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## Pratt Fine Arts Center's 27th Annual Fine Art Auction A Success

Showcasing over 350 unique works of art, Pratt Fine Arts Center's 27th Annual Fine Art Auction held last Saturday, May 16, 2009, enjoyed phenomenal success. The 700 guests in attendance relished a four-course catered meal inside an enormous circus tent and entertainment by local brass troupe Yellow Hat Band. Continuing to distinguish itself from other art auctions in Seattle by its exuberant and quirky nature, Pratt's auction was a party not to be missed.

Pratt has received numerous compliments about the seamless presentation of the event. "This was the best auction ever" and "there was a tremendous energy in the air...everyone had smiles on their faces" were among the comments we heard from guests and artists. "The incredible energy of the event is a testament to the widespread appreciation both artists and arts supporters have for the role Pratt plays in Seattle's arts community," said Executive Director Michelle Bufano. "Thanks to this passion for Pratt's mission that has remained unabated for over thirty years, we surpassed our goal for the Fund-A-Need portion of our live auction."

Following the three lively silent auctions, highlights of the Live Auction portion of the evening included enthusiastic and highly competitive bidding that fetched prices far surpassing their retail value.

"Part of the fun of attending Pratt's Fine Art Auction each year is the opportunity to purchase exceptional contemporary works by emerging artists, such as Chris McMullen and Romson Regarde Bustillo, who began their careers as students and scholarship recipients in Pratt's studios," said Roger MacPherson, a long time Pratt board member, past board president and supporter.

Pratt's vibrant 27th Annual Fine Art Auction was made possible through generous donations from our auction sponsors, the SAFECO Foundation, Legacy Partners, MacPherson Construction and Peterson Sullivan LLP. "We thank our sponsors as well as our guests for their demonstrated support of Pratt's mission to make art available to everyone," said Director of Development Grace Meils.

Since 1976, Pratt Fine Arts Center has offered art classes for everyone and workspace for artists in its equipment-rich facilities in Seattle's Central District. Pratt serves 3,400 students each year and more than 500 working artists use Pratt's affordable studios and equipment.

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