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EZROM LEGAE RECEIVES BIENNALE AWARD
Pa Karien van der Merwe

The Black South African artist, Ezrom pe has recently received honourable mention for his work, "Freedom is

Dead - Series 1" at the 5th Biennale exhibition, "Reglamento IV Bienal Internacional De Arte - Valparaiso 1979" in Chile.

. South Africa's participation in the Biennale was organised by the S.A. Association of Arts and sponsored by the Department of National Education. Apart from Ezrom Legae works by the sculptor, Neels Coetzee and the artist, Berenice Michelow and Judith Mason also represented South Africa at the international exhibition. The judges, Dr. Albert Werth, Prof. Muller Ballot and Dr. Raymund van Niekerk selected two art works of each of the four artists for submission to the Biennale.

Neels Coetzee, representing South Africa at the Biennale, accepted the award on behalf of Ezrom Legae.

Llegae who was born in Johannesburg in 1938 studied at the Polly Street Art Centre under Cecil Skotnes and Sydney Kumalo. In 1964 he became art instructor at the Art Centre until 1969 during which year he was involved in "Amadlozi '69", In 1970 he travelled to the U.S.A. on a travel scholarship sponsored by the U.S. Exchange Programme. During 1972 Ezrom was granted a bursary from the Merit Grant Fund by the U.S.A. and in the same year he became director of the African Music and Drama Association Art Project, a post that he held until 1974.

The Biennale award is not Ezrom Legae's first. In 1967 he was awarded the Oppenheimer Sculpture Prize and in that year at the ART SOUTH AFRICA TODAY exhibition in Natal received First Prize in the sculpture section.

In 1968 the Transvaal Academy conferred the Merit Award on him and in the following year he took part in the International Exhibition in Belgium, France and Germany.

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His work was accepted for exhibition at the Contemporary African Art Exhibition at the United States Information Centre in 1974. In 1977 he took part in the Wildlife Art Exhibition at Milner Park, Johannesburg and his "Chicken" Series was exhibited at the Goodman Gallery

in 1978. |

His works of art may be seen in collections of the

S.A. National Gallery in Cape Town, the Art Museums in Durban and Pretoria, the Johannesburg Art Gallery, the William Humphrey's Gallery in Kimberley, the SANLAM Collection as well as in the Gertrude Posel Art Gallery of the University of the Witwatersrand. Various private collectors in Belgium, England, Switzerland, Canada, Germany and the United States of America have bought some of his works. |

Ezrom Legae, well-known to the art world, is a most - deserving receiver of the prize awarded to him by the international Biennale judging committee.

Kindly consider publication, please.

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DIRECTOR-GENERAL:
INFORMATION SERVICE OF SOUTH AFRICA
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