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The Seattle Times

Oregon artist winner of SAM's Betty Bowen Award

Oregon fiber artist wins Seattle Art Museum's 2009 Betty Bowen Award

By **Michael Upchurch**

Seattle Times arts writer

Josh Faught, who pushes fiber art in provocative directions, has won the Seattle Art Museum's 2009 Betty Bowen Award. He lives in Eugene, Ore., where he's an assistant professor of fibers at the University of Oregon.

Born in 1979 in St. Louis, he was educated at Oberlin College, the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York and the Art Institute of Chicago. His recent works include "Triage" — composed of hemp, nail polish, self-help books and other materials — and "You Can't Live Scared," in which Super-8 film is projected alongside a rather ominous black, crocheted cape.

Faught wins \$15,000. Some of his work will go on view at SAM in October.

Two Special Recognition awards, of \$2,500 each, were given to sculptor Jenny Heishman and painter/videographer/photographer Matthew Offenbacher.

The three artists will discuss their work at an awards ceremony at 6 p.m. Oct. 23, at Pleetscheeff Auditorium, Seattle Art Museum, 1300 First Ave., Seattle