



Westmount

Division des événements communautaires
Community Events Division

November 16th, 2016

Photographers **Philippe Laporta, Ann Pearson, Sylvia Rourke and Alain Roy** at the Gallery at Victoria Hall November 17 to December 10, 2016

The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to feature four photographers, all members of the Montreal Camera Club. The works of Philippe Laporta, Ann Pearson, Sylvia Rourke and Alain Roy vary in style, subject and motivation. From black and white images of quiet villages to scenic panoramas and the intricate details of quotidian objects, the exhibition offers a rich panoply of aesthetic inspiration. The exhibition runs from November 17th to December 10th, 2016.

Philippe Laporta notes that he uses photography as a means of self-expression. His choice of subject emerges from an emotional connection with both people and nature. “Each image should communicate with the viewer, creating an intuitive relationship that 'pulls you in' or builds the desire to partake in the story it tells.” Works such as *Sunset on Lake Titicaca, Peru* or *Rainbow on the Plains of Peru* offer strong examples of Laporta’s ability to capture the ambient atmospheric mood of his subject, without forsaking rich detail or compositional unity.

For Ann Pearson, to be a photographer “trains the brain and eye to become aware of our surroundings in a special way, to remove the filters which stop us from “seeing.” We become more aware of the quality of light that transforms the banal into the beautiful...” Indeed, the advent of digital photography allowed Pearson to transform what the camera captures into something matching her imaginative response to her subject matter. Two stirring examples are *Hosta Leaf II – Sunlit terrain* and *Curtain Folds as Mountain Range*, both of which testify to a profound sensitivity to the subtleties of light and texture.

For Sylvia Rourke, photography is about “capturing the meaningful events in our lives...The ability to freeze a moment in time allows us to cherish these memories forever”. Featured in this exhibition is Rourke’s photographic documentation of the urban landscape of Oaxaca, Mexico; her goal was to call attention to things “other people might overlook.” Inspired in particular by contrasts of light and dark, or bright and bold colour combinations, the works are dramatic and striking. In particular, *Afternoon Shadows* and *Mirror on Blue* rivet the viewer’s attention with their saturated hues, such that we feel immersed in their warmth.

Alain Roy was initiated into the development of black and white photographs at the age of 15. While the traditional dark room has been long abandoned, and he does also work in colour, he continues to be intrigued by the emotional resonance of black and white photography. He especially enjoys exploring the infinite variations in nature at the other end of the world but no less he notes, “it is in our quotidian world that we often find the most fantastical subjects.” In such works as *La vendeuse de pain* or *Un port paisible du Maine*, the subtle tonalities of grey are masterfully rendered such that no detail is lost and yet a poetic visual narrative is communicated.

Source : Community Events Office

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