

American Academy of Arts and Letters



633 WEST 155 STREET

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10032-7599

(212) 368-5900 FAX (212) 491-4615

April 20, 1995

Mr. Richard Michelson
R. Michelson Galleries
25 S. Pleasant Street
Amherst, MA 01002

Dear Mr. Michelson:

I am happy to inform you that one of your artists, Richard Yarde, has won a 1995 Academy Award in Art from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Mr. Yarde will be honored on May 17, 1995, at our annual award and induction ceremony.

I have also enclosed a press release announcing the 1995 award winners in the event you have other artists who are being honored.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Betsey Feeley
Assistant to the Director

RICHARD YARDE

Yarde's realist passion is buttressed and girded with a plasticity, at once, all-embracing, compelling, and inevitable. This happy and rather unfashionable conjunction of form and content render his paintings relevant, enjoyable, powerful, and meaningful. Possessed of a great sensibility, Richard Yarde's extended use of color, his compositional inventiveness, and his original spatial relationships charge his pictures with a rich vibrancy and an accessible poetic intensity. Yarde is that exceedingly rare personage, a painter of the real and the actual perceived through the magical lenses of art.

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release
Contact: Betsey Feeley
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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND LETTERS HONORS ARTISTS WITH AWARDS

New York, April 19, 1995 – The American Academy of Arts and Letters announced today the eight recipients of this year's art awards which total \$52,500. The winners were selected by a committee of Academy members: Chuck Close (Chairman), Leonard Baskin, Charles Gwathmey, Hugh Hardy, Jacob Lawrence, Nathan Oliveira, and Robert Ryman. The awards will be presented at the Academy's annual Ceremonial in May.

Richard Yarde (Academy Award) was born in 1939 in Boston, Massachusetts, where he earned his MFA at Boston University. He mounted his first solo exhibition in 1970 at the Carl Siembab Gallery in Boston and has since shown at Wellesley College (1975), the Studio Museum in Harlem (1976), the Roosevelt Museum in New York (1980), the San Diego Museum of Art (1982), the Utah Museum of Fine Arts (1986), and others. His paintings are in the permanent collections of numerous institutions, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Museum of American Art in Washington, DC, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan, and Brandeis University and Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts. Since 1990, Mr. Yarde has been a professor of art at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.