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Critics' Choice: Art

BP Portrait Award 1997 National Portrait Gallery, WC2 (0171 306 0055). Until Oct 5. This award has developed into one of the most popular highlights of the art year. The age limit is 40 and this year there were almost 1,000 entries, from which 66 were selected. James Lloyd deserves his £10,000 first prize for his thoughtful Penelope Watching tv, while Geoffrey Hayzer, Sophie Levi, Abigail McLellan and Orlando Mostyn-Owen are unlucky not to have been among the seven runners up.

By John McEwen and Richard Dorment
12:00AM BST 12 Jul 1997