

Some Suggestions for the Founding of an Art Museum in Toronto

An ideal Art Museum, and an Art Museum such as would appear a possibility in Toronto, are probably very different things ; to accomplish the latter, as much as possible of the quality of the former should be aimed at.

The situation of such an institution should be carefully selected ; it would be a blind policy to take a poor site because it was cheap or was available as a donation.

Site.

Perhaps the most difficult thing to guard against, when a great public institution is being founded by the generosity of citizens, is the gift bound by conditions which may rob it of its most valuable quality. That gifts should have conditions is reasonable, but it would be better to go at a slow pace in founding a home for the arts in Toronto, asking for donations with objects well defined and application of the funds guaranteed. Therefore, to found an Art Museum in Toronto the Society of Artists believes that an association should be formed at the outset which would have the power and responsibility to outline a plan and carry it out, to receive bequests and grants and apply them to the purpose for which they were intended.

Donations.

Museum
Association.

This Art Museum should be undertaken on the principle of gradual growth ; that is, development of the building and what it is to contain. The whole plan should be so prepared that a small portion could be built at first and added to from time to time ; the buildings to be fireproof, affording security to valuable works of art received as loans or bequests.

Development

Accommodation should be provided in the building for the School of Art and Design, as an integral part of the museum, and suitable galleries should be kept for current exhibitions.

School and
Galleries.