

# Seth Chwast

## *Selected Comments*

**Excerpts from an interview by Bob Dotson of NBC's Today Show with Michael Cunningham, art historian and former curator at the Cleveland Museum of Art (November 16, 2006)**

"It seems to me what Seth is doing is a variety of subject matter... exploring the possibilities of transforming an image into his own language, which I feel is primarily as a colorist. He has an extraordinary rigor in looking in, trying to configure a world that he owns and translate into another reality for himself. But which bears resemblance to what we call reality to our world."

"... What I love about Seth's work is he's out there just zooming along, or pulling back every once in awhile to be quietly plunging some motifs or features or contours or designs that help him construct what's in his mind-- what's in his eye. And for me it's just visually stimulating. Very visually stimulating."

"... Seth has been working with color. Not just a single color but the layering of colors to try and discover how the richness, the dampness, the quiet, the volume can excite one's eye independent of form..... He has a self critical, self questioning process in making color work on top of, next to, in relation to other colors that I think is just transformative when it's really on."

"Seth is wonderfully adaptable and open. He has no lack of interest in.... what might be appropriate for subject matter. ... And he can take anything from frogs to faces to sunsets to northern lights and he gets turned on in an authentic way. That's freedom. That's wonderful."

"It's a stunning example of someone who has pathways of communicating with us-- sharing with us that are not again-- traditional. And they also challenge us in ways that release our own thoughts about how we think, how we judge. Words, subject matter, people, material, texture you know, he's the real deal in that way. And it's so unbridled which is what I like, you know, so natural.... There's no end to it, is there really? Seth's a wonderful example of how we can renew ourselves with a little zing every once in a while.... Seth is very much a wonderful work in process."

"My greatest thrill would be to take a few of his pieces without any labels on them to a museum. It's guaranteed he would get as strong a reaction as a lot of the stuff there. I think if you put something like this up at... the Metropolitan, I'll bet you get a reaction that might surprise you. It's strong.... I just would like it to continue."

## *Selected Collections & Commissions*

- American Development Corporation**, New York, New York  
**Children's Hospital, Boston**, Boston, Massachusetts  
**The Cleveland Clinic Foundation**, Cleveland, Ohio  
**The Cleveland Foundation**, Cleveland, Ohio  
**Comprehensive Autism Diagnostic Center**, Philadelphia Mental Health  
Center, Bucks County, Pennsylvania  
**Francis J. Greenburger Collection**, New York, New York  
**Howard & O'Brien Associates**, Cleveland, Ohio  
**Pancake Pantry**, Nashville, Tennessee  
**Rocky River Library**, Rocky River, Ohio  
**University Hospitals, Case Western Reserve University**,  
Cleveland, Ohio  
**David Baldwin**, Nashville, Tennessee  
**Carolina Bueno**, Otavalo, Ecuador  
**Carin and Michael Cunningham**, Pepper Pike, Ohio  
**Susie and Bert Deutsch**, Shaker Heights, Ohio  
**Patricia Gale, M.D.**, Chicago, Illinois  
**Monica Gallo**, Santa Cruz, Galapagos, Ecuador  
**Joan and Thomas Hartshorne**, South Euclid, Ohio  
**Tonya Heyman, M. D., and Thomas Taxman, M.D.**, Novelty, Ohio  
**Uta and Aldo Kern**, Lugano, Switzerland  
**Ann Kocks and Ken Perelman**, Cleveland Heights, Ohio  
**Paola Leguisamo and Martin Hoss, Galeri Aymara**,  
Santa Cruz, Galapagos, Ecuador  
**Roberta Lowenstein**, Aspen, Colorado  
**Ira McEvoy**, San Francisco, California  
**Yvonne Mortola**, Santa Cruz, Galapagos, Ecuador  
**Roxanne Peterschmidt**, Phoenix, Arizona  
**Anita Rothschild and Steven Wexberg, M.D.**, Pepper Pike, Ohio  
**Karen Sandstrom and Carlo Wolff**, South Euclid, Ohio  
**Jeff Sodowsky**, Cleveland, Ohio  
**Adam Theodores**, Merritt Island, Florida  
**Debbi Truchan**, Little Cayman, Cayman Islands, BWI