

# Introduction

The Canadian collection of the National Gallery of Canada contains approximately 16,500 works created by 2,265 artists and artisans over a period of three hundred years.

This CD-ROM edition of the catalogue of the Canadian collection present all of the works acquired between 1880 (the year the Gallery was founded) and 1 October 1997.

Given the large size of the catalogue, with its many thousands of colour images, it has been necessary to spread it out over three separate CD-ROMs, covering the following time spans: 1700–1914, 1915–1949, and 1950–1996. The cut-off points were determined arbitrarily by the storage capacity of each disc. There are instances where a particular artist's works extend over a period of time that runs across two, or even three, discs. In such cases, to limit the need for swapping discs, an effort has been made to include all of the works in question on at least one of the discs. **To switch discs, you must first exit the application, insert the other disc, and restart the application.**

The contents of the catalogue may be accessed initially through a comprehensive alphabetical index of artist names. Selecting a particular artist takes you to a page on which that artist's works are set out chronologically, insofar as the dates are known. (Silversmiths are an exception to this rule: their works, most of which are undated, are classified by type rather than date.) As well, you can narrow the focus by carrying out a search, using any combination of three selection criteria: full-text, time period, and technique.

The works catalogued in this CD-ROM set total 16,446. Of those, 12,344 are reproduced here in colour and 1,701 in black and white. For a variety of technical reasons, certain works could not be illustrated at this time, and in a few particular cases the individuals holding the rights to the works would not allow them to be reproduced.

The rights to the works illustrated are held either by the artists or their successors or by the National Gallery of Canada. Further reproduction of any illustration, for whatever use, without prior authorization is strictly prohibited. For information on how to obtain black-and-white prints, colour transparencies, 35mm slides, or digital images of works in the collection of the National Gallery of Canada, please contact our Reproduction Rights and Sales section.

The following **screen resolutions** are supported:

- 640 × 480 (VGA)
- 800 × 600 (SVGA)
- 1024 × 768

The following **colour depths** are supported:

- 256 colours (8-bit)
- Thousands of colours (16-bit)
- 16.7 million colours (24-bit)

For optimal image quality, your system's graphics card should be able to display millions of colours (24-bit). In 256 colours (8-bit) some dithering will occur. Full-size views will provide best colour quality. In thousands of colours (16-bit), continuous-tone backgrounds will break up.

Each of the discs in the CD-ROM set contains both English and French versions of the text. You must choose the **language** of operation during installation. To switch the language of operation,

reinstall the software:

- 1 Exit the application.
- 2 Insert any one of the three CDs into your CD-ROM drive.
- 3 For Windows 95, choose Run from the Start menu. For Windows 3.1, choose Run from the File menu of the Program Manager.
- 4 Type *d:\setup.exe* (where *d:* is the drive letter of your CD-ROM drive).
- 5 Click OK and follow the directions in the Setup dialog boxes.

For **technical assistance**, e-mail your questions to [ArtCD@ngc.chin.gc.ca](mailto:ArtCD@ngc.chin.gc.ca).

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# Index

The Canadian Collection opens initially on the Index page. All the artists included in the disc that is currently in your CD-ROM drive are displayed here. Clicking on any one of the names in the list takes you to that artist's page. You can also go to the Artist, Work, or Search screens by clicking on the appropriate button. When you carry out a search, only those artist names that meet your search criteria are displayed in the Index.

## Navigation buttons

 Artist

Go to Artist pages (beginning with the first in the entire series).

 Work

Go to Work pages (beginning with the first in the entire series).

 Search

Go to Search dialog box.

 ?

Go to Help.

 X

Exit The Canadian Collection. **You will also need to exit each time you want to switch to a different disc in The Canadian Collection.**

## A-Z

Click on a letter to navigate quickly to a part of the list.

## List of artist names

Use the scroll bar to advance. Click on a name to go to a particular Artist page.

## Status bar

A line at bottom left tells you which of the three discs is currently in your CD-ROM drive.

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# Artist

The Artist page provides basic information on a particular artist and thumbnail images of the artist's works in The Canadian Collection.

## Navigation buttons



Go to previous artist or next artist.



Go to Index.



Go to Work pages (beginning with the first by this artist).



Go to Search dialog box.



Go to Help.



Exit The Canadian Collection. **You will also need to exit each time you want to switch to a different disc in The Canadian Collection.**

## Artist Information

The panel at the left displays birth and death dates, place of residence, and a portrait where available. Also included here are any cross-references to works by this artist on another disc.

## Thumbnails

Use the scroll bar to advance. Click on a thumbnail to go to a particular Work page.

## Status bar

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# Work

The Work page provides details on a particular work in The Canadian Collection, including artist, title, date, medium or technique, dimensions, provenance, and accession number.

## Navigation buttons



Go to previous work or next work.



Go to Artist page.



Go to Index.



Go to Search dialog box.



Go to Help.



Exit The Canadian Collection. **You will also need to exit each time you want to switch to a different disc in The Canadian Collection.**

## Related works

Related works appear as thumbnails in the panel at the left. If necessary, use the scroll bar to advance. Click on a thumbnail to go to a particular Work page.

## Image

To enlarge the image to full size, click directly on it (your mouse pointer will appear as a magnifying glass). Clicking on the full-size image will take you back to the Work page. If the full-size image is larger than your screen, click and hold down your left mouse button (your mouse pointer will appear as a hand) to drag the image. If there are arrows under an image, you can click on them to advance to other views or parts of the same object.

## Status bar

A line at bottom left tells you which of the three discs is currently in your CD-ROM drive. Copyright information may appear at bottom centre. A counter of the number of works by the artist appears at bottom right.

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# Search

The search function allows you to limit the display of artists and works, using any combination of three selection criteria: full-text, time period, technique. The search function applies only to the disc currently in the CD-ROM drive.

## Full text

A text search finds occurrences of words or expressions in all data except for dimensions, irrespective of the order in which the words or expression are entered (Boolean AND).

- To search for an exact expression, use quotation marks.
- A single search can contain up to 10 words or expressions.
- Searches are not case-sensitive.
- You may use an asterisk (\*) as a wildcard operator.
- Do not include punctuation.

## Period

To search within a particular time period, enter the start and end dates. You can also search by entering only a start date or only an end date. To search on a single year, enter it in both boxes.

## Techniques

Select techniques from the box on the left, and use the single-arrow right-pointing button to move them to the box on the right. Deselect with the left-pointing button.

## Search All / Current Artist Only

By default, the search will be carried out on all the contents of the disc. To limit a search to the current artist, select the appropriate radio button at bottom left (available only when a search is initiated from an Artist or Work page).

 [Search Tips](#)

# Search Tips

## Undated works

Undated works have arbitrarily been assigned the year 9999 in hidden form. To exclude undated works from a search, specify an end date lower than 9999. To include undated works, be sure to leave the end date blank or enter the date 9999. If you want to find only undated works, enter 9999 as the start date.

## Topographical searches

To search for views of places, try entering the word *landscape* along with a place name.

## Portrait searches

To search for a portrait of someone, try entering the word *portrait* along with their name.

# Credits

## Produced by the National Gallery of Canada

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# Image Links

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