University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM Curated by Jonathan Abrams

"Chance & Necessity," Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD St Mary's College, St Mary's City, MD Ohio University, Athens, OH Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD Columbia Festival for the Arts, Columbia, MD Catalogue by Robert Edelman

Goya Contemporary, Baltimore, MD "22nd Annual National Invitational Drawing Exhibition" Eppink Art Gallery, Emporia State University, Emporia, KS

1997 "Not So Simple," Arts 901, Washington, DC

1998 "Chance & Necessity,"

Catalogue

"Playing in the Dark Tower: Images from Black Literary Landscapes," Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD Curated by Chezia Thompson

"Summer 1997," C. Grimaldis Gallery, Baltimore, MD

1996 "Making Waves in the Mid-Atlantic," Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD

1995 "State of the Art," Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD

> "Geometric Abstraction," C. Grimaldis Gallery, Baltimore, MD

1994 "Between the Sexes," Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD "Zero Defect: The Recent Work of Timothy App & John Ruppert," Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD

"100 Works,"

Mulvane Art Museum, Washburn University, Topeka, KS

"Selections from the Permanent Collection,"
Museum of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM

"Elemental Abstraction,"
Salisbury State University, Salisbury, MD

"Drawings From the Permanent Collection,"

Museum of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM

1992 "Freedom of Choice,"

Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD

"Common Ground,"

Museum of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM

"New Mexico Impressions: Printmaking 1880-1990,"
University Art Museum, University of New Mexico,
Albuquerque, NM

"The Collection: New Acquisitions,"

Mulvane Art Museum, Washburn University, Topeka, KS

Anthony Ralph Gallery, New York, NY

Linda Durham Gallery, Santa Fe, NM

1991 "Plane Truth,"

Mulvane Art Museum, Washburn University, Topeka, KS

Jan Turner Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

"Abstraction and Non-Objective Art,"
Principle Financial Group, Des Moines, IA

"Harold Segelstad Collection: Selected Work,"
Shasta College Gallery, Shasta College, Redding, CA

"Painting With Out Words,"

Jan Turner Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

"The Centennial Suite,"

Albuquerque City and County Government Buildings,

Albuquerque, NM

Prints by 17 artists published by the Tamarind Institute

"The Art of Albuquerque: A Study in Discovery,"

Museum Of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM

Anthony Ralph Gallery, New York, NY

1989 "Five New Painters,"

John Davis Gallery, New York, NY

Curated by Sean Sully

1988 Anthony Ralph Gallery, New York, NY

"Get It on Paper: An Exhibition of Works on Paper," Linda Durham Gallery, Santa Fe, NM

1988 "The Huntington at 25:

The Gallery Collects, Selected Acquisitions, 1983 87,"
Archer M. Huntington Gallery,
College of Fine Arts, University of Texas, Austin, Austin, TX

"New Mexico '87,"

Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, NM

Catalogue

Albuquerque, NM

"Uncommon Space,"

Museum of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM

"App, Feinberg and Hahn: Work from Leaves of Absence," University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

"Working Small,"

University Art Museum, University of New Mexico,
Albuquerque, NM

"Statements '87:
A Perspective on Contemporary Art in New Mexico,"
Fine Arts Gallery, New Mexico State Fairgrounds,

1985 "Five from New Mexico,"
Fox Fine Arts Center, University of Texas, El Paso, TX

"1985 Invitational Exhibition,"

Roswell Museum and Art Center, NM

"Statements '85:

A Perspective on Contemporary Art in New Mexico,"
Fine Arts Gallery, New Mexico State Fairgrounds,
Albuquerque, NM

1984 "Recent Acquisitions,"

Museum of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM

Sebastian-Moore Gallery, Denver, CO

1983 "The Phoenix Biennial,"

Phoenix Art Museum, AZ

Catalogue essay by Albert Stewart

Gensler and Associates, Houston, TX

"Geometric Formalism in American Art,"
University Art Museum, University of New Mexico,
Albuquerque, NM
Mattingly-Baker Gallery, Dallas, TX

1981 "Meridian Invitational,"

Meridian Gallery, Albuquerque, NM

"Recent Acquisitions,"

University Art Museum, University of New Mexico,
Albuquerque, NM

1980 "Gallery Gala,"

Baum-Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

1979 Santa Fe Festival of the Arts, Santa Fe, NM

"Exhibition,"

Albuquerque United Artists and Meridian Gallery,
Alburquerque, NM

"Los Angeles Abstract Painting,"
University Art Museum, University of New Mexico,
Albuquerque, NM

University Art Gallery, University of California, Riverside, CA Catalogue, essay by Melina Wortz

"Qualities of Vision,"

Riverside Art Center, Riverside, CA

"Abstract Drawings,"

Baum-Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

1978 Armory Show,"

Armory for the Arts, Santa Fe, NM

Albuquerque Public Library, Albuquerque, NM

"A Painting Show,"

Mt San Antonio College, Walnut, CA

"Abstract Painting from Southern California,"
Emily H. Davis Art Gallery, University of Akron, Akron, OH
University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND

"Painting in the Contemporary Mode,"

Mt San Jacinto College, CA

"The Old and the New: Drawings by the Claremont Faculty,"
Libra Gallery, Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, CA

"22nd All California Juried Show,"

Laguna Beach Museum of Art, Laguna Beach, CA

1975 "Two On Paper,"

Southeast Arkansas Arts and Science Center, Pine Bluff, AK

"Nine LA Artists,"

California State University, Bakersfield, CA

1973 "Color at Tyler,"
Watson Art Gallery, Elmira College, NY
Catalogue by Richard Schiff

"26th Annual Award Exhibition,"

Cheltenham Art Center, Philadelphia, PA *Juror, Lawrence Alloway*

1972 "Drawing Invitational,"

Akron Art Institute, Akron, OH

1971 "Six Artists,"

Akron Art Institute, Akron, OH

1970 "47th Annual Juried Exhibition," Akron Art Institute, Akron, OH

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Gazeta Wyborcza, Bydgoszcz. "Life is Movement," Poland, September 24, 2001.

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July 19, 2001.

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Fox, Lewis. "L. A. Abstract: A Sketchy Survey," *Artweek*, November 9, 1979.

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Raether, Keith. "Albuquerque: Color it State of the Art," *Albuquerque Tribune*, Fall, 1979.

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AWARDS

McLean Project for the Arts Prize, VA, 2007

Juried by Kristen Hileman

McLean Project for the Arts Prize, VA, 2000 *Juried by Terrie Sultan*

Individual Grant, Maryland State Arts Council, 1999

National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, 1987-1988

Purchase Prize, Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, NM, 1987

CREDITS

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