

Born in Chesley, Ontario in 1932, Telford Fenton was a daring and passionate artist whose art reached a maturity that secured him a serious position in Canadian art history. His energetic, spontaneous touch and strong colour sense combined to create painterly works of lasting quality and a constant source of joy.

Fenton came out of the second generation of Toronto abstract painters. His contemporaries, Graham Coughtry, Gordon Rayner and Richard Gorman are among those who inspired Fenton in his formative years. He was also inspired by those artists involved in Abstract Expressionism, particularly Jackson Pollock, and German Expressionism who are concerned with pure painting and the evocation of an emotional response.

Fenton experienced a major hiatus in his artistic career from about 1962 through 1971 during which he drank heavily, suffered a heart attack and underwent open-heart surgery. He was able to overcome this personal crisis to resume his career and carried on to produce a remarkable body of work.

“Telford Fenton’s works are a dazzling reminder of what the painter’s craft is all about.”

-*Christopher Hume, Toronto Star*

Fenton’s paintings speak of pure joy and demonstrate a constant reaffirmation of life. He was a master draftsman, handling oil paint with remarkable virtuosity, literally drawing with his colour-loaded brush. His bold colours were often squeezed directly from the tube. His compositions were strong and lyrical. Fenton was versatile in his subject matter – unique still life, florals, spontaneous landscapes, dramatic New York scenes and vibrant portraiture.

Fenton’s paintings can be found in private collections in Canada, United States, Brazil, Great Britain, and Australia. Selected collectors include Jackson Pollock, Donald Trump, Patrick Watson and Donald Sutherland.

Solo Exhibitions

- 1999/97/95 Harbour Gallery, Mississauga
- 1994 Schieder & Associates Gallery Ltd
- 1992 Nancy Poole Gallery, Toronto
- 1992 Lake Galleries, Toronto
- 1990 Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House, Toronto
- 1990 Lake Galleries, Toronto
- 1989 Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
- 1989 Miller Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 1988 Brownstone Hotel, Toronto
- 1987 Algonquin Gallery, Bancroft, ON
- 1986/85/84 Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
- 1982 O’Keefe Centre, Toronto
- 1983 Peel Region Art Gallery, Brampton
- 1982 /81 Saxe Gallery, Toronto
- 1981 Soho Gallery, Toronto
- 1980 /79 Pollock Gallery, Toronto
- 1978 Cantinetta Gallery, Toronto
- 1978 Pollock Gallery, Toronto
- 1975 Cambridge Library, Cambridge, ON
- 1975 /74 /75 Ten Mile House, Hamilton, ON

Group Exhibitions

1997	Harbour Gallery, Mississauga	1986/85	Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC
1995	Wellington Gallery, Toronto	1986/85	Shayne Gallery, Montreal
1995/94	Shayne Gallery, Montreal	1982/81	Saxe Gallery, Toronto
1995/94	Harbour Gallery, Mississauga	1981	Pollock Gallery, Toronto
1993	Nancy Poole Gallery, Toronto	1981	Soho Gallery, Toronto
1989	Lake Gallery, Toronto	1980	Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal
1988/87	Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto	1980	University of Guelph Art Gallery, Guelph
1988/87	Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC	1980	Harbourfront Art Gallery, Toronto
1986/85	Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto	1976/75	Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton



John Metcalfe Portrait, acrylic , 42"x 36"

Corporate Collections

Agra Inc.	Diversey Corporation
Alfield Industries Ltd.	Exxon
American Appraisal Canada	Gren Weis Architects & Associates
Becton Dickinson Canada Inc.	Heenan Blaikie
BRC Business Enterprises Ltd.	Hospital of Ontario Pension Plan
BZW Canada Limited	Laketon Investment Management
Canaccord Capital Corporation	Majendie Securities
Certicom Corporation	Merrill Lynch and Company
Command Post/Toy Box	Monsanto Canada Incorporated
Deacon Capital	Pharmacia and Upjohn
Delso Restoration	The Ontario College of Family Physicians
Delta Meadowvale Resort	Ventra Group Inc.

Fenton's Palette



Education

Graduate – Ontario College
of Art – 1958
Winner of the Timothy Eaton
Co. Award
Studied at Chelsea
Polytechnical School,
London, England, 1958

Private Collectors

Mr. & Mrs. Adler
Jack Pollock
Norman Miller
Alexander Placek
Robert Dirstein
Richard Porter
Elaine Lake
Donald Sutherland
F. Hill
Charles Tabachnick
McMaster University
Art Bank of Canada
Samuel Levine
Donald Trump