

THE SOLOMON R. GUGGENHEIM FOUNDATION
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Harry F. Guggenheim, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, today announced the establishment of an International Solomon R. Guggenheim Award of \$10,000 to be made every two years to the artist painting a work selected by an international jury. This award will be an outright grant and not a purchase award. The painting would be selected through 16 or more competitions held throughout the world, with prizes of one thousand dollars each for the best painting within each of these areas to supplement the \$10,000 award.

Mr. Guggenheim said President Eisenhower has signified his willingness to present the initial International Award to the artist painting the prize-winning work.

In his announcement, Mr. Guggenheim pointed out that "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.

"The President's interest in art, manifested in his report to Congress, which has been a great inspiration for art in the United States, led me to hope that he would look with favor on establishment of this International Award, which he has done.

"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 goodwill."

The International Council of Museums, the International Association of Art Critics, and the International Association of Plastic Arts - in other words,

leading internationally representative organizations of art museum directors, the art critics, and the artists - are cooperating with the Foundation in organizing the preliminary collection of paintings and setting up the juries to judge them. The executive committees of the three cooperating organizations will appoint a Joint Committee representing them to conduct the administrative work in connection with the awards. This Joint Committee is to be appointed by the three organizations every two years.

National Section competitions will be held in the countries in which the three cooperating organizations have representation. These at present include - in addition to the United States - Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Egypt, France, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia. National competitions may also be held in other countries this year if complete National Sections are formed before June 1, 1956.

In addition to the National Section Awards, three Continental Section Awards, also of \$1,000 each, will be available provided the three collaborating organizations can arrive at a selection of a Continental Section Award winner and of four other candidates for the International Award in keeping with the conditions governing the National Section competitions. These three awards will be open to artists who are nationals of a country not represented in all three collaborating organizations or artists who the juries may decide are reasonably justified in not wishing to compete as nationals of the countries of their birth. The areas for the Continental Section Awards are: (1) North and South America; (2) Europe and Africa; and (3) Asia and Australasia.

To be eligible for the International Award or the Regional Awards - both the National Section and Continental Section choices - paintings must have been exhibited within the last two years and painted within the last three years before the competition.

National Section Juries and Continental Section Juries may nominate paintings whether or not formally submitted by the artists, but all paintings selected must be sent to the center of final judging.

The National Section Juries will be chosen by the national sections of the three cooperating organizations. The three Continental Section Juries will be comprised of one appointee from each of the three cooperating organizations, preferably but not necessarily from the continental area whose work is being judged. The jury for the International Award will be selected by the international committees of the organizations.

The National Section and Continental Section Juries will each vote a prize of \$1,000 to their choice among the paintings submitted for their consideration. They will 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 at the jury's discretion. The International Award winner need not necessarily be a winner in the national competitions.

The three cooperating organizations will bring together the paintings for the national competitions, while the Foundation will assume all financial costs of transporting the paintings chosen by the area juries to the center where they will be judged for the International Award, and for their return to the centers of national competitions or point of origin in case of Continental Section Awards. The Foundation will also pay the expenses of members of the International Jury during the period of judging and travel expenses of the International Award winner.

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.