



The origins of Inuit art are little known, although the Inuit have been carving small objects from soapstone (and seal tusks and whalebone) for generations. The general public began to become aware of Inuit art through an exhibition in Montreal in 1949 organized by the Canadian Handicrafts Guild and by the artist James Houston.

## Literature

Between the two world wars, humorist Stephen Leacock, poet Alain Grandbois and novelist Mazo De la Roche (author of the *Jalna* novels) achieved international renown and made Canadians increasingly aware of their national literature, in both English and French. By this time, Canadian writing was gradually coming into its own as authors were increasingly recognizing their roots and their emerging country. Among notable poets of the mid-century were Paul-Marie Lapointe and Gaston Miron, who asserted their acceptance of their own country and sought harmony with the reality around them.

Following the Second World War, accelerating urbanization greatly altered the anatomy of the country. Novelist Gabrielle Roy, born in Manitoba, captured this new reality in *Bonheur d'occasion*, which was awarded the Governor General's Award for fiction in 1945 as well as the French *prix Fémina*. Roger Lemelin wrote of individual