

CHANTAL LAVOIE

BIOGRAPHY

Chantal Lavoie was born in Montreal, Quebec in 1967. Her first creative education came in the form of a certificate in decoration from l'Academie des arts et Beaux-Arts from 1999-2002. For the past fifteen years, she has participated in numerous drawing, painting, composition, mixed technique, and live model classes. Currently, she is enrolled in the Fine Arts Studio Program at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, Quebec, where she has found her main source of inspiration, the human form.



Lavoie's focus in her works is on the body's paradoxes; youth and old age, beauty and decrepitude, desire and fear, vitality and suffering, solidarity and solitude. These are all aspects that fascinate and motivate her.

Chantal Lavoie's art is inscribed within the movement of contemporary creation through a multitude of influences and inspirations. The most important of these is undoubtedly classicism, most readily seen through the way that the artist composes her subject, through the importance of drawing, and through the fluidity of shapes. However, to box an artist like Chantal Lavoie within the confines of one category would be a mistake. Her playful spirit, her sensitivity, and the very nature of her subject, the journey of life, cannot stem from a single mould. Her pictorial expression is born from the present, even if her roots are deeply grounded in history. Dramatic, and sometimes tragic, are these bodies mortified and murdered by life? Obviously, this is sometimes the case. But there is also the jubilation, the eroticism, and the ardent desire of bodies invigorated by love. Without a doubt, Chantal Lavoie's art deserves all of our contemplation and consideration.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

"The creative process that leads an artist to the creation of a work of art constitutes the greatest of risks because creativity is in itself a risk. It is not as much of a risk of making a mistake, that is not the issue, but rather the risk of not being accurate, of not being in tune with oneself, and thus with one's subject. To create, is therefore to trust oneself because, in this universe of creativity, one treads lightly, one moves forward step by step, if one moves forward at all...My creative process is a dark path, at times bumpy and riddled with somber and deformed areas that I must reappropriate, reformulate into a new language.

This language is the painter's idiom, a universe that is strongly suggestive and ultimately animated by a rhythm, a movement, which is forever bound by two worlds: mine and the world of art. It is a nascent creature, a more complicated thing than one could ever have anticipated. From caution and fear breeds happiness, an attraction to that which is forbidden, to raw pleasure... I journey through these stages with ardour, spirited by an indefinable force."

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2008 Galerie Lamoureux Ritzenhoff, Montreal, Quebec
Terence Robert Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

COLLECTIONS

Cambec Construction Inc., Lachine, Quebec
Denman Design, Montreal, Quebec
Alyn Simard Audio, Montreal, Quebec

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2008 Galerie MX, Montreal, Quebec
2007 Galerie l'Harmattan, Pointe Claire, Quebec
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2006 Galerie l'Harmattan, Pointe Claire, Quebec
Los Olas Fine Arts, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
2005 Galerie l'Harmattan, Pointe Claire, Quebec