



CLAUDE LANGEVIN

BIOGRAPHY

Born in Montreal, Quebec in 1942, Claude Langevin began his education at L'Université de Montreal in medicine, but abandoned it in favour of a career in art. A self-taught artist, he continues to derive great pleasure from his art after painting for more than thirty years. He often finds inspiration riding the bicycle path along the route of the old Laurentian railway to Sainte-Adele, his adopted town where he settled 27 years ago. In recent years due to urban sprawl, his Laurentian surroundings have changed dramatically forcing this landscape artist even deeper into the country in search of inspiration.

Langevin is often inspired by winter, seeing thousands of contrasting colours in the snow, each one as vibrant as the next. Its whiteness is only superficial; like water, snow takes on the tones of the sky, becoming at times pink, blue or green, while its luminosity is also affected in infinite ways by the changing seasons.

When he was younger, Langevin would often paint in temperatures of -20 degrees, paint would freeze on his palette. He says now he knows better. Today, a wiser Langevin does his preliminary sketches outdoors and completes his canvas in comfort in his studio. When the warmer weather returns, he goes back to making direct sketches from nature of the landscapes he paints. Studio work brings its own difficulties, since the artist must rely on his imagination to recreate the colours and contours of the land. In painting outdoors he is more aware of form and closer to the reality he wishes to interpret.