

Gallery presents Jock Macdonald retrospective

The Vancouver Art Gallery is presenting *The Inner Landscape*, a major retrospective exhibition of paintings by Jock Macdonald, who was a pioneer in the development of abstract art in Canada.

The exhibition, organized by the Art Gallery of Ontario under guest curator, Joyce Zemans of York University, includes 158 works produced between 1930 and 1960, the year of Macdonald's death in Toronto.

Inspired by nature

Macdonald always looked to nature as his primary source of inspiration but he preferred to capture the spirit of nature rather than its physical manifestations or, as he put it, "the inner rather than the outer landscape". It is from this that the exhibition *Jock Macdonald: The Inner Landscape* derives its title.

A graduate of the Edinburgh College of Art, Macdonald emigrated to Canada in 1927 to become head of design and instructor in commercial advertising at the newly-established Vancouver School of Decorative and Applied Arts (now the Emily Carr College of Art and Design).

During his 20 years in British Columbia Macdonald was active as artist, teacher, exhibitor, and arts organizer. He was a member of the British Columbia Society of Artists, with whom he exhibited regularly, a charter member of the Federation of Canadian Artists and a member of the

Vancouver Art Gallery Council for 11 years.

Their interest in the natural environment led Macdonald and his colleague Frederick Varley to spend much of their free time sketching and camping in the Garibaldi Mountains. Macdonald's rendering of the familiar Table Mountain, Black Tusk, Castle Towers and Howe Sound are early representative pieces included in the exhibition along with other well-known canvasses such as *Lytton Church*, *British Columbia*, in the collection of the National Gallery of Canada and *Indian Burial*, *Nootka*, in the collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Founded college of art

During the Depression, Macdonald and Varley founded the British Columbia College of Art which only operated for two years. It quickly established a reputation, however, as a centre of new and stimulating ideas in a variety of art forms including music, dance and photography as well as the visual arts. It was at the college Macdonald began experiments in abstract painting.

Macdonald moved to Toronto in 1947 and became instructor of painting at the Ontario College of Art. In 1953 he was instrumental in the founding of Painters Eleven, a group dedicated to the promotion of abstract art.

The Vancouver Art Gallery accorded

Macdonald his first one-man show in May 1941 and five years later mounted a solo exhibition of his "automatic" water-colours.

An illustrated catalogue written by Joyce Zemans and tracing Macdonald's career has been produced for the exhibition.

Gospel song dedicated to Terry Fox

British rock star Rod Stewart has dedicated a song on his latest album to Terry Fox, who ran to raise money for cancer research.

Never Give Up on a Dream was written by Stewart, Bernie Taupin and guitarist Jim Cregan. It is a broad gospel ballad which describes the pain and struggle the one-legged man endured during his marathon. Fox's run began in St. John's, Newfoundland on April 12, 1980 and ended in Thunder Bay, Ontario on September 1, 1980. Fox died of cancer on June 28.

The recording features the Pentecostal Community Choir from the Los Angeles area.

Cultural centre opens in London

The new Canada House cultural centre, designed to promote Canadian culture in Britain, was opened recently in London, England by the Queen Mother.

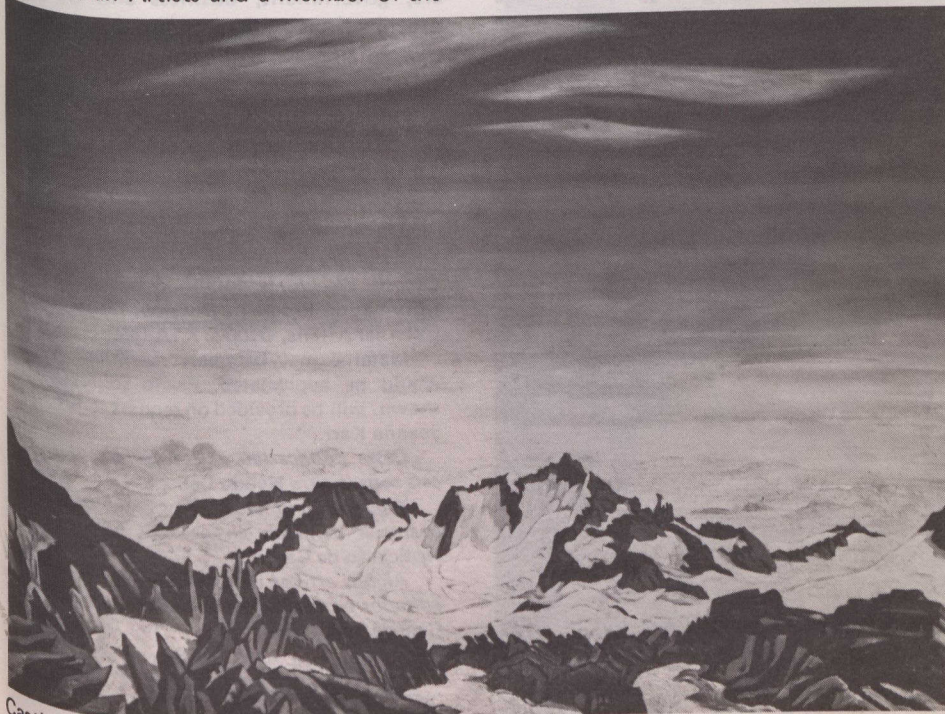
Canadian architect Tim Murray planned the centre which includes two art galleries, an auditorium and a small cinema. It is located in Canada House, a mid-Victorian building on Trafalgar Square.

Canadian Art in Britain, the inaugural exhibition, also opened by the Queen Mother, features more than 80 contemporary works by 52 artists, gathered from private and public collections in Britain. Among the artists represented in the exhibition are Paul-Emile Borduas, Jack Bush, Alex Colville and Jean-Paul Riopelle.

Greater exposure

Over the years, High Commission staff have presented Canadian art to the British, but often they have been hampered by the lack of adequate space. The new specialized facilities will allow them to give greater exposure to Canada's playwrights, poets, musicians, artists and film-makers.

The centre will make possible regular



Larry Ostram, Art Gallery of Ontario

Castle Towers, Garibaldi, oil painting done by Macdonald in 1943.