

CHRISTIAN KNUDSEN biography

Christian Knudsen was born in Vorup, Randers, Denmark in 1945. He immigrated to Montreal in 1957 and later studied painting and printmaking at Sir George Williams University, graduating in 1970. His art practice started immediately in Montreal, with intermittent travels to Europe, the Middle East and Japan. A regular exhibition schedule has been maintained, showing paintings, prints, photographs and some sculpture. He taught printmaking, painting and photography in the Fine Arts Faculty of Concordia University for Forty years. Works have been acquired by public, corporate and private collections, nationally and internationally. In Canada his work is in the collections of The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, le Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, le Musée de Québec, The Art Gallery of Ontario and The Vancouver Art Gallery.

For detailed biography please read on:

- 1945 born in Vorup, Randers, Denmark.
- 1957 immigrated to Montreal, Canada.
- 1970 graduated from Sir George Williams University, Montreal.
school summers spent as labourer in the Alberta oil fields.
first solo exhibition at the Penell Gallery, Toronto.
group show at the Whitney Gallery, Montreal
- 1971 worked as a boatman for the Federal Govt. Dept. of Public Works on a survey crew on the Athabasca River in Northern Alberta. Produced many drawings.
exhibited two of the drawings at the Royal Canadian Academy Show, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and Confederation Centre, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
awarded Canada Council grant.
- 1972 returned to Europe for three months. Some time spent in near Middle East and North Africa. Had previously gone for twelve months in 1965-66, ending a brief career as computer operator.
later journeyed across Canada, down the west coast to California, and eventually across the Pacific to spend three months hitchhiking in Japan.
solo exhibition at the Centaur Galleries of Photography, Montreal.
accepted job as artist-in-residence at the Workshop, Loyola College, Montreal.
- 1974 started teaching at Concordia University, Montreal.
group show at the Art Gallery of Hamilton (9 out of 10)
solo show at the Concordia University Art Gallery.
Camerart Exhibition - Galerie Optica, Montreal
- The Canadian Cultural Centre, Paris
received Canada Council Grant.

- 1975 organized edition of prints at the Workshop inviting ten Montreal artists to do a print on the premises: - Allan Bealy, Pierre Boogaerts, Francois Dery, Andrew Dutkewych, Michael Haslam, Suzy Lake, Gunter Nolte, Leopold Plotek, William Vazan, Robert Walker and Irene Whittome.
solo exhibition at the Marlborough Godard Gallery, Montreal.
group shows - the Kitchener Waterloo Gallery.
- The Gallery, Stratford.
Exposition Quebec 75 (Montreal, Rimouski, Sherbrooke, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Charlottetown, Toronto, Regina, Calgary)
- 1976 group shows - " Directions Now ", Véhicule Art, Montreal.
- " Painting Now ", Queens University, Kingston.
- 1977 solo exhibitions - Galerie Mira Godard, Montreal.
- 1978 - The Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC.
- The Mira Godard Gallery, Toronto.
- " transparent things " from the Canada Council collection,
(shown at the Vancouver Art Gallery, London Art Gallery, Alberta College of Art, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Dalhousie Art Gallery, Musée d'art contemporain, Montréal)
- " Tendances Actuelles au Québec " - Musée d'Art Contemporain Montréal.
- " Avec ou Sans Couleur " - jeunes peintres Québécois
The Forum des Arts, Terre des Hommes, Montréal
The Glenbow Museum, Calgary
York University, Toronto
Saskatoon Museum, Saskatoon, Alta.
The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax
Musée d'art de Joliette, Québec
The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa
The Beaverbrook Art Museum, Frederickton
- 1979 " 6 Propositions " - six painters from Quebec at The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts - with Leopold Plotek, Christian Kiopini, Luc Beland, Lucio de Heusch and Richard Mill.
group show at the Birmingham Festival of the Arts, Alabama
group show au Salon du Grand Théâtre de Québec
travel to Europe for two months during the summer
participated in " Aspects of Canadian Printmaking " 1979-80
Mira Godard Gallery, Toronto
Braan Melnychenko Studio, Winnipeg
University of Calgary
Mira Godard Gallery, Calgary
Univ. of Alberta, Edmonton
Univ. of Western Ontario, London
Univ. of Guelph, Guelph
Mount Allison Univ., Sackville, N.B.
The Art Gallery of Hamilton

- The Art Gallery of Windsor
 Simon Frazer Univ., Burnaby, B.C.
 Memorial University of Newfoundland
 Concordia University, Montreal
 Univ. of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon
- 1981 "Aspects of Canadian Painting in the Seventies" at the Glenbow Museum, Calgary
 solo exhibition at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre,
 Queens University, Kingston
 solo exhibition at Mira Godard Gallery, Toronto
- 1982 group show - " Le Dessin de la Jeune Peinture " - travels 1981-82.
 solo exhibition Sir George Williams Galleries, Concordia University, Montreal.
 solo exhibition Galerie Art 45, Montreal
 solo exhibition Mira Godard Gallery, Calgary
 group - " Repères: Art Actuel du Québec "
 Musée d'art contemporain, Montréal
 Musée du Québec
 New Brunswick Museum, Saint John
 Univ. of Lethbridge Art Gallery
 Art Gallery of Greater Victoria
 Art Gallery of Nova Scotia
 ends March, 1984
- 1983 group – Art Bank show at the Emily Carr College. June 25 – July 28
 solo exhibition Mira Godard Gallery, Toronto
 lives in Ortonovo, Italy for one year
 received Canada Council Grant
- 1984 solo exhibition travels one year in Saskatchewan:
 The National Exhibition Centre, Swift Current
 Grace Campbell Art Centre, Prince Albert
 Mendel Art Gallery, Saskatoon
 National Exhibition Centre, Moose Jaw
 North Battleford Art Centre
 Yorkton Art Centre
- 1985 group - " Montreal Painting- A Second Look " - 1985-86-87 with
 Ulysse Comtois, John Fox, Charles Gagnon, Yves Gaucher
 Pierre Gauvreau, Jacques Hurtubise, Jean McEwen,
 Guido Molinari, Leopold Plotek, Francoise Sullivan,
 Claude Tousignant, and Irene Whittome.
 Memorial Univ. Art Gallery, St. John
 Art Gallery, Acadia University, Wolfville N.S.
 Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax
 Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Frederickton N.B.
 Galerie Restigouche, Campbellton N.B.
 Confederation Centre Art Gallery, Charlottetown
- group – 1985 Arts Festival. Brockville Arts Centre - June 14 to 21.
 group – eighteen Canadian Artists at the National Arts Centre, Ottawa,
- 1986 solo exhibitions: Galerie Art 45, Montreal
- 1987 Mira Godard Gallery, Toronto

Paul Kuhn Fine Arts, Calgary

- 1988 commission for Cineplex Odeon Cinema, Pointe Claire, Que.
group - " Giant Steps for Art Event " at the Altanian-Laing Gallery
- 1990 solo exhibition " paintings and photographs " at
Paul Kuhn Fine Arts, Calgary
- 1991 group "Giant Steps for Art" – Claude Lafitte Gallery, Montreal.
la Fondation Edith Berringer
- 1992 Bourse - Ministère des Affaires Culturelles de Québec
- 1995 solo exhibition- Paul Kuhn Fine Arts, Calgary
- 1999 group exhibition – "Les Peintures", Galerie René Blouin, Montréal
- 2002 "Tribute to Yves Gaucher" – Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery,
Concordia University, Montreal.
solo exhibition – Pinhole Panoramas, Eleanor London Public Library, Cote
St. Luc, Que.
solo exhibition – Peak Gallery, Toronto " Bella Donna Lilies and Other
Things"
- 2007 solo exhibition – Centre Arts Visuels, McClure Gallery, Montreal
- 2009 solo exhibition – "A Brief History of Time" Division Gallery, Montreal
- 2011 solo exhibition – "Perspective" Galerie Nicolas Robert, Montréal
solo exhibition – Paul Kuhn Fine Arts, Calgary, Alta.
- 2013 solo exhibition – "Aspire" Galerie Nicolas Robert, Montreal
- 2014 group exhibition – "Nature" Galerie Nicolas Robert, Montreal
- Knudsen curated, with Martin Schop, Gabor Szilasi, and Robert
Walker.
- 2015 solo exhibition – photo emulsion review Galerie Nicolas Robert,
Montreal

Collections:

Musée d'art contemporain, Montréal
Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal
Musée de Québec
Art Gallery of Ontario
Vancouver Art Gallery
Canada Council Art Bank
Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen's University, Kingston
Concordia University, Montreal
Art Gallery of Hamilton
Glenbow Museum, Calgary
The Nickle Art Gallery, Univ. of Alberta
and assorted corporate and private collections in Canada and abroad.

Exhibition Catalogues.....individual and collective

"Les moins de 35", Montréal 1973.
Camérart: 24 artistes du Québec, Galerie Optica, Montréal. 1974.
9 out of 10: A survey of Contemporary Art, Art Gallery of
Hamilton, Ontario 1974, Intro by Glen E. Cumming
Quebec 75: Arts, Montreal 1975.
Painting Now 76-77, The Agnes Etherington Art Centre,

Queens University, Kingston, Ontario 1977. Text by Frances K. Smith.

Transparences: L'utilisation de la photographie par l'artiste,
Banque d'œuvres d'art du Conseil des Arts du Canada, Ottawa
1977. Texte de Geoffrey James.

Avec ou sans couleur: Jeunes peintres abstraits Québécois, le
groupe Lavalin, Montréal 1978, Texte de L. Rosshandler.

"For Suzy Lake, Chris Knudsen and Robert Walker", Vancouver Art
Gallery, 1978, Textes de Luke Rombout, Chantal Pontbriand,
and Paul Heyer. (expo. indiv.)

20th Century Canadian Drawing, The Gallery Stratford, Ontario

Six Propositions: Luc Béland, Lucio de Heusch, Christian Kiopini
Christian Knudsen, Richard Mill, Leopold Plotek
Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal 1979.

Aspects of Canadian Painting in the Seventies, Glenbow Museum,
Calgary, Alberta. Intro. by Jeffrey Spalding.

Tendances actuelles au Québec, Musée d'art contemporain,
Montreal 1980.

Christian Knudsen, the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen's
University, Kingston, Ontario 1981. intro Robert Swain.

Le dessin de la jeune peinture. Musée d'art contemporain,
Montréal 1981.

Repères: art actuel du Québec. Musée d'art contemporain,
Montreal 1982

Christian Knudsen: Mendel Art Gallery, Saskatoon, Sask. 1984
text by David Burnett.

Montreal Painting - a second look: with Ulysse Comtois, John
Fox, Charles Gagnon, Yves Gaucher, Pierre Gauvreau, Jacques
Hurtubise, Jean McEwen, Christian Knudsen, Guido Molinari,
Leopold Plotek, Francoise Sullivan, Claude Tousignant, and
Irene Whittome. text by Sandra Paikowski. 1985

Contemporary '88 Calgary: Canadian Art Galleries, Virginia
Christopher Galleries, Paul Kuhn Fine Arts
text by Mary-Beth Laviolette.

Celebration 1988: Petro Canada Exhibition Gallery, Calgary
Alberta, text Pauline Lindland

Articles de presse et de revues

" Christian Knudsen ", La Presse, Montreal, 19 Oct. 1974
p. D-20.

David Burnett, "Quebec 75 Arts: 1 - Chris Knudsen" , ArtsCanada
Juillet - aout 1976.

Leo Rosshandler, " L'Art chez vous c'est quoi?" , La Presse,
Montréal 17 septembre 1977, p. D-27.

Diana Nemiroff, "Christian Knudsen formal, spiritual"

The Georgian, Montreal. Sept. 30, 1977 p.6
Henry Lehmann, "Art Ahead", The Montreal Star, Sept. 17, 1977
David Burnett, "Montreal: Chris Knudsen at Godard"
Art in America, vol. 66, no 1, janvier-fevrier 1978, p. 120.
David Burnett, "Chris Knudsen: Galerie Mira Godard sept 8-oct 5,
1977", ArtsCanada, vol.XXXV, no 1, nos 218-219, feb-mars
1978, p. 71.
Jo-Anne Birnie Danzker, "Christian Knudsen", Vanguard
vol. 7, no 2 p. 7-10.

David Burnett, "Christian Knudsen", Parachute, no 11, été 1978
p. 50-53.
René Viau, "Avec ou sans couleur...", La Presse, Montréal
29 juillet 1978, p. C-16.
Nancy Tousley, "Canadian Painting Aspects of the 70's"
Vanguard, vol.9, nos.5-6, été 1980, p.30-37.
John Bentley Mays, "Distinctive styles from Knudsen" The Globe
and Mail, Toronto, 5 sept 1981, p.25.
Marilyn Schiff, "Christian Knudsen- Mira Godard Gallery,
Toronto Aug.29-Sept.23", Vanguard, vol.10, no9, Nov 1981
p. 38-39.
Lisa Balfour Bowen, "Poles Apart....." Toronto Star, sept.5,1981
p.F7.
Clara Hargittay, "Christian Knudsen at Mira Godard Gallery",
Armagazine, vol13, no 56, nov-dec-jan 1981-82, p.50-51.
René Viau, "Chris Knudsen", le Devoir, Montréal 13 mars 1982
p. 31.
Nancy Tousley, "Knudsen paintings show rare accomplishment",
The Calgary Herald , March 27, 1982 p. B25.
Nancy Tousley, "Artist covers all angles", The Calgary Herald
Oct. 22, 1987
Nancy Tousley, "Artist lets his secret out at last", The Calgary
Herald, November 1990
Gary Michael Dault, ' Christian Knudsen at Peak Gallery ',
The Globe and Mail, December 7, 2002. p. R13.
James Campbell, "Christian Knudsen" at Galerie Division, Montreal
Canadian Art, summer 2009, pp98-99