

Press Release – 24th November 2009

Portrait of a doctor, by a doctor: RCGP unveils presidential portrait

A portrait of Professor David Haslam was unveiled last week at the Annual General Meeting of the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP).

The portrait, unveiled last Friday, commemorates Professor Haslam's three year term as President of the College.

Beyond being an impressive likeness of Professor Haslam, this portrait is also remarkable in that the artist is himself a doctor. Bing Jones, who is based in Yorkshire, divides his professional time between work as a doctor in blood and bone marrow transplantation, and as a portrait painter.

The painting will sit alongside the RCGP's art collection of previous Presidents at the College's headquarters in Princes' Gate, London, overlooking picturesque Hyde Park.

Professor Haslam sat – or rather, stood – for the portrait at sittings both in the College's Long Room, and at the artist's studio in Sheffield.

Professor Haslam said: "I am delighted with how Bing's portrait has turned out – and I've been told it is an uncanny likeness. It's fantastic to have a lasting legacy in the college."

Artist Bing Jones said "This painting was a particular pleasure. Though it's a traditional portrait, painted in oil and tempera from live sittings, the sitter was such good company that the time just slipped by. I paint sitters from all walks of life but feel a particular empathy for other doctors, which I hope is evident in this piece."

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For more information, please contact the RCGP Press Office at press@rcgp.org.uk or contact Charlie Breslin on 0207 344 3136.

More information on Bing Jones and his work can be found at:

<http://www.bingjones.co.uk/>

Notes for Editors:

About the RCGP:

The Royal College of General Practitioners is a network of over 39,000 family doctors. We exist to encourage and maintain the highest standards of general practice and act as the voice of general practitioners on education, training, research, and clinical standards in order to improve care for patients.