

LOUISE LAUZON

BIOGRAPHY

Born in Montreal in 1956, Louise Lauzon was a young child when she was first introduced to the world of art by her father and his friends. By the time she was 15 years old, her interest and obvious talent in the field was recognized and being nurtured by Brother Jerome in his workshops at the College of Notre Dame. Before she was 20, he invited her to join him in preparing and administering his workshops. An enduring friendship had now been solidified between the two, which would influence the future direction of her work as an artist and, in turn, of her life. To this day, Louise Lauzon speaks with the highest praise of her mentor and friend, Brother Jerome, quoting him often and applying his innovative method of teaching to the classes she has provided for over 20 years.

Relating this major influence in her life, Lauzon says, 'Jerome taught me to live, to feel. He helped me realize that painting can become not only a passion but also a pleasure. I know that painting has helped many people find their true selves.'

This artistic passion and pleasure she speaks of seems to permeate all that she says and does. She is an animated storyteller and can speak with ease and authority about the works of many artists, such as Nicolas de Strael, Jean-Paul Lemieux, Gaugin, McEwan, Marcel Barbeau, and Toulouse-Lautrec, just to name a few. She is a devoted artist and instructor, dividing her time between giving two classes a week, promoting her art, and diligently working on her creations. She is continually open to new ways of improving her art – while maintaining the integrity of her personal style – to ensure the freshness and flow of her creativity.

This openness is in keeping with her perspective on the evolution of art. While paintings and sculpture were once the only visual means of capturing reality for posterity, she states that photography nicely fills that niche now, leaving artists the freedom of exploring the boundless visions of their creativity.

Lauzon's own style is neither an exact representation of reality, nor completely abstract. It has evolved into what she calls 'personal figurative'. She begins by 'deconstructing the figurative' in order to find a new form that expresses something of her own personal experiences. In other words, she seeks to share something of herself through her paintings.

Lauzon enjoys variety in her work, and will, therefore, paint portraits, landscapes, and sometimes abstracts. Her medium of choice is acrylics but she is also partial to enhancing them with ink or to experimenting with watercolours for their softer, lighter quality. Both visually appealing and personally revealing, Louise Lauzon's paintings are lively and playful.

Her work can be found in galleries across Canada, as well as in numerous important private collections in Canada, the United States, and Europe, including the prestigious Pratt and Whitney collection.