

CLAUDE LANGEVIN: FOR THE LOVE OF ART

Born in a somewhat comfortable family, the young Claude Langevin had his pick of professions. His father was a doctor but never put any pressure on the young man to follow in his footsteps.

However, the young man actually did start medical studies but, by the age of twenty-one, he'd already realized that his vocation was elsewhere and so, at that tender age,

he undertook a career that is headed into its seventh decade!

Langevin's artistic beginnings were, as is often the case, less than stellar. Having, as we all do, to earn a living, the young man with dreams of art and fame had to contend with a world where one has to pay their dues and learn to walk before running. He thus started a production of paintings dedicated to sell to furniture merchants and other decor stores. Not a path that leads to being taken seriously in the art world but one that would teach the young artist the importance of solid work ethics and a sense of business so often lacking artists.



By the 1970s, he had a well-established business making a very decent living but he felt lacking in creativity. The answer came in meeting a man who would become a friend and a business partner.

In 1974, Denis Beauchamp was selling art supplies and had an idea that would revolutionize the art market in Canada. The two men, putting their heads together and taking advantage of their respective knowledge of business formed a company that would soon be known as the first artist agent in Canada: Multi Art Ltd.



The project proved extremely popular and was quickly a success.

However, for Langevin, this was still more a business than a creative venture and he soon opted out of the enterprise and, now having serious representation throughout the country, he was finally able to concentrate on the one thing that mattered to him : painting.

By the early 1980s, his work was being shown across the country within some of Canada's best galleries: Kaspar and Loch-Mayberry in Toronto; Masters Gallery in Calgary and le Balcon d'art in Quebec – just to name a few. To this day, while the artist's production has slowed down with time, he maintains a presence from coast to coast. A landscape painter in its purest form, Langevin's work reflects the reality of country living in a land where climate goes from the sublimely warm and sunny to the harshness of unforgiving winters. A keen observer of topography and a master of light, he has a particular fascination with architecture as an integral part of his paintings' narrative.

There is an air of yesterday within Langevin's oeuvre and it is a testament to a man with deep roots in his Quebec home; a man well aware of the past, of history and of the importance of remembering.

Langevin has been a staple in many collections throughout the country and, to this day, is still known as a serious and collectable painter.

S.M.Pearson

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GALLERY 421

is proud to present an exhibition of recent and important works by Claude Langevin.

OCTOBER 18th TO 31st 2019

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www.gallery421.ca

Monday – Friday- 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday – 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

