

Scott MacLeod's show and recalls art of the 1920s and 1930s with its nostalgia for the industrial era. The buildings, bridges, cranes, docks, and boats depicted in MacLeod's art express something of how vital a

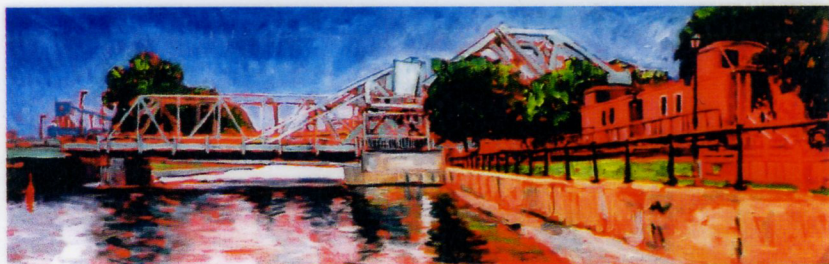


Scott MacLeod
Lock No. 5, 2004
graphite on mylar

MONTREAL

SCOTT MACLEOD: THE LACHINE CANAL PAST AND PRESENT

to November 30th
Maxwell Building Annex:
McAuslan Brewery
5080 Rue St. Ambroise
Tel.: 939-3060



Scott MacLeod
Jackknife Bridge (Gavron Bridge)
oil on wood, 2004

Scott MacLeod's exhibition of paintings, drawings and photographs of the historic Lachine Canal touch on a much neglected aspect of Montreal history. The canal is a living legacy of Canada's economic and social history. Once a 14.5 kilometre water route linking Montreal's Old Port to Lake St. Louis the Lachine canal opened in 1825. It was the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1970 that ended a long history of shipping on the canal.

Sponsored by Peter McAuslan and presently in the Annex (visitor centre) of the McAuslan Brewery this long-term project and exhibition, includes historical storyboards about the buildings, businesses, bridges, boats and locks that border on the Lachine Canal. From former glory to present-day rehabilitation the canal is the focus for

part of life the Lachine canal was for Montrealers and Canadians in general.

A source of hydraulic power this industrial corridor was one of the main manufacturing production centres in Canada from the mid-19th century to Second World War, the Canal will change rapidly over the next 20 years as the City of Montreal redevelops its waterfront areas into housing, loft, and recreation areas with walking and bicycle paths and boating along its waterfront.

Industrial architecture with a past history, a living museum in the present, the canal carries all the traces and markings of its past with a quiet majesty. How often do artists document places like this these

days? Scott MacLeod is one of the few who do, and his oil and graphite works capture a feeling of past industrial grandeur in the present. The paintings and sketches in this show range from a Railway Bridge to the Five Roses Flour Mill building. An old iron bridge becomes a sublime piece of sculpture while a 75 ton Floating Crane used to unload goods stands starkly against the sky. The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge is pure beautiful engineering and in another painting a boat sits in Lock No. 5 lit up by night lights. Some subjects such as the Redpath Sugar Northern Electric and Corticelli Buildings or "Jackknife Bridge" become panoramic scenes that recreate the feeling that the Lachine Canal with its coal Derricks, Coleco Building, and Canadian Malting Building is a living museum of industrial building and marine artifacts. The majesty and industrial history of Canada is nowhere more evident than in the Lachine Canal. Scott MacLeod brings it to life. Montreal's McAuslan Brewery has brought about the event and hopefully will engender further cultural and artistic exchanges on their premises in the future.

John K. Grande