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JACK BUSH



- (b at Toronto 20 Mar 1909; d there 24 Jan 1977)
- by the 1950s Bush had become dissatisfied with Canada's detachment from international contemporary art.
- In 1953 his dissatisfaction led him, in company with several younger Toronto artists, to become a founding member of the PAINTERS ELEVEN.
- Background as a commercial illustrator
- Worked in oils, watercolours and acrylics
- Expressive colourist



OSCAR CAHEN



- (b at Copenhagen, Denmark 8 Feb 1916; d at Oakville, Ont 26 Nov 1956).
- Cahén gained a major reputation as an illustrator working for such magazines as *Maclean's*, *Chatelaine* and *New Liberty*.
- Cahén's dark, expressionist paintings of the late 1940s, often on religious subjects, gave way in the early 1950s to brilliantly coloured abstractions.
- He was tragically killed in an automobile accident on the afternoon of November 26, 1956 in Oakville , Ontario

HORTENSE GORDON



- (1886 - 1961)
- served as a distinguished technical teacher in her native Hamilton, Ontario for over 30 years, establishing a high standard of design teaching and motivating her students to seek the highest form of expression
- She demonstrated the hard-won independence of women of her generation who achieved careers and success despite obstacles.
- Gordon spent many years living in Chatham and frequently visited Windsor & Detroit introducing her to different art communities



THOMAS HODGSON



- (1924 - 2006)
- Thomas Sherlock Hodgson was a painter and commercial artist out of Toronto.
- His mediums were oil, acrylic, watercolour, gouache, silkscreen, charcoal and mixed mediums
- His subjects were non-objective abstracts, landscapes, nudes, figures and portraits.



ALEXANDRA LUKE

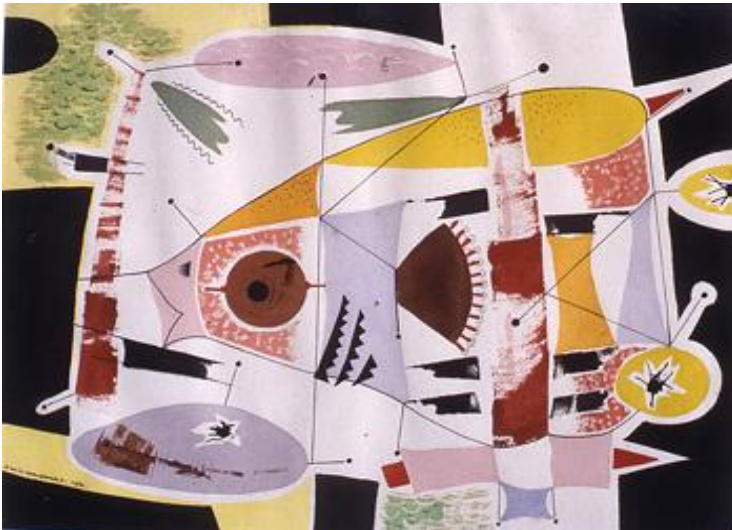


- (1901-1967)
- Was introduced to surrealist automatism by her instructor JWG (Jock) Macdonald
- Surrealist art is purely psychic and automatic, intended to express the real process of thought.
- Automatism is further defined as a "method of producing paintings or drawings in which the artist suppresses conscious control over the movements of the hand, allowing the subconscious mind to take over."



Painting is like life itself: you learn as you go along, what to select, what to leave out -- this is very important, what goes with what, how to get interest and excitement with unity and balance, how to take the bad days with the good and last but not least how to enjoy and learn at the same time. -- Alexandra Luke.

J.W.G. (Jock) MACDONALD

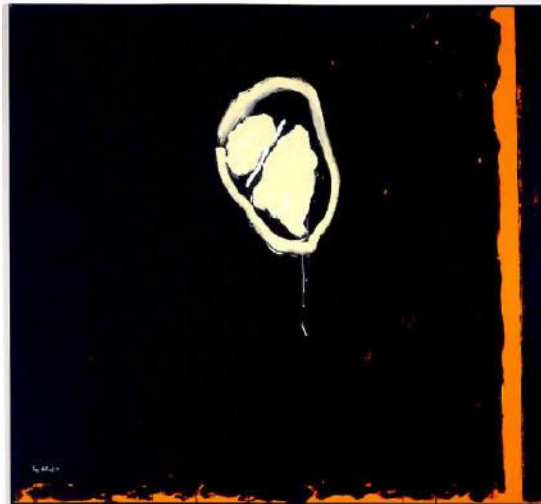


- (May 1897 – December 1960)
- Macdonald's training as a designer and his interest in children's paintings encouraged his experimentation with abstract art. [\[2\]](#)
- He loved to play with colour. Abstraction allowed Macdonald the freedom to create pictures that had no apparent subject matter. He could blend and layer colours on his canvas without worrying whether some people would have difficulty understanding his subject.
- He was an influential professor at several art colleges in Canada and helped spur the modern art movement in the country

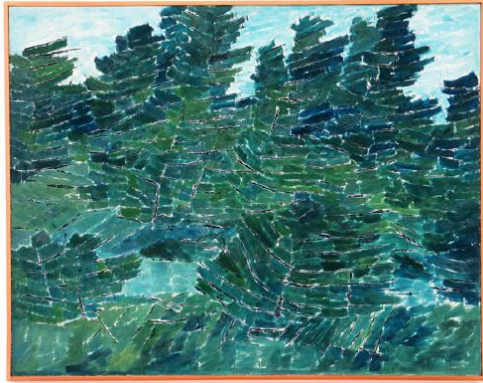
RAY MEAD



- Born in Watford, England, 22 September 1921
Died in Toronto, Ontario, 05 September 1998
- Ray Mead was one of the pioneers of contemporary painting in Canada.
- After World War II he immigrated to Canada from England and became a member of Painters 11 in the 1950s
- Mead's canvases are often characterized by rich fields of colour that are activated by the strategic placements of his personal iconographic marks.



KAZUO NAKAMURA



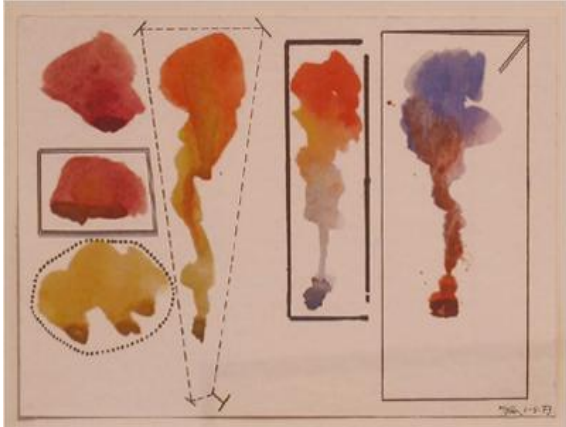
- (b at Vancouver 13 Oct 1926; d at Toronto 9 April 2002).
- In the 1950s and 60s his paintings were of 4 distinctly different types: dark, vaguely surreal block structures in stark environments evoking the prairies; muted landscapes with a gentle broken touch; off-white abstractions painted over spare, linear configurations of string laid down on canvas; and linear abstractions in an indeterminate space.
- Nakamura was often concerned with science, time and space.
- described himself as seeking a "fundamental universal pattern in all art and nature"

WILLIAM RONALD



- (b at Stratford, Ont 13 Aug 1926; d at Toronto, Ont 9 Feb 1998).
- His gift lies in his work's spontaneity, dynamism and energy and in his natural talent for handling paint.
- influenced by the fragmentary, explosive painting of Willem de Kooning
- From 1966 until 1974 he executed the monumental wall mural, *Homage to Robert Kennedy*, for the National Art Centre in Ottawa.
- abstract works characterized by strong colors and bold, expressive brushstrokes.

HAROLD TOWN



- (b at Toronto, Ont 13 Jun 1924; d near Peterborough, Ont, 27 Dec 1990).
- worked as an illustrator for *Maclean's* and *Mayfair*.
- one of Canada's most important artists.
- Town's work reflected his interest in de Kooning, Picasso and the Asian art he saw in the Royal Ontario Museum.
- Town was always concerned with being fashionable and slightly offensive

WALTER YARWOOD



- Born in Toronto, Ontario, 1917
Died in Hamilton, Ontario, 22 December 1996
- Yarwood originally worked as an advertising artist while showing his paintings in group exhibitions.
- His painting mediums were oil, watercolour and gouache.
- By 1960, he had abandoned painting for sculpture; however, traces of his former two-dimensional orientation linger in this relief-like, free-standing monument of bronze.

His sculpture mediums were welded steel, cast aluminium, bronze, iron, brass, wood and found objects. His subjects were primarily abstracts and abstracted figures.

His styles were abstract expressionism, lyrical abstraction and semi abstraction.

