

The Balcon d'Art

In Full Bloom



The elegant interior.

It's in her lush well-groomed garden that I meet with Bonnitta Beauchamps, founding owner of *Le Balcon d'Art* gallery. In the shadow of a tree from which hanging wind chimes are ringing, the time has come for her to reflect, contemplate and more importantly celebrate the pinnacle her business has reached: its 25th year of existence.

The parallel between the patience of the gardener and the steady growth of the business is undeniable. Faith, patience and persistence will make the gardener proud of the harvest. As with this ex-

traordinary garden, art lovers who must surround themselves with beauty are rewarded for their constant efforts. Such a garden of visual beauty blooms under the roof of the St-Lambert gallery, minutely selected and maintained by Bonnitta and her team.

Located at the end of a very quiet street, the premises have increased in size numerous times, both in width and height. This has resulted in an inviting array of rooms with varied ambiances, all with the sole mission of presenting works of art in their best light. Great masters and emerging artists share the space where

visitors are invited to discover them in quiet introspection. Some 65 artists are represented, from Léo Ayotte to Stanley Cosgrove along with contemporary artists such as Tex Lecor or the very young Sarah Fecteau. All paintings featured meet with the aesthetic criteria and the principles established by the management of this family business. Bonnitta works in fact along her two daughters, Nathalie and Fay, who are eager to perpetuate the founding values of the gallery.

Bonnitta Beauchamps is a native of British Columbia, born in a modest fam-