

Pierre Bellemare holds a bachelor's degree in graphic communication from Université Laval (1984) and a DCS in studio art from Cégep de Trois-Rivières (1981).

During his university studies, he had the privilege of studying illustration under such renowned painters as Claude A. Simard, Antoine Dumas and Milos Reineš. A number of years earlier, he was taught by painter Normand Boisvert.

As a graphic designer he has worked for advertising agencies as well as for the Government of Canada, Radio-Canada, and the Quebec National Assembly.

PIERRE BELLEMARE

Abstracted perspective

DAVID GAUTHIER

TRANSLATION: ISABELLE GAUTHIER

It is to an organised chaos that Pierre Bellemare beckons the viewer. A figurative painter at first, he has converted from landscape to abstraction. This new stylistic orientation required a change in his work methods, consequently his workshop, to fit his new endeavours. His previous studio, quiet and subdued, was replaced by a larger space to better express his creative energies. The new Saint-Nicolas studio has tarp covered walls and a lone canvas at its center.

The Trois-Rivières artist studied graphic arts at the cégep de Trois-Rivières and Université Laval. He has worked in this field for 25 years. Many of his creations made for the public sector (Radio-Canada, Quebec Government) are works of art on their own and are fully integrated to the everyday

landscape, such as the Promenade des premiers ministres near the National Assembly in Quebec city.

In parallel, Pierre Bellemare fuels another passion: art. The quality of his compositions is striking. A duel

between colors and lines takes place on canvas. He begins by sculpting and structuring the background with a spatula and varied materials. The resulting textured canvas is filled with vivid, but not overwhelming colors. The paintings in a cool or warm palette are initiated by the artist throwing liquid acrylic paint onto the canvas, creating a series of movements. The canvas thus filled with projectile paint is created from the center of the frame, where lines occasionally overlap. One might distinguish symbols and other graphic signs emerging from the chaos. The artist always works with music (U2) as it allows him to immerse himself completely into the creative act. Unconsciously, the music imposes a certain rhythm and specific colors as the work evolves. Coincidence, instinct but also



Onda, technique mixte, 91,44 x 152,4 cm

experience comes into play in terms of reaching the proper balance necessary to the understanding and appreciation of his paintings. His know-how and his graphic arts sensibility have certainly influenced his process. "I have always painted, from as long as I can remember. Yet, it is in the graphic arts field that I have made my living. My painting has always been influenced by the graphic artist in me." The colorist, born in 1961, has learned his trade from the masters. His work has been noticed recently in multiple exhibits in America, Italy and France.

Pierre Bellemare will soon embark on a journey to Japan where he will study the science of Asian calligraphy and take in the city vibe of Tokyo. His art, already imbedded by the potent energy and ancestry of traditional writing can only grow from there. ●



Orange Tango, technique mixte, 91,44 x 91,54 cm

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