



**Press Release**  
For immediate release

*Normand Hudon, artist or magician*  
**A book and an exposition covering 40 years of creativity**

SAINT-LAMBERT – It is on November 9<sup>th</sup> that the book *Normand Hudon, artist or magician* will be launched, it lists more than 40 years of artistic production. To celebrate this launching, an exposition will be held at the Gallery Le Balcon d'art, in Saint-Lambert. This exposition will continue until November 19<sup>th</sup> and will feature nearly one hundred works available for sale (paintings, drawings, lithographies, serigraphies and gicles), including a new giclée never published before and 50 copies of signed serigraphy of Maurice Richard.

**Family Album and National Heritage**

Gilles Proulx while writing the preface comments: “Hudon’s imagery is part of our heritage, His creations are like the many chapters of a beautifully illustrated book collection of our history.”

Born in Montreal in 1929, Normand Hudon is hardly 16 years old when he sells his first works to La Presse. Two years later, he graduates from the Montreal school of the fine art . He then registers with the Academy of Montmartre in Paris where he studies under Fernand Léger. It is in the City of Lights that he meets Picasso who shows him how to concentrate his lines to reinforce their meaning. He meets Matisse who teaches him the joys of using color to create more movement.

Back from Europe, he adds one more string to his bow by jumping on stage in a cabaret act where comedy and drawing combine. Success comes quickly, and Hudon becomes a star on the Montreal artistic scene.

Flamboyant and a great performer, his comedy is intellectual and corrosive. Critical or nostalgic observer, he leaves the stage in the middle of the Sixties and chooses to devote his time painting. By the middle of the 1970’s he is a regular exhibitor in galleries throughout Quebec. In 1973 he is represented by Multi Art. His works are shown at Le Balcon d’ art since it’s opening in 1985.

**Forever mischievous**

Art critic Debra Usher writes this text in the book, “the general impression emanating from Hudon’s work is one of comical mischief. Its irreverent character lashes the dull universe of Church and judges of the era. To many, the artist and his work contributed to open our society’s eyes, rather than the public personalities or politicians.”

Beloved by the public, Hudon gave rise to many a collectors. One thinks of Marie Chénier and François Castonguay and Denis Lépine - whose collection comprises more than 250 illustrations, caricatures and paintings - or Ginette Sévigny-Bélanger, who thinks of him “as a first love, the one you never forget!”

Still today, Fay Beauchamp, vice-president of the gallery Le Balcon d’ art, waits impatiently for customers to come to the gallery to clean or re-frame a Hudon work. “Thanks to their rough simplicity and their pure creativity, they always make me smile”, she explains.

The book and vernissage of Normand Hudon, painter or magician: gives you a chance to discover or to dive back into creations of an attaching artist.

### **The book**

*Normand Hudon, painter or magician*, Pierre St-Martin Éditeur (in collaboration with Multi Art), 192 pages, 50\$. Available in bookstores November 10th, 2014.

A deluxe edition of 150 specimens in genuine leather cover is available exclusively in gallery at the cost of 200\$.

### **The exposition**

At Le Balcon d’art gallery

Opening reception (free and open to all): Sunday November 9 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The exposition then continues until November 19.

650, Notre-Dame Av.

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[www.balcondart.com](http://www.balcondart.com)

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Source : Le Balcon d’art

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