Calder's Rachel triumphs in national art awards

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[摘要]20-Mar-2007. Rachel Aberdeen, from Peterculter, has won a prestigious Royal Scottish Academy (RSA) Award for one of her paintings.The Gray's School of Art Fine Art student won the 'Friends of the Royal Scottish Academy Award' for her painting, which explores people's beliefs about the world, based on what they can see and understand, but also on an intangible sixth sense. As Rachel explains, "The lightening bolts in the work represent the unknown power of the world, reaching down from oblivion, whereas the fist represents our strength and sense of purpose. I have also used UV back lighting, which represents the mystery of the world, and all the elements we cannot really understand, so we have to use our sixth sense."

[关键词]art awards

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Rachel has been dowsing and creating things for as long as she can remember, saying, "I cannot remember a time when I didn't want to try out the mess made on TV shows like 'Blue Peter' and 'Art Attack'."

She added, "I want to produce art that has meaning as well as beauty, and this is a continuous theme in my work. I have enjoyed my time at Gray's immensely, as I have learned to develop my ideas using a whole range of media."

The RSA Awards are open to entries from all final year undergraduate and postgraduate students and have been held annually in this format, for the last 25 years. Gray's School of Art has traditionally had a strong track record in the RSA student awards and 2007 has been yet another success story, with 10 prizes coming back to Aberdeen.

Frank Coutesy, Head of Painting at Gray's welcomed the success, "It's a major event for the students because it's an unselected exhibition where all the entered work is hung or installed. It provides students with an opportunity to see their work in possibly the best galleries in Scotland along side their contemporaries from the three other Scottish Art Schools and Schools of Architecture".

"These Awards are one of Scotland's most important annual art events and it's extremely pleasing that our students have continued to maintain, and indeed surpass, their previous high standards this year, by picking up so many of the Prizes."

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