

Heffel's Fall Auction will Feature Long-Hidden Masterworks from Canada's Most Famous Artists

Expected to achieve between \$8 and \$12 million, this collection of 179 chefs-d'oeuvres includes one of the most recognizable Canadian paintings of all time, a work by Jean Paul Lemieux, as well as important works by Jean-Paul Riopelle, Paul-Émile Borduas, E.J. Hughes, Jack Bush, Michael Snow, Clarence Gagnon, Maurice Cullen and all members of the Group of Seven.

Highlights:

- Lemieux's [Nineteen Ten Remembered](#) is the artist's most famous work and among the most reproduced Canadian paintings of all time. Nearly every person in Quebec will be familiar with this image.
- [The François Dupré Collection](#), which once hung proudly at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Montreal, is considered to be one of the finest Canadian Impressionist collections ever to come to market. These pieces have been rediscovered after being stored for 24 years in an Old Montreal bank vault.
- Previews to be held in Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto, in advance of the live auction in Toronto on November 24, will display works that have not been seen by the public for generations.
- Including the recent spring auction, Heffel Fine Art Auction House has now conducted all 11 of the top 11 grossing live auctions of Canadian art in our nation's history – and this one is set to break additional records.

Toronto, ON, October 27, 2011 – [Heffel Fine Art Auction House](#) is thrilled to announce a sensational fall collection of Canadian art to be auctioned on November 24 in Toronto, many works of which have not been displayed publicly in decades. In all, the 179 lots from the visual artists who have defined Canadian art throughout its history are expected to achieve between \$8 and \$12 million, according to conservative estimates. If projections hold, the Heffel fall auction will place within the top 10 grossing auctions of Canadian art of all time.

Included among the blockbuster items is Jean Paul Lemieux's [Nineteen Ten Remembered](#), considered the artist's best and most influential piece. "It is among the best known and most reproduced canvases ever created by a Canadian artist," explains David K.J. Heffel, President of [Heffel Fine Art Auction House](#). "This is a rare opportunity for a collector to own an artist's most famous work; such pieces traditionally are reserved to the domain of public museums." In May 2011, Heffel sold another major work by Lemieux which helped usher this artist into the elite group of "Million-Dollar" Canadian artists; *Nineteen Ten Remembered* is expected to exceed that recent record.

[Jean-Paul Riopelle](#), who still holds the record for the highest price for a post-war work of art sold in Canada at \$1,667,500 (set when Heffel sold [Il était une fois une ville](#) in 2006), is well represented with seven works, including the stunning [Grande fête](#) (Great Feast) that is estimated to fetch between \$900,000 and \$1.2 million.

Canadian art is blazing hot around the globe and the current [Painting Canada: Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven](#) exhibition at London's Dulwich Picture Gallery is fueling that fire even further. Heffel's fall offering contains at least one work by each of the seven famed artists as well as their contemporaries [Emily Carr](#) and exhibit-namesake [Tom Thomson](#). One oil on panel on offer, [Rocky Mountain Sketch CXXI \(Mount Robson\)](#) by Lawren Stewart Harris, is a sketch for one of his most famous canvases, *Mount Robson*, in the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. Having sold over a quarter of a billion dollars in Canadian art, more than any other auctioneer worldwide, Heffel continues to be among the very few firms to actively promote and advertise Canadian art internationally.

The masterworks presented are gathered from various estates and collections, most significantly [The François Dupré Collection](#). Mr. Dupré, the French former owner of Montreal's Ritz-Carlton, is considered to have accumulated one of the most significant Canadian Impressionist collections of all time. While the works once hung proudly in the hotel, many of these paintings' whereabouts were unknown by art historians for decades and were only recently revealed to be in a bank vault in Old Montreal where they had been professionally stored for nearly a quarter of a century. The Dupré collection, which features Gagnon's [Environs de Baie-Saint-Paul](#) as well as three works by [Cullen](#), and significant works by [J.W. Morrice](#) and [M.A. Suzor-Coté](#), is conservatively estimated to yield between \$1 million and \$1.5 million.

Significant pieces are being offered from the Estate of Edgar and Dorothy Davidson, the Estate of Theodosia Dawes Bond Thornton, the western Canadian Ernest E. Poole family as well as the private collections of other prominent Montreal, Toronto and West Coast families. However, not all the works come from high society. For example, two important works by artist [Albert Henry Robinson](#) (lot [135](#) and [136](#)) were recently discovered in a barn by curious owners who 'Googled' the artist's name. It was revealed the works carry with them the tale of star-crossed love between a once-prominent socialite (the owner's grandmother) and a taxi driver, for whom she scandalously left her husband, artwork in tow.

Two Separate Sessions that Span the Complete History of Canadian Art

The Heffel fall auction is presented in two separate sessions: [Canadian Post-War & Contemporary Art](#) at 4:00 pm, followed by the [Fine Canadian Art](#) session at 7:00 pm. Heffel was the first auction house in Canada to split historical and contemporary Canadian art into separate sales and is the only one that produces separate catalogues for each session.

Additional highlights on auction include:

- Art by Canadian women continues to be in high demand. Along with [Emily Carr](#), artists such as [Rita Letendre](#), [Marcelle Feron](#), [Daphne Odjig](#), [Molly Joan Lamb Bobak](#), [Anne Douglas Savage](#), [Nora Francis Elizabeth Collyer](#), [Sybil Andrews](#) and [Kathleen Daly Pepper](#) are well represented.
- [Michael Snow](#), arguably Canada's best known and most influential living artist, is represented by two very different and rare-to-market works from his [Walking Woman](#) series, including a [prized life-size sculpture](#). Two significant and colourful works by [Jack Bush](#) are also sure to ignite the curiosity of contemporary Canadian art-lovers.
- Along with Snow, the collection includes a multitude of exceptional living Canadian artists including [Gordon Smith](#), [Tony Scherman](#), [Robert Davidson](#), [Jean Lefebure](#), [Jacques Hurtubise](#), [John Little](#) and [rising-star Kent Monkman](#). Heffel currently holds the title for the highest value ever achieved in Canada at an auction for a work by a living Canadian painter for an [Alexander Colville](#) painting entitled [Man on Verandah](#), sold in November 2010 for \$1,287,000.
- One of Heffel's consignees, who has chosen to remain anonymous, has indicated that they will generously donate the proceeds from the sale of two blockbuster paintings (Lawren Stewart Harris's [Rocky Mountain Sketch CXXI \(Mount Robson\)](#) and Emily Carr's [Glade](#)) to Toronto's [Women's College Hospital](#). The successful bidders will not only take home Canadian masterpieces, but also contribute to future breakthroughs at this international leader in women's health research.
- [E.J. Hughes](#) is back again with two sensational works, [Revelstoke and Mount Begbie](#) and [Storage Tanks at Bones Bay, Cracroft Island](#). In May, Heffel sold two other lots by Hughes which soared above pre-auction estimates and ushered this artist into the elite group of "Million-Dollar" Canadian artists for the first time as well.

Heffel's Fall 2011 Auction Schedule

To give interested buyers from across Canada a chance to view these extraordinary pieces, many on display for the first time in generations, the collection is being previewed in three cities:

- **Vancouver Preview** – October 29 to November 1 at Heffel Gallery Vancouver, 2247 Granville Street
- **Montreal Preview** – November 10 – 12 at Galerie Heffel Montréal, 1840 Sherbrooke Street West
- **Toronto Preview** – November 19 – 24 at Heffel Gallery Toronto, 13 Hazelton Avenue
- **Live Auction (Toronto)** – Thursday, November 24, 2011 at Park Hyatt Hotel, 4 Avenue Road
 - 4:00 pm EST, Canadian Post-War & Contemporary Art
 - 7:00 pm EST, Fine Canadian Art

For more details on the previews and live auction, and access to the online catalogues, visit www.heffel.com.

About Heffel Fine Art Auction House

Heffel has sold more Canadian art than any other auctioneer worldwide, with over \$275 million in art auction sales since 1995, and has conducted the most valuable live auctions of Canadian art. Heffel is led by the most experienced team of fine art specialists in Canada. With offices and representatives in Vancouver, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Calgary, Heffel provides superior client services to both sellers and buyers nationwide. In addition to full-colour printed catalogues, Heffel publishes its entire live auction online at www.heffel.com, from initial promotion and illustrated lot listings, to the auction's live multi-camera webcast and final sale results.

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