



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

# communiqué

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## CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTERS

AN EXHIBITION OF WORKS FROM THE CANADA COUNCIL ART BANK,  
PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA.

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The Department of External Affairs announces the departure on an extensive tour abroad of a major exhibition entitled: CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTERS. The exhibition includes works by seven painters who have proved to be leaders in their field: CLAUDE BREEZE, GERSHON ISKOWITZ, CHARLES GAGNON, GUIDO MOLINARI, PATERSON EWEN, RON MARTIN, and JOHN MEREDITH.

The 21 works are drawn exclusively from the Art Bank Collection. Established in 1972, the Art Bank is administered by the Visual Arts Section of the Canada Council. The purpose of the Art Bank is to recognize and assist contemporary Canadian artists through the purchase of their work, and to expose Canadian art in public buildings across the country. CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTERS is the first international showing of works from the Bank.

The selection of works for the exhibition was made jointly by the Art Bank and the Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of External Affairs. As stated by Geoffry James, Head of the Visual Arts Section of the Canada Council, in his introduction to the catalogue: "Beyond any obvious formal similarities, we looked for artists whose work shows a vital, consistent, continuous and personal approach to the practice of painting. The sole limitations were that the work be from the collection of the Art Bank and of a size appropriate for travel."

This exhibition will open at the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris on June 16, 1977 and will remain there until August 20. Over the next year it will be seen in major centres in New Zealand and Australia. An extensive tour of galleries in Europe will begin in 1979.

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INFORMATION:

Cultural Affairs Division  
Department of External Affairs  
(613) 992-4349 - Ann Garneau, Information Officer

Art Bank of the Canada Council  
(613) 237-3400: Ext 364 - Jessica Bradley,  
Special Projects Officer