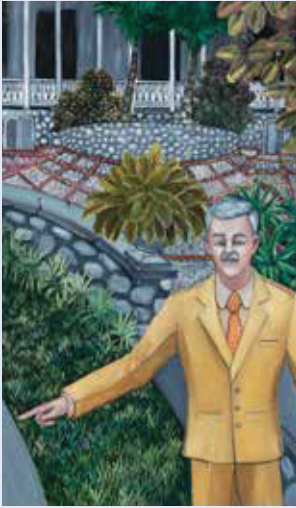




Eduard Duval Carrié
Portrait of Dr. Neiswanger in the Garden of Villa Boedicia, 1997
Oil on canvas, 1998.24

Portrait of Dr. Neiswanger in the Garden of Villa Boedicia



Eduard Duval Carrié (b. 1954) This Haitian-born painter began taking art classes at an early age in Port-au-Prince. When he was 9, his family fled the political oppression of the Duvalier dictatorship and moved to Puerto Rico, where he learned to speak Spanish. He attended high school in New York before joining an older brother in Montreal, where he studied at the University of Loyola. “The way I dealt with what was happening at home was to include the insanity in my paintings,” he stated. After studying briefly in Paris, he then moved to Miami with his wife to raise a family and be closer to Haiti. His body of work has broadened to reflect the social and political realities of the Caribbean region and southern United States, which he notes are linked by a similar historical experience of plantation economy, slavery, revolution and dictatorship. In addition to making art, he continues to curate exhibitions.

A product of its time

Duval-Carrié painted his close friend, Dr. Neiswanger, as the subject of the artwork. Dr. Neiswanger lived in the Quad Cities and began traveling to Haiti in the 1960s, where he fell in love with Haitian art. He donated works from his personal collection to the Davenport Museum of Art (now the Figge Art Museum) which established the museum’s Haitian Collection—now one of the largest and most respected collections in the world.

Take a closer look

Villa Boedicia is an example of Haiti’s Gingerbread architecture, which was inspired by Victorian architecture. Design elements include steeply pitched roofs, fretted wood, and intricate latticework. The tall doors and windows allowed for more air circulation. Verandas also offered some relief in a tropical climate. Villa Boedicia, a 13-acre estate, was purchased by Lawrence Peabody in the 1960s. Peabody (1924-2002) was an architect, interior designer, and furniture designer. He was also friends with Dr. Neiswanger. Notice that the fish seem to be blowing kisses to the doctor—this is said to be because Neiswanger was so beloved by the Haitian people.

Did you know?

Dr. Neiswanger purchased the first painting Edouard Duval-Carrié ever sold: *Azaka, King of Agriculture*. The painting is also part of the Figge Art Museum’s collection.

On your own

Artist Page: <http://www.edouard-duval-carrie.com>

Biographical Statement: http://latinamericancaribbean.duke.edu/uploads/media_items/duval-carrie-bio.original.pdf

Annotated Bibliography: <http://www2.webster.edu/~corbetre/haiti/art/biblio.htm>