

## About the Artist

James Wille Faust (1949 - )

A professional artist since 1978, James Wille Faust grew up on a farm in rural Lapel, Ind. His artwork has been selected for over 100 Indiana exhibitions and more than 100 national exhibits at universities, galleries and museums. His work is included in the internationally famous Absolut Art Collection. In 1993-94 he served on the N.A.S.A. Art Team for the "Mission to Planet Earth" project. Recent projects include permanent public sculpture commissions for the Indianapolis Arts Commission Artspark and Herron School of Art IUPUI. Since 2005 he has worked with Blackburn Architects and the Indianapolis Airport Authority to create his mural installation "Chrysalis" for the Indianapolis Airport. "Chrysalis" and Faust's "Arch 1" are featured in the 2009 Spring issue of Studio Visit Magazine. In 2008, Greg Silver commissioned Faust to create "Abraham Lincoln 200 Years" in memory of his father, Dr. David M. Silver.

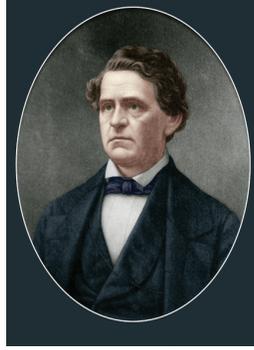


## *the* ABRAHAM LINCOLN PORTRAIT

*In honor and memory of*

**Dr. David M. Silver**





**Abraham Lincoln**, President of the United States, 1861 to 1865

**Ovid Butler**, President of North Western Christian University (*now Butler University*), 1850 to 1871

Their lives were remarkably similar and their paths could have crossed on numerous occasions, but Abraham Lincoln and Ovid Butler probably never met.

Well-known as abolitionists — Butler at the state level and Lincoln at the national level — they arrived at their beliefs for different reasons and from different directions. Born into a family whose religion believed in abolition, Lincoln never joined a church. A more moderate abolitionist, his practical and legal viewpoints were based on the concept of “all men are created equal.”

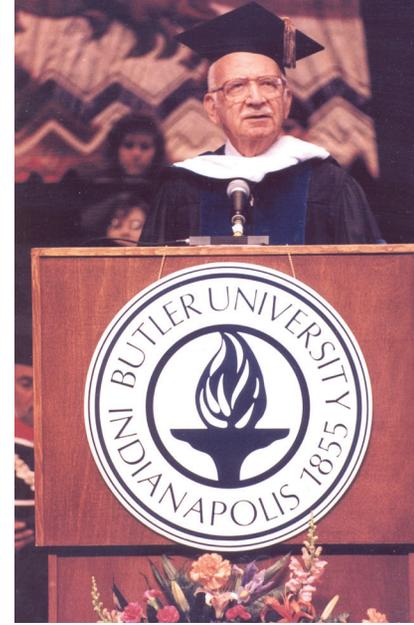
An active abolitionist through the Disciples of Christ Church, Butler ran the Free Soil Banner, a publication of the Free Soil Party, formed in 1848 and primarily made up of former members of the Liberty Party and anti-slavery members of the Whigs and the New York Democratic Party.

#### **In addition to ideology, there were other parallels in their lives:**

- They were of the same generation. Lincoln was born Feb. 7, 1801, in Augusta N.Y.; Butler, February 12, 1809, in Hardin County, Ky.
- Both were lawyers. Lincoln was admitted to the bar in 1836 in Springfield, Ohio; Butler, in 1825 in Shelbyville, Ind.
- Both changed political parties over the course of their lives, ending up as Republicans. Lincoln went from Whig to National Union to Republican; Butler changed from Democrat to Free Soiler to Republican.
- Both had direct ancestors who came to Massachusetts in the 17th century from what is now the U.K. Samuel Lincoln arrived in Hingham, Mass., in 1637 from Hingham, Norfolk, England. James Butler Sr. came before 1659 from Ireland and bought land in Worcester County.
- While Lincoln and Butler were young, their families moved to Indiana within one year of the other. Lincoln's family moved to Perry County (now Spencer County) in 1816; Butler's family moved to Jennings County in 1817.

#### **Other connections:**

- Lincoln spoke in Indianapolis on Feb. 11, 1861, at the Bates House Hotel — specifically from its porte cochere. Years later, when the building was dismantled to be replaced by the Claypool Hotel, the porte cochere was purchased and moved to 1306 Park Ave., the house Ovid Butler built and lived in until his death. (The porte cochere was later removed and installed at another Indianapolis home.) Years after Lincoln and Butler died, the two were somewhat connected by the addition to Butler's house of a porte cochere from which Lincoln made a significant speech.
- Both were acquainted with Caleb Blood Smith, Indiana politician, lawyer and judge. Smith was the first Hoosier to be appointed to a presidential cabinet when Lincoln appointed him as Secretary of the Interior in 1861. It is likely that Butler knew Smith because both were lawyers, and Indianapolis wasn't that large of a city at the time.



## About David Silver

Dr. David M. Silver devoted his life to teaching, learning, scholarship and public service. His association with Butler as student (class of 1937), professor of history and government and administrator spanned nearly 50 years. Twenty of those years, from 1963 to 1983, were as dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and from 1983 to 1985, he served as associate vice president for graduate studies and research. Upon his retirement in 1985, Silver was named professor emeritus. He died in 2003 at age 88.

During his tenure with Butler, Silver's contributions were recognized with the University's highest awards: in 1955, the J.I. Holcomb

Faculty Award, presented to one deemed to have made the greatest contribution to the University; in 1987, the Butler Medal, given by the Alumni Association for extraordinary contribution to the University; in 1990, an honorary doctor of letters degree from his alma mater.

Throughout his life, he was active in helping make Indianapolis a better place to live. Silver served two years as president of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation and from 1956 to 1963 was president of the Indianapolis Board of Public Safety.

Distinguished scholar, historian and author, Silver collected many books and other publications to support his own scholarship on the constitutional aspects of the Civil War, and the role of the Supreme Court during the war. His book *Lincoln's Supreme Court*, about the government's ability to set aside constitutional rights during wartime, received wide recognition.

## About the David M. and Anita C. Silver Lincoln and Civil War Collection & Fund

Noting that Butler already had a large Lincoln collection, Dr. Silver decided that his own collection would enhance it nicely. In November 1990, Silver and his wife established the David M. and Anita C. Silver Lincoln and Civil War Collection.

Scholarly works in the field, including many from Silver's personal collection were added to the Lincoln materials in Irwin Library. A primary beneficiary was the Charles W. Moores Lincoln Collection housed in the Hugh Thomas Miller Rare Books Room. Its 19th century rarities were supplemented and enriched by fine 20th century research publications, including many in first editions. Jointly, the Silver and Moores collections allow for renewed scholarly use and prominence. Each book in the David M. and Anita C. Silver Lincoln and Civil War Collection is identified with a specially printed book plate designed by Dr. Silver and featuring a Lincoln cartoon from the April 15, 1865 issue of *Harper's Weekly*.

Silver established an endowed fund (the David M. and Anita C. Silver Lincoln and Civil War Collection Fund) in 1992 to provide monies to enhance the Lincoln collection; the Silvers and many others continued to add to the fund over the years.