

Claude Langevin

A night owl attracted by light

Monique Reeves

Claude Langevin has painted for 32 years. He has never stopped and never

will. «If I had it all to do again, I would do the same thing,» he says. «Improving my painting is my reason for

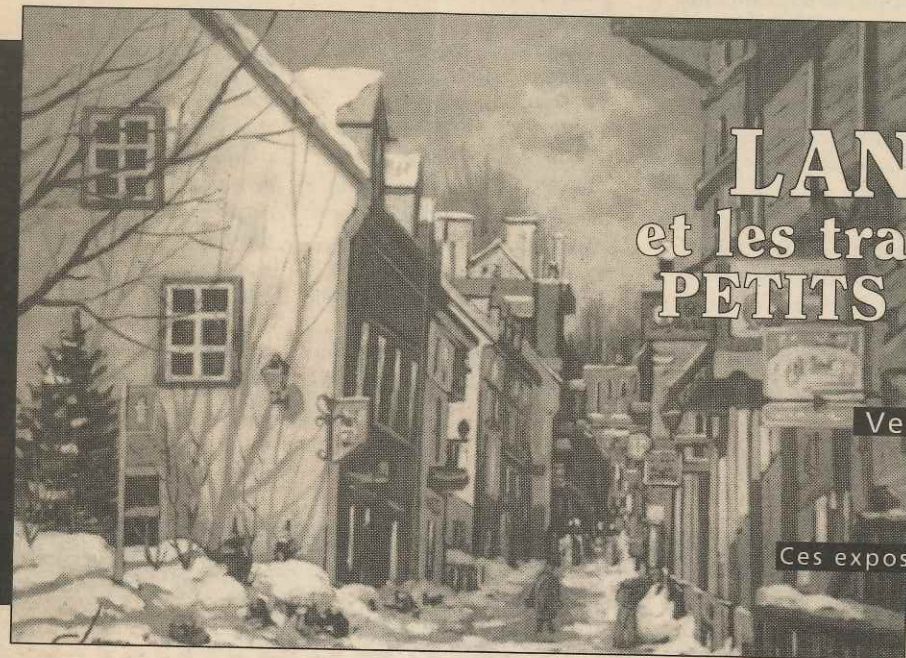
living.»

Claude Langevin initially followed in the footsteps of his father and brother by

studying medicine. But he quit university after a year to focus exclusively on his art. He always liked to draw.

le balcon d'art

Bonnitte Beauchamp



Claude LANGVIN et les traditionnels PETITS FORMATS DE NOËL

Vernissage dimanche

26 novembre 1995

de 13h à 17h

Ces expositions se poursuivront
jusqu'au 24 décembre

650, rue Notre-Dame
Saint-Lambert
466-8920

HEURES D'OUVERTURE

lundi au vendredi : 11h à 18h
samedi : 10h à 17h / dimanche : 11h à 17h

«I preferred drawing to taking courses at school.» Two artists influenced him the most: Tom Thomson for colour and style and Clarence Gagnon for his subjects — old Canadian villages.

A native of Montréal but a resident of Ste-Adèle for 25 years, he chose the Laurentian community because of its proximity to the countryside. During his vernissage at the Balcon d'art on November 26, his latest canvasses will depict scenes in brighter, truly superb colours. The main reason for this change is that Claude Langevin is increasingly painting outside to capture the light. He paints the bulk of his canvasses on site and adds the finishing touches in his studio. He favours winter and fall scenes because they feature impressive contrasts. «I love the partly cloudy skies of Charlevoix. They display a beautiful intensity.» Wind and cold don't bother him. «Often, we like to subject ourselves to misery. My most beautiful paintings were done in the worst weather conditions.»

For 15 years, Claude Langevin has painted with oils. He prefers them because of their rich colours. He has no desire to paint abstracts.

«If I were very forced to paint abstracts I would give up painting and return to medicine!»

Claude Langevin is a simple and pleasant person. He loves to meet people during his vernissages. «Every time there is a vernissage of my paintings elsewhere in Canada, I travel there. It's interesting to meet people to who like my paintings.» Multi-Art has been his exclusive agent since the start of his career. His paintings are available throughout Canada and Florida and will likely soon be sold in Germany and Italy.

One of his dream projects is to paint in the arctic. «It would be interesting to visit for two or three weeks to explore landscapes there.

A night owl, Claude Langevin never goes to bed before 2 a.m. and always keeps up with the news. «I watch the last newscast, the last film, etc.» A father of a 16 year-old son, also a talented artist, he feels that the next generation faces a tough future thanks to the heritage left by their elders: debt, unemployment and sterile public debates.

Fortunately, there will always be the paintings of Claude Langevin to remind us of a happier and less troubled time. ●

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Bonnitte Beauchamp

Jacques POIRIER

L'exposition se poursuit
jusqu'au 22 novembre.

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