

# News of the arts

## Works of three Toronto artists exhibited in Paris

The Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris is presenting an exhibition of works of three Toronto artists — David Bolduc, Paul Fournier and K.M. Graham.

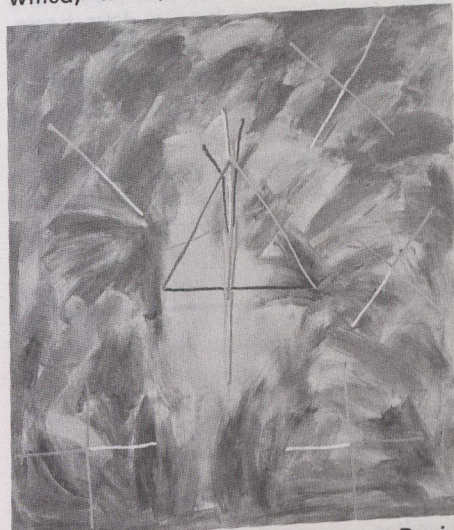
The three artists share more in common than the fact of being Torontonians; all three witnessed Toronto's entrance into the world art scene in the Sixties, and their reaction to the painting and sculpture exhibited in their hometown played a key part in their development as painters.

"In many ways, their work is typical of recent Toronto painting, with its cheerful idiosyncrasy, its disregard of conventional good taste and its surprising colour. Yet their art is never regional in intent," writes Karen Wilkin, a free-lance curator, in the introduction to the exhibition catalogue.

"Like all serious and ambitious artists, they aspire to compete with the best of their peers, not just with the local best. All three agree that they were shaped in some way by having seen Canadian art during their formative years (even if this manifests itself as reaction against the Canadian art they saw) but they were probably even more profoundly affected by non-Canadian art. Bolduc, in fact, says that seeing a Matisse exhibition in Paris convinced him to abandon his early constructions for 'straight' painting. Graham, too, is a lover of Matisse, and an admirer

of Milton Avery.... Fournier's recent work seems firmly rooted in the Old Masters....

Common concerns, apart from any similarities of background, join Bolduc, Fournier and Graham. They are all abstract painters, or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that none of them paints pictures of anything pre-existing, but they are abstract painters with a difference.... Their paintings are clearly willed, made, directed by the artist.



Tyne, 1981, acrylic on canvas by David Bolduc. Bolduc's works alternate between "severe formal inquiries and more elaborate, more-spontaneous looking images".



Vicenza by K.M. Graham, 1979, acrylic on canvas. Graham's works are "an invented vocabulary of shapes, lines and configurations derived from her life-long, intimate study of nature".

Bolduc's canvases are meditations on the history of art itself. Fournier's most recent works are loaded with cosmic associations. Graham's images derive from her observations and deep feelings about nature and the out of doors."

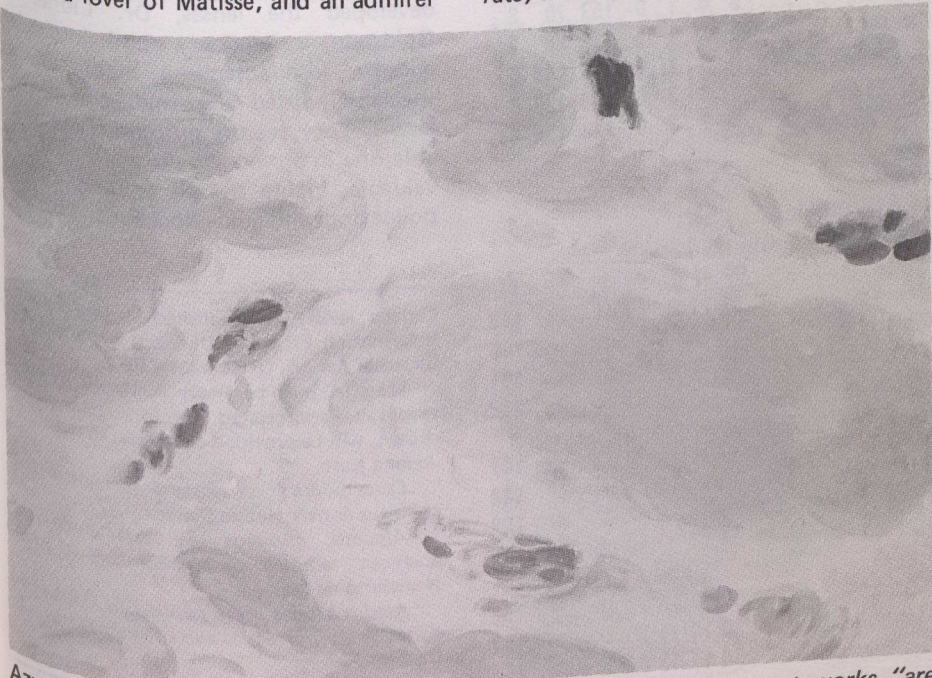
### Biographical notes

David Bolduc was born in Toronto in 1945 and studied at the Ontario College of Art in 1963-64, then with Jean Goguen and Arthur Lismer at the Ecole des beaux-arts de Montreal in 1965-66.

Paul Fournier was born in Simcoe, Ontario in 1939 and studied in Hamilton, first under Jean Wishart at Central Secondary School, then under George Wallace at McMaster University, where he studied engraving. A Canada Council award winner in 1967 and 1969, Fournier was also resident artist at Waterloo Lutheran University in 1969-70.

Born in Hamilton in 1913, K.M. Graham studied at the University of Toronto from 1932-36. A self-taught artist, she did not begin to paint seriously until the age of 48, but she has been a prolific painter since that time, working in acrylic, pastel, India ink and pencil.

The exhibition will close in Paris September 19 and will move on to the Canadian Cultural Centre in Brussels in November and December, and to the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool, England from March 4 to April 10, 1983.



Azure Drift, Paul Fournier, 1979, acrylic on canvas. Fournier's recent works "are deceptively simple, all-over expanses; buoyant clouds of atmospheric colour are punctuated by smaller units of contrasting calligraphy".