

CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTERS

EXHIBITION GUIDELINES

1. Selection of Centres

If at all possible, the following criteria should be met by each centre selected for exhibition:

- 1.1 The shipping/receiving facilities must be able to accomodate the unloading and loading of the crates and afford protection from the elements during these operations.
- 1.2 Humidity and temperature control should be provided so that the works are displayed at a constant temperature (which must not be less than 65°F (18°C) nor more than 75°F (24°C) and a constant relative humidity (which must not be less than 35% nor more than 60%).
- 1.3 Lighting systems should provide Ultra-Violet free illumination at a level of 150 lux (14 foot-candles). Maximum illumination should be 300 lux. No works are to be exposed to direct sunlight, even sunlight through windowglass.
- 1.4 Security must be provided against damage to the works of art from vandalism, theft, fire and flood. This would normally entail: the provision of security guards in the exhibition area during all hours of display; a centre which has intrusion alarm systems and/or patrols during closed hours; the provision of fire detection apparatus and fire-fighting equipment; display above ground and an emergency plan for flood protection where floods are probable.
- 1.5 The centre should have a highly experienced curator who can provide a competent condition report on the works both at receipt and at shipment.
- 1.6 The final criteria for approval of loan should be that the centre will designate one experienced permanent staff member to be the Exhibition Coordinator for this show so that responsibility for proper handling and display rests with this person. The safety of the works from the first moment of unloading to the last moment of reloading is entrusted to him.

A centre which meets all or almost all of the above criteria is most likely to be a major or semimajor centre in the country and these should be the first ones approached. A centre which cannot meet any of these criteria should not be considered for exhibition at all unless the works are deemed expendable and of little value to Canada.

2. Condition Reports

Ideally, a condition report is made out by a centre's conservator who is experienced in the assessment and reporting of an object's condition. Because of problems in terminology and subjective interpretation of condition, an experienced Canadian conservator will study each report and advise on appropriate follow-up action when required. However, certain points should be made to any interested centre.

- 2.1 A condition report on each work of art is required from the centre on receipt of the exhibition and again on shipment of the exhibition.