

Model Artists

Discover the inspirations and techniques behind the winning pieces of this year's art competition.

By Jenny Wohlfarth

One of the popular assumptions about creative people is that they're an exotic breed of human creature, marked by some genetic quirk that makes them, you know, different. So society has created a handful of clichés to describe its artsy types: They're the square pegs, the drummers marching to their own beat, and so on. While some artists embrace these designations, others insist they're just as much the guy next door as the guy next door is.

Despite their distinctions, the 30 talented artists who clinched the top honors in *The Artist's*

Magazine's 20th Annual Art Competition share a significant similarity. For them, art isn't about competing or winning awards. It's not even about making money—although many of them rely on their art to make a living. Instead, these artists say their real achievement is creating art that touches and influences other human beings.

For that, we congratulate them—and thank them—for making a difference.

JENNY WOHLFARTH writes about art and design, and teaches journalism at the University of Cincinnati.

Guide to Winners

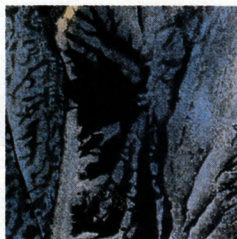
34 Landscape

Juror: Wende Caporale



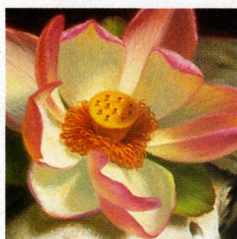
37 Animal

Juror: Julie T. Chapman



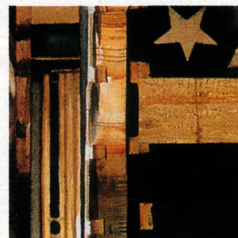
40 Still Life

Juror: Cheng-Khee Chee



43 Portrait

Juror: John Howard Sanden



46 Experimental

Juror: George James

49 Finalists