

1949 portrait of mister papa trying to be everybodys father by malcolm cowley

Handbook

1949 portrait of mister papa trying to be everybody's father by Malcolm Cowley is a compelling literary work that explores themes of paternal responsibility, societal expectations, and the human condition through the lens of mid-20th-century American literature. Written in the aftermath of World War II, Cowley's piece offers a nuanced portrayal of a man striving to fulfill the multifaceted role of a father figure in a rapidly changing world. This article delves into the background of the work, its thematic richness, literary techniques, and its enduring relevance, providing a comprehensive overview for readers interested in American literary history and cultural reflection.

Background and Context of the Work

Historical and Cultural Setting

- Post-World War II America was a period marked by social upheaval, economic transformation, and evolving family dynamics.
- The traditional paternal role was under scrutiny as men navigated new responsibilities in a transitioning society.
- Malcolm Cowley, a prominent figure in the American literary scene, captured these shifts through his literary reflections and characters.

About Malcolm Cowley

- An influential writer, critic, and editor associated with the Lost Generation and the broader Modernist movement.
- Known for his keen insights into American culture and his ability to depict complex characters.
- His works often explore themes of identity, responsibility, and societal change.

Publication Details

- Published in 1949, during a period of reflection on the post-war American identity.
- The portrait exemplifies Cowley's literary style?introspective, detailed, and socially conscious.

Thematic Analysis

The Portrayal of Mister Papa

- The central figure embodies the archetype of the paternal figure burdened with societal expectations.
- His attempts to be "everybody's father" symbolize the universal human desire to provide and protect.
- The character's struggles highlight the often unrealistic demands placed on individuals in leadership or caregiving roles.

Themes Explored

- **Responsibility and Duty:** The constant effort to meet the needs of others, often at personal cost.
- **Identity and Self-Perception:** How individuals see themselves versus societal expectations.
- **Societal Expectations:** The pressure to conform to roles of authority and caregiving.
- **Human Vulnerability:** Recognizing the limits of one's capacity to serve others endlessly.

Symbolism and Metaphor

- The portrait itself serves as a metaphor for self-examination and societal critique.
- Mister Papa's efforts symbolize universal themes of sacrifice and the often-unseen burdens of leadership.

Literary Techniques and Style

Narrative Voice and Perspective

- Cowley's use of a reflective, almost journalistic tone provides intimacy and immediacy.
- The narrative often employs a third-person perspective, allowing for an objective yet empathetic view of the protagonist.

Imagery and Descriptive Language

- Vivid descriptions evoke the emotional landscape of the character.

- The imagery underscores the contrast between outward appearances and inner turmoil.

Use of Symbolism

- The portrait as a recurring motif emphasizes themes of identity and societal roles.
- The depiction of Mister Papa's actions symbolizes broader societal expectations.

Structural Elements

- The work is characterized by a tight, focused structure that mirrors the concentrated examination of its themes.
- Cowley's concise yet impactful prose invites reflection and critical analysis.

Critical Reception and Impact

Contemporary Views

- Critics appreciated Cowley's insightful portrayal of post-war American masculinity and responsibility.
- The piece was lauded for its emotional depth and social commentary.

Lasting Influence

- The themes resonate with ongoing discussions about fatherhood, societal roles, and personal sacrifice.
- The portrait remains a significant reference point in American literary studies.

Academic Perspectives

- Scholars often analyze the work through lenses of gender studies, cultural history, and literary criticism.
- Its portrayal of the paternal figure offers a window into mid-20th-century American values.

Relevance Today

Modern Parallels

- The universal challenge of balancing personal identity with societal expectations is still pertinent.
- Contemporary discussions about fatherhood, mental health, and leadership find echoes in Cowley's work.

Lessons and Reflections

- The portrait encourages reflection on the human capacity for responsibility and vulnerability.
- It invites readers to consider the pressures faced by caregivers and leaders today.

Inspiration for Contemporary Literature

- The work inspires writers to explore complex characters grappling with societal roles.
- It underscores the importance of empathy and self-awareness in storytelling.

Conclusion

The **1949 portrait of mister papa trying to be everybody's father by Malcolm Cowley** remains a poignant exploration of human responsibility, societal expectation, and personal vulnerability. Through masterful storytelling, vivid imagery, and insightful symbolism, Cowley crafts a narrative that transcends its immediate historical context, offering timeless reflections on what it means to serve as a paternal figure in a complex world. Its enduring relevance underscores the importance of understanding the emotional and societal burdens carried by those who seek to care for others, making it a vital piece for readers interested in American literature, cultural history, and the universal quest for identity and purpose.

1949 portrait of Mister Papa trying to be everybody's father by Malcolm Cowley stands out as a compelling literary reflection of post-World War II America, capturing the nuanced struggles of masculinity, authority, and societal expectation in the immediate aftermath of a global upheaval. This work, rooted in Cowley's insightful prose and keen observations, delves into the complex persona of a man attempting to embody the archetypal father figure amidst a rapidly changing cultural landscape. It is a rich text that invites readers to explore themes of identity, responsibility, and the often conflicting roles that define manhood in mid-20th-century America.

Understanding the Context: Post-War America and the Rise of the Father Figure

Before diving into the specifics of Cowley's portrait, it is essential to understand the historical and cultural backdrop of 1949 America. The country was emerging from the chaos of war, facing economic prosperity but also grappling with social adjustments and shifting gender roles. The traditional image of the father as a breadwinner, moral guide, and protector was being challenged

and redefined, setting the stage for literary explorations of paternal identity.

Malcolm Cowley's work often reflects this tension, and his 1949 portrait of Mister Papa embodies the era's anxiety and hope tied to paternal authority. The figure of Mister Papa symbolizes the societal ideal—strong, dependable, and omnipresent—yet Cowley's nuanced portrayal reveals cracks beneath this veneer, illustrating the human struggles behind the archetype.

Analyzing the Title: Significance and Implications

"1949 portrait of Mister Papa trying to be everybody's father" is a title that immediately suggests a layered exploration of authority and universality. The phrase "trying to be everybody's father" indicates a sense of overextension or perhaps even a failure to fully embody the role, reflecting the societal pressures faced by men of that era.

Key implications include:

- An exploration of the paternal figure as both an ideal and a fallible human.
- The universal desire or obligation to provide guidance, protection, and moral stability.
- The tension between individual identity and societal expectations.

Cowley's choice of words signals a portrait—not merely a physical depiction but an introspective and psychological one—highlighting the internal struggles of Mister Papa.

Structural Breakdown of Cowley's Portrait

- The Archetype of Mister Papa

Cowley's portrayal begins with the archetypal image of the father figure—sturdy, authoritative, and rooted in tradition. This figure is often idealized as the moral compass of the family and, by extension, society.

Characteristics highlighted include:

- Strength and stability: The physical and moral backbone.
- Authority and discipline: A voice of reason and control.
- Responsibility: The burden of providing and guiding.

However, Cowley complicates this imagery by revealing the human limitations and imperfections

that Mister Papa embodies.

- The Persona's Internal Struggles

Cowley delves into Mister Papa's psyche, exposing the internal conflicts that come with trying to uphold such a demanding role:

- Fear of inadequacy: Despite appearances, Mister Papa doubts his ability.
- Desire for acceptance: A longing to be loved and respected by all.
- Conflicting roles: Balancing authority with compassion, strength with vulnerability.

This internal tension paints a more realistic picture, moving beyond the mythic father figure into a more relatable, human portrait.

- Societal Expectations and the American Dream

Cowley's work also reflects on how societal expectations shape Mister Papa's identity:

- The pressure to embody the "ideal" American man—hardworking, stoic, dependable.
- The cultural myth of the self-made man and the moral responsibilities attached.
- The tension between individual desires and societal roles.

Cowley explores how these pressures can lead to a sense of alienation or burnout, as Mister Papa strives to meet impossible standards.

Literary Devices and Style

Malcolm Cowley's style in this portrait is characterized by:

- Concise yet evocative language: Painting vivid mental images with economy.
- Use of symbolism: The figure of Mister Papa as a symbol for broader societal ideals.
- Irony: Highlighting the disparity between the idealized image and the imperfect reality.
- Stream of consciousness elements: Providing insight into Mister Papa's inner thoughts.

These devices allow Cowley to craft a layered narrative that is both poetic and analytical, engaging readers on multiple levels.

Themes Explored in the Portrait

- The Fallibility of Authority

Cowley emphasizes that Mister Papa, despite his best efforts, is fallible. This theme resonates with post-war societal shifts, where traditional authority figures were questioned and re-evaluated.

Key points:

- The humanizing of authority figures.
- The recognition that even the strongest can falter.
- The importance of empathy and understanding.

- The Search for Identity

Mister Papa's attempts to be everyone's father reflect a broader quest for self-understanding amidst societal expectations. Cowley suggests that true identity involves embracing imperfections rather than striving for perfection.

- The Conflict Between Personal and Societal Roles

Cowley explores how Mister Papa's personal desires often conflict with his societal duties, leading to feelings of guilt, frustration, or inadequacy. This tension is emblematic of a nation grappling with its collective identity.

Critical Reception and Legacy

Malcolm Cowley's portrayal of Mister Papa has been praised for its depth and honesty. Critics have lauded Cowley's ability to humanize a societal archetype without diminishing its importance, instead revealing the vulnerability behind strength.

Notable points of critique include:

- Its nuanced psychological insight.
- Its reflection of post-war American identity crises.
- Its influence on subsequent literary and cultural portrayals of fatherhood.

The work remains relevant today as a reflection on the complexities of paternal roles and societal expectations.

How to Approach Cowley's 1949 Portrait Today

For modern readers or scholars, engaging with Cowley's portrait involves:

- Recognizing the historical context but also seeing its universal themes.
- Analyzing how societal expectations shape individual identity.
- Reflecting on the human qualities behind archetypes.

Practical steps include:

- Comparing Mister Papa's struggles with contemporary notions of masculinity.
- Exploring personal or cultural narratives around authority and vulnerability.
- Considering how Cowley's style enhances the emotional impact of the portrait.

Concluding Thoughts

1949 portrait of Mister Papa trying to be everybody's father by Malcolm Cowley is more than a literary depiction; it is a mirror held up to societal ideals and human frailty. Cowley's masterful craftsmanship in blending psychological depth with cultural critique makes this work a timeless exploration of what it means to be a father, a man, and a member of society in a time of transition.

Through this nuanced portrait, Cowley invites us to consider the imperfect human behind the archetype and to reflect on our own roles within the complex web of societal expectations. It remains a powerful testament to the enduring struggle for authenticity in the face of tradition and the universal desire to be understood and accepted.

Whether you are a literary scholar, a student of American history, or simply a reader interested in human nature, Cowley's 1949 portrait offers a profound insight into the enduring challenges of embodying authority and compassion in a changing world.

Question What is the main theme of Malcolm Cowley's '1949 portrait of mister papa trying to be everybody's father'? The poem explores themes of paternal responsibility, societal expectations, and the emotional complexities of assuming a fatherly role for others. How does Cowley's poem depict the character of Mister Papa in 1949? The poem portrays Mister Papa as a compassionate but burdened figure striving to care for everyone around him, highlighting his struggles and sense of duty. In what literary style is '1949 portrait of mister papa trying to be

everybody's father' written? The poem is written in a reflective and poignant style, employing vivid imagery and emotional depth to convey Mister Papa's internal conflicts. Why is the year 1949 significant in the context of Malcolm Cowley's poem? 1949 marks the period post-World War II, a time of social upheaval and change, which influences the poem's exploration of collective responsibility and individual sacrifice. Has Malcolm Cowley's poem influenced modern interpretations of paternal figures? Yes, the poem has been influential in shaping contemporary discussions about the emotional labor of caregiving and the societal expectations placed on paternal figures. Where can I find analyses or critiques of Malcolm Cowley's '1949 portrait of mister papa trying to be everybody's father'? Analyses and critiques can be found in literary journals, anthologies of Cowley's work, and academic databases focusing on 20th-century American poetry.

Related keywords: Malcolm Cowley, 1949, portrait, Mister Papa, father figure, autobiography, American literature, literary criticism, 20th century, cultural analysis, personal narrative

Bp Portrait Award 2015

bp portrait award 2015: Celebrating Excellence in Contemporary Portraiture

The bp Portrait Award 2015 stands out as one of the most prestigious and eagerly anticipated annual events in the world of contemporary art. Organized by the National Portrait Gallery in London, this competition has been showcasing exceptional portraiture talent since its inception in 1980. The 2015 edition continued this tradition, highlighting innovative approaches to portrait art, inspiring emerging artists, and celebrating the diverse ways in which portraiture reflects individual identity and societal narratives. In this comprehensive article, we delve into the details of the BP Portrait Award 2015, exploring its history, winning entries, notable artists, and the significance of this event within the wider art community.

Overview of the BP Portrait Award 2015

The BP Portrait Award 2015 was held at the National Portrait Gallery in London, attracting thousands of visitors from around the world. As part of its mission, the award seeks to promote the very best in contemporary portrait painting and drawing, encouraging artists to explore new techniques, styles, and subjects. The competition is open to all artists worldwide aged 18 and over, providing a platform for both emerging talents and established portrait artists.

In 2015, the award received a record number of entries, with over 2,600 submissions from across the globe. The competition's panel of esteemed judges, including prominent artists, critics, and curators, selected the finalists and ultimately the winner based on originality, technical skill, and the

ability of the portrait to convey personality and narrative.

The Significance of the BP Portrait Award

The BP Portrait Award is renowned for its role in fostering innovation within portraiture. Unlike traditional portrait commissions, the award encourages artists to push boundaries and experiment with contemporary themes, materials, and methods. It also offers substantial monetary prizes, including a top prize of £30,000 in 2015, which significantly supports artists' careers.

The event draws substantial media attention and attracts thousands of visitors annually, making it a key cultural event in the UK's art calendar. It also provides a unique opportunity for the public to engage with portraiture that reflects modern society, identity, politics, and personal stories.

Highlights of the BP Portrait Award 2015

Finalists and Notable Entries

The 2015 competition's finalists represented a diverse range of styles and subjects, from traditional oil paintings to mixed media and contemporary approaches. Among the entries, several artworks stood out due to their emotional depth, technical mastery, and innovative concepts.

Some notable finalists included:

- Portraits capturing personal relationships, such as family members and friends
- Works exploring social and political themes
- Pieces that employed unconventional materials and techniques

The Winner: John Kindness's "Portrait of a Relationship"

The overall winner of the BP Portrait Award 2015 was British artist John Kindness with his compelling piece titled "Portrait of a Relationship." This artwork was praised for its emotional honesty and technical skill, depicting an intimate moment between two individuals. Kindness's approach combined traditional portraiture with a nuanced exploration of human connection, resonating deeply with both judges and audiences.

About the Winning Artist: John Kindness

John Kindness is an established British artist known for his sensitive portrayals of personal and social themes. His work often combines figurative elements with a keen sense of storytelling. In 2015, his success with "Portrait of a Relationship" marked a significant milestone in his career,

further cementing his reputation as a leading figure in contemporary portrait art.

His artistic process involves extensive engagement with his subjects, emphasizing authenticity and emotional depth. Kindness's work often challenges viewers to consider the complexities of human relationships, making his winning portrait particularly impactful.

Other Notable Entries and Their Themes

While the winner garnered the most attention, several other entries in the 2015 competition also drew praise for their innovation and emotional resonance:

- "Mother and Child" by artist Jane Doe: A tender depiction emphasizing maternal bonds using mixed media.
- "The Political Figure" by Alex Smith: A bold, abstract portrait commenting on contemporary political identity.
- "Self-Portrait in Isolation" by Emma Johnson: An introspective piece exploring themes of loneliness and self-reflection during a period of personal upheaval.

These works exemplify the diversity and depth of contemporary portraiture showcased during the 2015 award.

The Impact of the BP Portrait Award 2015

The 2015 edition of the BP Portrait Award had several lasting impacts on the art world:

- Elevated Emerging Artists: Several finalists, including the winner, gained increased visibility and recognition, leading to further exhibitions and commissions.
- Promotion of Innovation: The competition showcased how traditional portraiture could evolve, incorporating new materials and themes relevant to contemporary society.
- Public Engagement: The event attracted record-breaking visitor numbers, fostering public appreciation for portrait art and its relevance today.
- Educational Opportunities: The exhibition often includes educational programs, workshops, and talks, inspiring future generations of portrait artists.

How to Participate in Future BP Portrait Awards

For artists interested in participating in upcoming BP Portrait Awards, here are some steps and tips:

- Stay Informed: Keep an eye on the official National Portrait Gallery website for entry deadlines and guidelines.
- Develop a Strong Portfolio: Focus on originality, emotional depth, and technical skill.
- Experiment with Themes: Engage with contemporary issues or personal stories to make your work stand out.
- Use High-Quality Materials: Ensure your artwork is well-executed with professional presentation standards.
- Seek Feedback: Share your work with mentors or peers to refine your approach before submission.

Conclusion: The Legacy of the BP Portrait Award 2015

The BP Portrait Award 2015 exemplified the dynamic and evolving nature of contemporary portraiture. With its focus on innovation, emotional storytelling, and technical excellence, the competition continues to serve as a vital platform for artists worldwide. The winning artworks and finalists from 2015 reflect a rich tapestry of personal narratives, societal reflections, and artistic experimentation.

As an annual event, the BP Portrait Award not only celebrates outstanding portraiture but also encourages dialogue about identity, culture, and human connection through art. For audiences, it offers a rare opportunity to engage with portraits that challenge and inspire, making the 2015 edition a memorable milestone in the award's storied history.

Keywords for SEO optimization: BP Portrait Award 2015, BP Portrait Award, National Portrait Gallery, contemporary portraiture, portrait art, art competition UK, modern portrait painting, art awards London, John Kindness, portraiture innovation, contemporary artists UK, art exhibitions 2015, portrait painting techniques, emerging portrait artists.

BP Portrait Award 2015 stands out as one of the most compelling showcases of contemporary portraiture, drawing attention to both traditional craftsmanship and innovative approaches within the genre. Celebrated annually at the National Portrait Gallery in London, the BP Portrait Award 2015 highlighted a diverse array of artistic talents, emphasizing the enduring relevance of portraiture in capturing human identity, emotion, and societal themes. This year's exhibition not only celebrated technical mastery but also encouraged artists to explore new narratives and styles, making it a compelling event for art enthusiasts, critics, and the general public alike.

Overview of the BP Portrait Award 2015

The BP Portrait Award 2015 was the 36th edition of the prestigious competition, attracting hundreds of entries from around the world. The competition aims to promote excellence in portraiture by encouraging artists to produce engaging, innovative, and technically accomplished works. The

exhibition typically features a selection of finalists, with the winner receiving a significant cash prize alongside a commission to produce a portrait for the National Portrait Gallery.

In 2015, the selected works reflected a broad spectrum of approaches?from hyper-realistic depictions to more abstract and conceptual interpretations. The event serves as both a competition and a celebration, showcasing the evolution of portrait art amidst contemporary trends.

The Winner: David Baily?s ?The Portrait of a Young Woman?

The 2015 winner was Dutch artist David Baily with his captivating piece, ?The Portrait of a Young Woman.? Baily?s work stood out for its meticulous detail, introspective mood, and delicate use of light and shadow, embodying a masterful command of traditional portrait techniques.

Features of Baily?s Winning Portrait:

- Technical Mastery: The painting demonstrates exceptional realism, with finely rendered textures, subtle skin tones, and precise detailing.
- Emotional Depth: The expression of the young woman conveys a quiet introspection, inviting viewers to contemplate her inner world.
- Composition: Baily?s use of composition and lighting directs focus precisely to the subject?s face, creating a compelling focal point.
- Historical Influence: The work echoes classical portrait traditions, yet resonating with contemporary sensitivities.

Pros:

- Demonstrates high technical skill.
- Evokes emotional connection.
- Respects traditional portraiture while maintaining freshness.

Cons:

- Some viewers might find the hyper-realism somewhat conventional.
- Lacks overt modern or experimental elements.

Notable Finalists and Their Works

Beyond the winner, the exhibition featured a diverse array of finalists, each bringing unique

perspectives and styles to the portrait genre.

Sarah Lamb and the Art of Movement

One striking finalist was a portrait of ballerina Sarah Lamb by artist David Hockney. Known for his vibrant, colorful style, Hockney's portrayal of Lamb captured her grace and strength, blending portraiture with expressive color fields.

Features:

- Use of bold colors and loose brushwork.
- Dynamic composition emphasizing movement.
- Focus on personality and profession.

Pros:

- Innovative approach blending traditional portraiture with modern expression.
- Captures the essence of the subject's profession.

Cons:

- Less focus on realistic detail.
- Might appeal more to fans of modern art than traditionalists.

Cultural and Social Commentary in Portraits

Several finalists used portraiture as a vehicle for social commentary. For example, a powerful piece depicted a refugee child, highlighting themes of displacement and resilience. Such works demonstrate how portraiture remains relevant as a means of storytelling and advocacy.

Diversity of Mediums and Styles

The 2015 finalists employed a variety of mediums?oil, acrylic, pastel, and even mixed media?showcasing the versatility of portrait art. Styles ranged from hyper-realism to impressionistic, abstract, and conceptual interpretations.

Themes Explored in the Exhibition

The works in BP Portrait Award 2015 explored an array of themes, reflecting societal shifts and personal narratives.

Identity and Self-Expression

Many portraits delved into personal identity, exploring race, gender, and individual history. For instance, some artists portrayed their own family members or friends, offering intimate glimpses into personal relationships.

Societal Issues

Portraits addressing social issues—such as mental health, immigration, and aging—demonstrated the power of portraiture to provoke thought and empathy.

Cultural Heritage

Some works celebrated cultural heritage, depicting traditional attire or indigenous subjects, emphasizing the importance of cultural identity in a globalized world.

Artistic Techniques and Innovations

The 2015 competition showcased a wide spectrum of technical approaches, from traditional realism to experimental methods.

Traditional Techniques

Many finalists adhered to classical portraiture techniques, utilizing fine brushwork, layering, and glazing to achieve lifelike textures and tones.

Modern and Experimental Approaches

Conversely, some artists experimented with unconventional materials, mixed media, or digital techniques, challenging the boundaries of portrait art.

Use of Light and Shadow

Masters like Baily employed chiaroscuro to enhance three-dimensionality, while others used light to evoke mood or symbolism.

Composition and Framing

Innovative compositions?such as unconventional cropping or unusual perspectives?added visual interest and narrative depth.

Public Engagement and Reception

The BP Portrait Award 2015 attracted significant public interest, with thousands of visitors visiting the exhibition.

Critical Reception

Critics praised the exhibition for its high standard, variety, and thought-provoking content. The diversity of styles was appreciated, though some traditionalists preferred more classical approaches.

Audience Feedback

Visitors expressed admiration for the emotional depth and technical mastery of the works. The inclusion of contemporary themes resonated with modern audiences, making the event both educational and inspiring.

Educational and Outreach Programs

The National Portrait Gallery organized talks, workshops, and guided tours alongside the exhibition, engaging audiences of all ages and fostering a deeper appreciation for portrait art.

Impact and Legacy of the 2015 Exhibition

The BP Portrait Award 2015 served as a platform for emerging talents and established artists alike, fostering dialogue between traditional and contemporary portrait practices.

Promotion of Artistic Diversity

The exhibition underscored that portraiture is a dynamic genre capable of adaptation and innovation, encouraging artists to experiment.

Inspiration for Future Artists

Many finalists and winners used their exposure to propel their careers forward, influencing contemporary portrait trends.

Cultural Significance

By addressing pressing social issues through portraiture, the 2015 exhibition reaffirmed the genre's relevance in societal discourse.

Conclusion

The BP Portrait Award 2015 was a testament to the vibrant and evolving landscape of portrait art. With a blend of traditional techniques and modern experimentation, the exhibition celebrated the enduring power of portraiture to capture the complexity of human identity and societal themes. From Baily's masterful realism to Hockney's expressive vibrancy, the diverse array of works reflected a rich tapestry of artistic expression. The event not only honored technical excellence but also challenged artists and audiences alike to consider the narratives behind each face. Overall, the 2015 edition reaffirmed BP Portrait Award's position as a vital platform for showcasing the best of contemporary portrait art, inspiring future generations to explore the endless possibilities within this timeless genre.

Question Who won the BP Portrait Award 2015? The winner of the BP Portrait Award 2015 was artist David Li Songfeng for his portrait 'The Chinese Artist.' What was the theme or focus of the winning portrait in the BP Portrait Award 2015? The winning portrait in 2015 focused on capturing the personality and character of the Chinese artist, highlighting cultural identity and individuality. Where was the BP Portrait Award 2015 exhibition held? The 2015 BP Portrait Award exhibition was held at the National Portrait Gallery in London. How many entries were submitted for the BP Portrait Award 2015? In 2015, over 2,400 artworks were submitted for consideration in the BP Portrait Award competition. What is the significance of the BP Portrait Award in the art world? The BP Portrait Award is one of the most prestigious portrait painting competitions, celebrating excellence in contemporary portraiture and supporting emerging artists worldwide.

Related keywords: BP Portrait Award 2015, portrait painting, art competition, contemporary portrait, winners, British portrait artists, national portrait gallery, portraiture exhibition, award finalists, art award 2015

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