

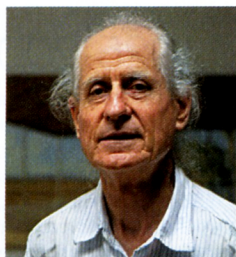
AWARDS & GRANTS

Hiroshi Sugimoto, Richard Long and Zaha Hadid are among the winners of the **Praemium Imperiale**, given by the Japan Art Association. Each receives \$158,000.

The **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation** has presented 24 “genius” grants to individuals in the arts and sciences and other fields. Artist fellows, who each receive \$500,000 over five years, are **Mark Bradford, Rackstraw Downes** and **Camille Utterback**.

Omer Fast has won the approximately \$74,000 **National Gallery Prize for Young Art**, given by Berlin’s Nationalgalerie.

Fast’s work is on view at the city’s Hamburger Bahnhof, along with that of finalists **Keren Cytter, Danh Vo** and **Annette Kelm**, through Jan. 3.



Rackstraw Downes

Sanford Biggers has won the 2009 **William H. Johnson Prize**, worth \$25,000. The award is given annually by the L.A.-based foundation to an early-career African-American artist.

Nicolas Carone and **June Wayne** have received **Lee Krasner Awards for Lifetime Achievement** from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation. The grants, ranging from \$20,000 to \$30,000 per annum and given every

several years, are presented to senior artists.

Allan Wexler has received the inaugural **Henry J. Leir Prize**, worth \$5,000, from the Jewish Museum in New York for his work *Gardening Sukkah*, currently on view in the museum’s “Reinventing Ritual” [through Feb. 7].

Frank Stella has been honored with the **Julio González Prize** for lifetime achievement by the Institute of Modern Art in Valencia (IVAM).

Annie Leibovitz, whose financial troubles have recently been widely publicized, will be honored by Santa Fe’s Georgia O’Keeffe Museum in March as part of its 2010 **Women of Distinction** series.

Shirin Neshat was presented with the **Silver Lion** for best director at the Venice Film Festival for her first feature-length film, *Women Without Men*.

The Oakland-based **Artists’ Legacy Foundation** has presented its \$25,000 artist award to painter **Llyn Foulkes**.



Mark Bradford

PEOPLE

Irina Lebedeva was recently named director of the State Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow. A 20th-century art specialist, she had been deputy director of academic research and is the first woman to lead the museum. She replaces **Valentin Rodionov**, who was removed by the Russian Minister of Culture following a controversy last year over the exhibition “Sots Art—Political Art in Russia from 1972 to Today,” which also resulted in the firing of contemporary curator **Andrey Erofeev**.

Greg Perry has become director of operations and administration at the National Gallery London. He had been director of the Allentown Art Museum in Pennsylvania since January 2008.

Franklin Sirmans has been appointed department head and curator of contemporary art at the L.A. County Museum of Art, effective Jan. 1. He has

been curator of modern and contemporary art at the Menil Collection in Houston since 2007, and was previously a curatorial advisor at P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center in New York. He succeeds **Lynn Zelevansky**, who is now head of the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh.

President Barack Obama recently appointed independent TV and film producer **Rachel Goslins** as executive director of the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

TV and movie director and producer **George Stevens, Jr.**, and Broadway producer **Margo Lion** were named co-chairs, and **Mary Schmidt Campbell**, dean of New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts since 1991 and former executive director of the Studio Museum in Harlem, was named vice-chair.



Franklin Sirmans

DONALD FISHER’S FINAL ACT: ENTRUSTS WORKS TO SFMOMA

On Sept. 27, just two days after the **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art** announced that it would receive the 1,100-piece Fisher collection of contemporary art, **Donald Fisher** died of cancer.

The arrangement is not an outright gift, however, but a partnership in which the holdings of Donald and Doris Fisher will be displayed along with the museum’s collection in a planned new wing, as well as integrated into existing galleries. The Fishers established a family trust jointly administered by SFMOMA to care for their collection for at least 25 years.

The prominent San Francisco businessman co-founded the Gap stores with his wife in 1969. The couple began buying art around the same time and eventually formed one of the most important collections of contemporary art in the U.S. It was long thought that the works would go to SFMOMA, where Donald had served as a trustee since 1983, but in 2007 he announced plans to open his own museum in the Presidio, a historic former military base. Facing opposition from residents and preservationists, the plan was first scaled back and the museum site relocated to a less prominent position in the park [see Artworld, Feb. ’09], before Fisher withdrew his proposal in July.

The Fishers’ decision is a boon for SFMOMA, which is in the early planning stages of a \$60-million expansion that will add 100,000 square feet of gallery space, tripling the current amount. The plan, which calls for the destruction of a century-old building, must still undergo an environmental review but has the enthusiastic support of Mayor Gavin Newsom.

The Fisher collection includes major, career-spanning works by such artists as Calder, de Kooning, Diebenkorn, Lichtenstein, Richter, Kiefer, Kelly, Martin, Marden, Twombly, Close, Warhol, Kentridge, Kounellis and Serra, including the latter’s soaring vertical piece in the Gap headquarters lobby (where it will remain). An exhibition highlighting works from the collection is planned at SFMOMA for summer 2010.



Camille Utterback