

# CANADA WILD AND FREE

FEBRUARY 7, 2024 - MARCH 31, 2024



**ROOKLEYS**  
CANADIAN ART



# EXHIBITION GUIDE

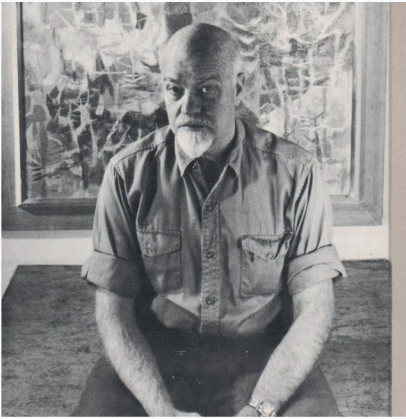
*Immerse yourself in the beauty that has shaped Canada's identity and discover our natural landscapes, as seen through the eyes of renowned Canadian artists.*

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## FEATURED ARTISTS

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A.Y. Jackson	Lorne Bouchard
Alan Collier	Margaret Dorothy Shelton
Alfred Joseph Casson	Maurice Cullen
Charles Comfort	Maurice Haycock
Doris McCarthy	Nicholas Hornyansky
Franklin Arbuckle	Peter Clapham Sheppard
Frederic Marlett Bell-Smith	Ralph Burton
Frederick Henry Brigden	Robert Pilot
George Thomson	Tom Roberts
Goodridge Roberts	Walter Joseph Phillips
Henri Masson	Wilkie Kilgour
John William Beatty	William Brymner
Laura Muntz Lyall	William Percy Weston



## ALAN COLLIER

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1911-1990

Born in Toronto on March 19, 1911, Alan Caswell Collier was the second of three sons. He inherited his father's entrepreneurial spirit and values of hard work, thriftiness, and living within one's means.

He enrolled at the Ontario College of Art (OCA) in 1929 where he met his future wife, Ruth Brown. Despite graduating during the Great Depression, he remained dedicated to art and traveled extensively for inspiration spending time in various labor relief camps. Collier kept meticulous journals on not only his life but his art giving the world a rare glimpse into the mind of an artist. After serving in World War II, he resumed his career in advertising and became a member of Ontario Society of Artists (OSA) and Royal Canadian Academy of Arts (RCA). Known for his landscapes and commentary on Canadian society, he painted until his death in 1990.



Bottle Cove, Bay of Islands, NL, 1989  
Oil on board  
12 x 16 in



Dingwall, Cape Breton Island, NS, 1983  
Oil on board  
12 x 16 in

## A.J. CASSON

1898-1992



Alfred Joseph Casson, born May 17, 1898, in Toronto, Ontario, was a distinguished member of the Group of Seven, celebrated for his portrayal of southern Ontario. Raised in a Quaker family, he demonstrated values of honesty and integrity from an early age, showing artistic talent by teaching art to classmates at fourteen. Casson exhibited his work for the first time at the Canadian National Exhibition in 1917 and served in the Canadian Royal Air Force during World War I.

Influenced by Franklin Carmichael, he joined the Group of Seven in 1926 and co-founded the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour. Known for his clear colours and limited palette, Casson contributed significantly to the Canadian art scene.



Storm Clouds, Algonquin Park, 1963

Oil on board

12 x 15 in



In the Don Valley, 1920

Oil on panel

9.25 x 11.25 in



## CHARLES COMFORT

1900-1994

Charles Comfort was a renowned Canadian artist who greatly impacted the art world and Canadian culture. Born in Scotland, he moved to Canada in 1912 and honed his artistic skills at the Winnipeg School of Art. Afterwards, he studied art in Europe and returned to Canada to begin his successful career as a painter. Comfort was a versatile and imaginative artist, exploring various styles from impressionism to abstraction. He co-founded the Contemporary Arts Society and actively participated in multiple art groups in Canada.

Comfort's art captured Canada's essence with vibrancy and emotion. He was also an influential educator and administrator, serving as director of the National Gallery of Canada and promoting Canadian art worldwide. His legacy lives on in major art collections and galleries throughout Canada, leaving a lasting imprint on the country's cultural landscape.



Approaching Storm, Midway Island

Georgian Bay 1963

Oil

12 x 16 in



Rocky Belvedere, Georgian Bay

Oil

20 x 26 in

## PETER CLAPHAM SHEPPARD

1882-1965



Peter Clapham Sheppard was a prominent figure in early 20th-century Canadian art. Born in Toronto, he trained under notable artists and quickly developed a penchant for impressionism, later evolving into post-impressionist styles. Sheppard's career blossomed as he captured the dynamic scenes of city life and landscapes in Toronto, Montreal, and New York.

A frequent exhibitor at prestigious venues such as the Royal Canadian Academy, Sheppard's works were met with critical acclaim and admiration from fellow artists and art enthusiasts alike. Despite Sheppard's legacy once being lost it has since been revived and recognized thanks to passionate advocates like Louis Gagliardi, who have ensured his rightful place in the rich history of Canadian art. His contributions continue to inspire and influence contemporary artists, cementing his enduring impact on the artistic world.



Prospect Lake, Muskoka, c 1935  
Oil on board  
10.5 x 13.75 in



Papineau Lake  
Oil on canvas board  
10.5 x 13.8 in



## WALTER JOSEPH PHILLIPS

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1884-1961

Walter Joseph Phillips, a Canadian artist born in England (1884-1963), is highly regarded for his contributions to the woodcut medium and its Japanese-inspired style in Canada. After receiving training at Birmingham School of Art, he worked as a commercial artist in England before studying in South Africa and Paris.

He settled in Winnipeg in 1913 and used his talent to capture the beauty of Canadian landscapes, with a focus on Manitoba's lakes, the Prairies, and the Rockies. As a resident artist at the Banff Centre, Phillips had a significant impact on its visual arts program. His work has been widely exhibited and showcases both his skill and appreciation of nature. Phillips' traditional approach, influenced by British art in Western Canada, made his pieces relatable and admired by many.



Maples, Sidney, BC, 1946

Watercolour

14.5 x 16 in



The Pool at Johnson's Canyon, 1954

Watercolour

18.5 x 24 in



## FREDERIC BELL-SMITH

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1846-1923



Frederic Marlett Bell-Smith (1846-1923) was a prominent Canadian artist, known for his contributions to the Canadian art scene. He received formal training in London before immigrating to Canada and becoming a founding member of the Ontario Society of Artists.

His works focused on landscapes and seascapes that captured the beauty of Canada through skillful use of light and color. In addition to painting, he also served as principal of the Ontario School of Art, mentoring many aspiring artists. Today, Bell-Smith's paintings are cherished for their timeless representation of Canada's natural beauty and his legacy continues to influence Canadian culture.



Sun's Last Kiss, c 1890

Oil on board

5.25 x 9 in



Fraser Canyon

Oil

10 x 15.875 in



J.W. BEATTY

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