

The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation
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Harry F. Guggenheim, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, announced today that Ben Nicholson, St. Ives, Cornwall, England, has been selected as the first winner of the Guggenheim International Award.

Results of the judging are being made public tonight by the Right Honorable Earl Castle Stewart, M. C., President of the Foundation, and his wife, Countess Castle Stewart, daughter of the founder and a Trustee of the Foundation, at a dinner in the Hotel de Crillon, in Paris, France.

The painting which won the award for Mr. Nicholson is "August, 1956 (Val d'Orcia)."

The Guggenheim International Award was established this year by the Board of Trustees of the Foundation. One of its principal purposes is to stimulate public interest in art in as many parts of the world as possible.

Ben Nicholson, born in Denham, England, 1894, has lived in St. Ives, Cornwall, since 1940. In addition to his painting, he is well known for his geometrical plaster and wood reliefs. His work has been shown in retrospective exhibitions here and abroad. He has participated in many international exhibitions including the São Paulo Bienal, 1951; Carnegie International at Pittsburgh, 1952 (First Prize), 1955; retrospective in the British Pavilion at the Venice Biennale, 1954 (Ulissi Prize).

Members of the International Jury who judged the paintings and selected Mr. Nicholson as the recipient of the \$10,000 Award are Georges Salles, Director of the Museums of France and President of the International Council of Museums; Paul Fierens, Director of Royal Museums of Belgium and President of the International Association of Art Critics; and Marko Celebonović, Yugoslav painter and President of the Yugoslavia Section of the International Association of Plastic Arts.

The Guggenheim International Award is an outright grant and not a purchase award, to be made every two years to the artist painting the work selected by an International Jury.

The candidate paintings are selected through National and Continental competitions held throughout the world with prizes of \$1,000 each for the painting selected by the Jury within each of these areas.

Each National Section and Continental Section Jury may also choose four additional paintings to be submitted with the prize-winning picture in the competition for the International Award. The five paintings may be works of five different artists or five works of one artist. The International Award winner need not necessarily be a winner in the National and Continental competitions.

The winners of the National and Continental Prizes announced November 7 by Harry F. Guggenheim, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation are: Herbert Boeckl, Austria; René Magritte, Belgium; Candido Portinari, Brazil; William Ronald, Canada; Alejandro Obregón, Colombia; Jens Søndergaard, Denmark; Mohammad Hamed Eweis, Egypt; Marcel Gromaire, France; Georges Bouzianis, Greece; Emilio Vedova, Italy; Kazu Wakita, Japan; Corneille, Netherlands; Jan Cybis, Poland; Walter Bodmer, Switzerland;

John Bratby, United Kingdom; Mark Tobey, United States; Petar Lubarda, Yugoslavia; Hans Hartung, Europe and Africa; Emilio Pettoruti, North and South America.

The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation was organized in 1937 by the late Solomon R. Guggenheim under the education law of the State of New York. It was established "for the promotion and encouragement of art and education in art and the enlightenment of the public, especially in the field of art."

The Foundation operates the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum at 1071 Fifth Avenue between 88th and 89th Streets in New York City, where a new museum building, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, is now under construction.

In announcing the creation of the awards, Mr. Guggenheim said: "There are many art prizes offered throughout the world at present under limiting conditions. Our objective, however, is major painting awards carrying with them preeminent national and international prestige.

"We of the Foundation hope that the award will not only be significant in the field of art but will also be an important manifestation of international good will."