

News of the arts

Contemporary art on tour

A major exhibition of paintings, sponsored by the Department of External Affairs, will begin a tour abroad at the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris on June 16.

CONTEMPORARY CANADIAN PAINTERS is a collection of 21 works drawn from the Art Bank of the Canada Council by seven leading Canadian artists – Claude Breeze, Paterson Ewan, Charles Gagnon, Gershon Iskowitz, Ron Martin, John Meredith and Guido Molinari. The exhibition, which will remain in Paris until August 20, will then be shipped to New Zealand, where, for four months, it will be displayed in Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Hamilton and Auckland.

In February 1978, CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTERS will be seen in Australia until mid-November. The galleries in Australia hosting the Canadian exhibition are Newcastle, Brisbane, Victoria, Sydney, Hobart, Canberra and Darwin.

In December 1978, the paintings will return to Europe for exhibition throughout 1979 and part of 1980.

This will be the first extensive international tour of works from the Art Bank. The Art Bank, established in 1972, is administered by the Visual Arts Section of the Canada Council, the federal agency responsible for support and promotion of the arts and social sciences. Its purpose is to assist Canadian artists through purchase of their works, which are then loaned for display in public buildings across the country.

The selection for this exhibition was made jointly by the curators of the Art Bank and visual arts specialists from the Department of External Affairs, Cultural Affairs Division. "We looked for artists whose work shows a vital, consistent, continuous and personal approach to the practice of painting," writes Geoffrey James, head of the Visual Arts Section of the Canada Council, in the introduction to the catalogue.

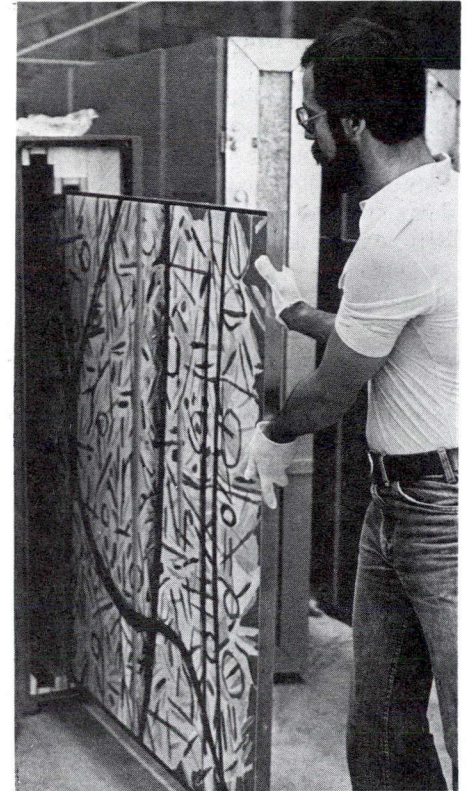
Variety of approaches

The paintings illustrate a variety of artistic approaches over the past six years. They are largely non-figurative, except for the works of Claude Breeze

and Paterson Ewan, which draw inspiration from the landscape and climate of Canada. Iskowitz is concerned with light, colour and space in almost effervescent compositions. Gagnon and Martin are looking at the substance of paint itself; Gagnon works in shades of whites and greys; and Martin's are swirls of simple colours – blue or green or black. John Meredith's works are "action paintings" with movement and colour sprawled across large panels. The pieces by Molinari, one of the innovators of abstract painting in Canada, are structured studies juxtaposing colours in formal lines.

Size was also a factor in the planning of the show. Some works originally chosen had to be replaced with smaller ones to fit into an aircraft. As it is, while CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTERS is among the most important art projects undertaken by the Department over the last few years, it is physically the largest exhibition ever assembled for a foreign tour.

Before the shipping crates were closed, the paintings were coated with a fungicide-insecticide spray to prevent any mildew damage during their travels.



A painting by Claude Breeze, one of 21 works in the exhibition CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTERS, is crated, ready for shipment abroad.

Bilingual technical dictionary

The second edition of the English-French dictionary, *Dictionnaire Technique Général*, by J. Gérald Belle-Isle, a Bell Canada employee, was published last month by La Librairie Beauchemin of Montreal.

The new edition, which contains a scientific and technical orientation vocabulary as well as the main dictionary, includes more than 49,000

English words drawn from some 30 modern industrial and commercial technologies and more than 126,000 French equivalents. The many shades of meaning given for each English term show the uses peculiar to each field of technology. Examples of current usage are provided wherever it is necessary to convey the exact meaning.

"DTG" is described as the most complete and up-to-date work of its kind, "an invaluable working tool which can save hours of research."

The author, a director of the Canadian Technology Society, was awarded a prize in 1965 in the Quebec literary and scientific competition. The preface of the book was written by Pierre Agron, secretary-general of the Comité d'étude des termes techniques français. The book is sponsored by the Engineering Institute of Canada and by the Société des Ingénieurs civils de France (Canadian Section).

Professor David Hayne of the University of Toronto says of the new edition that it "will be of great assistance to translators of technical material...."

