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CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT AND STUDY OF EARLY TEXAS ART
GIVES ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS AT ANNUAL MEETING

The Center for the Advancement and Study of Early Texas Art (CASETA) recognized individuals and institutions with nine achievement awards during the 17th Annual Symposium and Texas Art Fair held in Austin, Texas, March 29-31, 2019. CASETA annually gives awards to recognize individuals and institutions who have made significant contributions to the advancement and study of early Texas art during the previous calendar year and service to the organization for an extended period of time.

Those recognized include:

Heritage Auctions of Dallas, Texas, received The Bill and Mary Cheek Patron Award. This award named for one of CASETA's founders is given to an individual, couple, business, or organization for providing substantial leadership, resources and inspiration in advancing our understanding and appreciation of the rich visual arts heritage of the State of Texas. In the nomination for this award Heritage Auctions, a long-time patron of CASETA, was acknowledged for, "being a significant supporter since the beginning of CASETA in 2003 with in-kind printing of symposium programs and more recently long-time sponsorship of the opening reception of the Texas Art Fair as well as having a booth at the annual Texas Art Fair. Atlee Phillips, Director of Texas Art and Consignment Director of Fine Art at Heritage Auctions, especially receives CASETA's thanks and recognition for her efforts on CASETA's behalf with the Heritage Auctions organization."

Texas artist and CASETA supporter **David Adickes** of Houston, Texas, received the **William and Linda Reaves Lifetime Achievement Award which is presented to an individual who has distinguished himself or herself with a lifetime involvement with Texas art as an artist, a patron, collector or scholar of early Texas art.**

"Born in 1927 in Huntsville, Texas, David Adickes earned his undergraduate degree in physics and mathematics from Sam Houston State College (now University). The summer after graduation, he attended the Kansas City Art Institute and realized that art was what he really wanted to do. Mr. Adickes used his G.I. Bill to study painting in Paris with modern master, Fernand Leger. He returned to Houston and began painting full-time. In 1983, he was commissioned to make his first monumental sculpture, *Virtuoso*, which now resides at the Lyric Center in downtown Houston. Mr. Adickes also created the 76-foot tall figure of Sam Houston that stands on Interstate 45 just south of Huntsville. Considered one of the Houston founders of early Texas modernism, Mr. Adickes has mounted numerous exhibitions and his works are held in a significant number of both public and private collections."

Mark Kever of McKinney, Texas, received CASETA's **Distinguished Service Award** which is given in recognition of the recipient's long-time and distinguished service to CASETA and the promotion of early Texas art.

The nomination stated in part that Mr. Kever "has been a tireless board member of CASETA, taking an active role since 2010 in all aspects of CASETA, including serving as board chair, board treasurer, and on the annual symposium planning committee since 2011 including acting as co-chair on many occasions. As a CASETA board member Mark has especially provided expert leadership in fundraising and long-term stability of the organization as well as taking a leadership role in the CASETA regional outreach events held across the state between symposiums. Mr. Kever is active in several early Texas art organizations including TACO (Texas Art Collectors Organization) and has loaned items in his art collection to numerous museum exhibitions. Mark is a knowledgeable collector of early Texas art and a passionate advocate for ETA across the state of Texas and beyond."

Exhibition Award given to the **El Paso Museum of Art** for the exhibition, *Early West Texas: Waypoint and Home* from **July 1 – November 4, 2018**. "This exhibition examined the border as waypoint and home illustrating that West Texas has fostered a community composed of artists both passing through and making the El Paso region their permanent home. Painters, printmakers, and draftsmen alike captured the border region's unique landscape and culture. Using the museum's collection of paintings, prints, and drawings, alongside works from local collectors, **Early West Texas: Waypoint and Home** gave an overarching view of landscapes, scenes of daily life and portraits of those who have called El Paso home."

Publication Awards were presented to individuals and institutions, "who have made the most important contribution to the published literature on early Texas art during the previous calendar year."

Publication awards were given to **Pete Gerson** for the book, *Collision: The Contemporary Art Scene in Houston, 1972-1985* edited by Thom Lemmons and published by Texas A&M University Press in 2018; and to the **Houston Public Library** and **The Heritage Society** for the dual exhibition catalogue, *South and North of the Border: Houston Paints Houston/South and North of the Border: Houston Paints Mexico*.

Collision: The Contemporary Art Scene in Houston, 1972-1985, edited by **Thom Lemmons**: "In this expansive and vigorous survey of the Houston art scene of the 1970s and 1980s, author Pete Gershon draws upon primary archival materials, contemporary newspaper and magazine accounts, and over sixty interviews with significant figures to describe Houston's emergence as a focal point for the arts that was fueled by a boom in oil prices and by the arrival of several catalyzing figures. **Collision's** narrative preserves and interweaves the stories and insights of those who transformed the city's art scene into the vibrant community that it is today." **Texas A&M University Press** of College Station, Texas, received an award as publisher of this book.

Houston Public Library and **The Heritage Society** received a Publication award for the exhibition catalogue, *South and North of the Border: Houston Paints Houston/South and North of the Border: Houston Paints Mexico* "which creatively showcases the dual exhibitions giving equal importance to **South and North of the Border: Houston Paints Houston** mounted by The Heritage Society on August 16 - November 24, 2018 and **South and North of the Border: Houston Paints Mexico**, August 25 - November 10, 2018, presented at the Julia Ideson Building by the Houston Public Library. Both shows were curated by Christina Wai Grubitz, Randolph K. Tibbits, and Tam Kiehnhoff. Each exhibition showcased over 60 works that illustrated both the vision that Houstonians have of their city and the ties between Texas and Mexico."

The final award was the Nancy and Ted Paup CASETA Research Initiative Award given to an individual, “For recognition in the advancement of scholarship and our understanding of early Texas art.”

Rae Pleasant was awarded the **Nancy and Ted Paup CASETA Research Initiative Award**, “for her project to transcribe the Tyler, Texas Black Film Collection that is part of the G. William Jones Film and Video Collection, Hamon Arts Library at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. The transcriptions will be put in bound books and disseminated to relevant repositories such as libraries, universities, and museums. This project received support from the Nancy and Ted Paup CASETA Research Initiative which includes CASETA donor funds.

Ms. Pleasant will also produce a five page research paper on African American film and cultural history and in particular examining the ways African American Vernacular English, which weaves through the TTBFC films, is crucial to this understanding. This project received support from the Nancy and Ted Paup CASETA Research Initiative which includes CASETA donor funds.”

The Center for the Advancement and Study of Early Texas Art (CASETA) is a state-wide organization whose mission is to promote the preservation, study and appreciation of Texas visual arts and its history. For more information on CASETA awards, programs, membership, and general information visit CASETA’s website at www.caseta.org or contact the CASETA office in San Angelo, Texas, at 325.212.4872.