

The Contemporaries

Michael Snow came of age during the 1950s in Toronto. This exhibition space presents work from the Art Gallery of Hamilton's collection by two artist groups who were central to the city's burgeoning art scene at the time: Painters Eleven and The Isaacs Group, artists associated with art dealer Avrom Isaacs (1926–2016). It was a pivotal and catalytic decade, one that saw the emergence of a wide range of abstractions as well as the crucial inception of a small number of commercial galleries interested in presenting young, ambitious, and experimental artists. These artists were Snow's contemporaries and he was a leader among them. This was the visual milieu he experienced during the 1950s and early 1960s before his departure for New York.

Snow is closely associated with The Isaacs Gallery. He was one of five artists (with Graham Coughtry, William Ronald, Gerald Scott, and Robert Varvarande) who inaugurated the Greenwich Gallery (later The Isaacs Gallery) in February 1956. Isaacs believed in the young Michael Snow, recognizing the integrity of his intellectual and aesthetic potential; Snow remained one of the Gallery's premier artists for decades.



Graham Coughtry (Canadian 1931-1999)

Leaping Figure 1961

oil on canvas

Gift of the Volunteer Committee, 1989



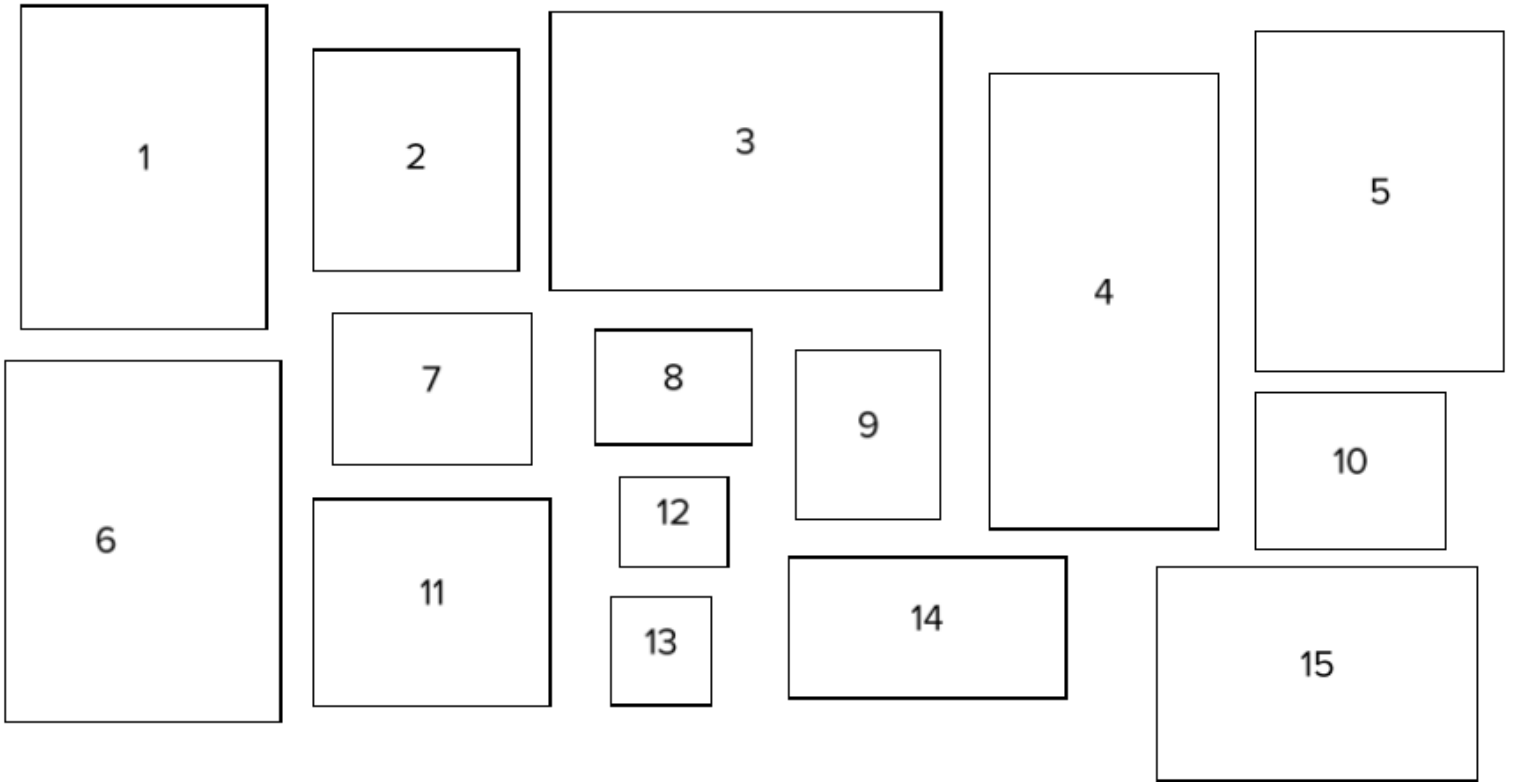
Jack Bush (Canadian 1909-1977)

Black Velvet 1963

oil on canvas

Gift of Wintario, 1980

Painters Eleven Wall



1. William Ronald (Canadian 1926-1998)

Lion 1962

oil on canvas

Bequest of Charles S. Band, 1970

2. Ray Mead (Canadian 1921-1998)

Red Structure 1954

oil on wood

Gift of Irving Zucker, 1992

3. Walter Yarwood (Canadian 1917-1996)

Forest 1959

oil on canvas

Gift of Glen M. Frankfurter, 1987

4. Harold Town (Canadian 1924-1990)

Fall of Babylon 1956

oil and lucite on canvas

Gift from the Estate of Harold Town, 1991

5. Harold Town (Canadian 1924-1990)

Window 1960

oil on canvas

Anonymous gift, 1961

6. Harold Town (Canadian 1924-1990)

Tyranny of the Corner (Traffic Set) 1962-63

oil and lucite on canvas

Gift from the Estate of Harold Town, 1991

7. William Ronald (Canadian 1926-1998)

Ancient Sky 1955

oil on board

Gift of Alan Schwartz, 1987

8. William Ronald (Canadian 1926-1998)

Ginza #3 1962

oil on canvas

Gift of Alan Schwartz, 1987

9. Hortense Gordon (Canadian 1887-1961)

Composition c.1948

oil on canvas

Gift of the Zonta Club of Hamilton, 1951

10. Harold Town (Canadian 1924-1990)

Children's House 1959

oil and lucite on canvas

Gift of David and Karen Mills, 1990

11. Harold Town (Canadian 1924-1990)

Abstract Expressionist Kid's Punchout 1960-62

tissue paper, turpentine, gouache, monoprint on wood

Gift from the Estate of Harold Town, 1991

12. Kazuo Nakamura (Canadian 1926-2002)

Inner Movement c.1954

oil on board

Gallery Purchase, 1995

13. William Ronald (Canadian 1926-1998)

untitled 1959

oil on canvas

Gift of Alan Schwartz, 1985

14. Tom Hodgson (Canadian 1924-2006)

MNII 1960

acrylic on canvas

Gift of Michael Huart, 1989

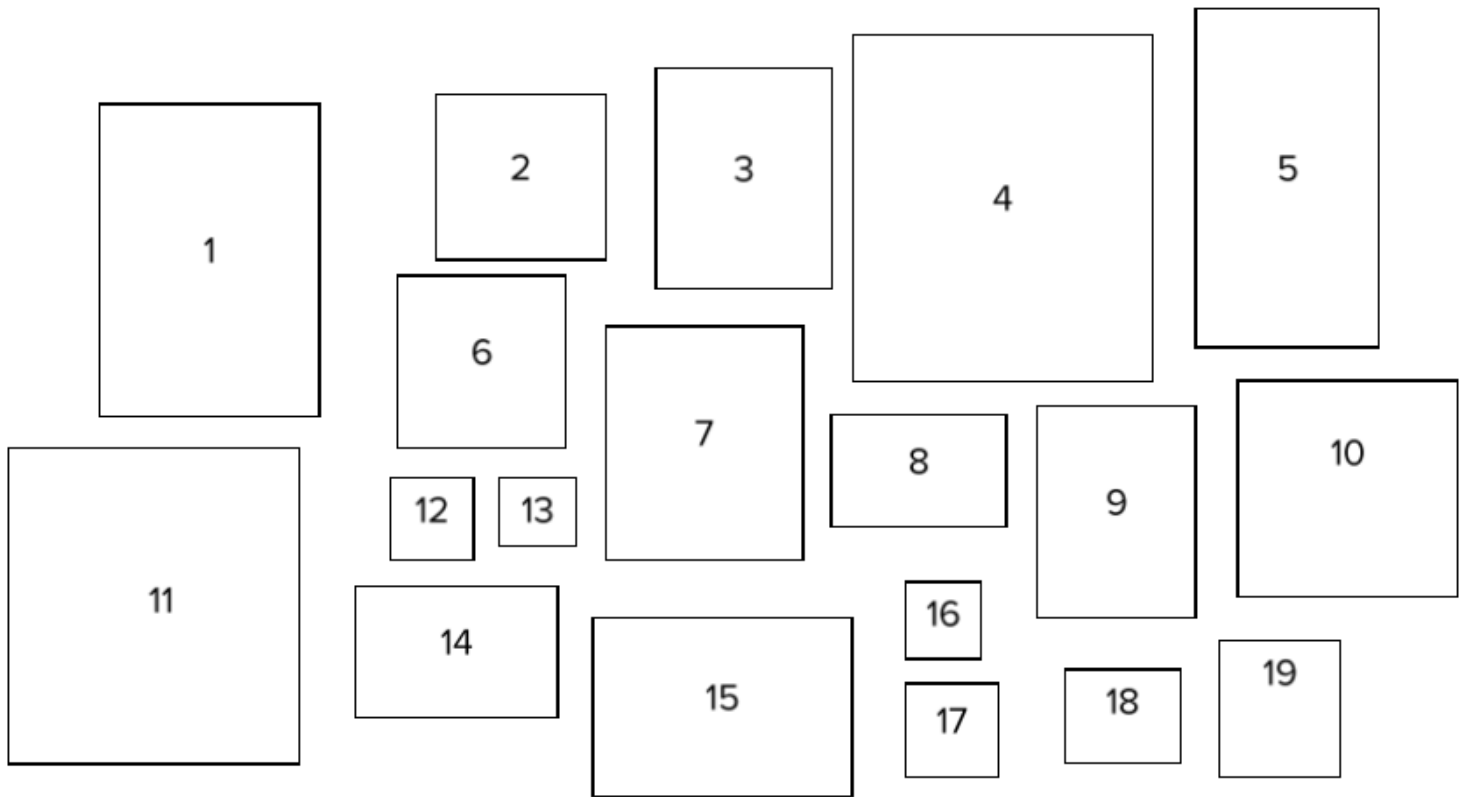
15. Jack Bush (Canadian 1909-1977)

Coup de Main with Red 1957

oil and acrylic resin magna on canvas

Anonymous gift, 1993

Isaacs Gallery Wall



1. William Ronald (Canadian 1926-1998)

The Ascension 1960

oil on canvas

Gift of Alan Schwartz, 1985

2. Dennis Burton (Canadian 1933-2013)

Now Time 1962

oil and enamel on canvas

Gift of Pierre Karch and Mariel O'Neill-Karch, 2007

3. William Ronald (Canadian 1926-1998)

Never Until the Sea Darkness #2 1955

oil on canvas

Gift of Mrs. Arnold Matthews, 1970

4. Graham Coughtry (Canadian 1931-1999)

Two Figures XI 1963

oil and lucite on canvas

Gift of Jeanne Parkin, 2001

5. John Meredith (Canadian 1933-2000)

Aztec No. 4 1957

oil on canvas

Anonymous gift, 2000

6. Joyce Wieland (Canadian 1931-1998)

Northern Lights 1960

oil on canvas

Gift of Irving Zucker, 1992

7. Robert Markle (Canadian 1936-1990)

Night Landscape 1961

oil on canvas

Gift of Ron Collier, 1987

8. Joyce Wieland (Canadian 1931-1998)

Two Figures #2 1955

oil on canvas

Purchased with the assistance of the Alfred Wavell Peene and Susan Nottle Peene Memorial in memory of Janet Clarke, 1999

9. Robert Markle (Canadian 1936-1990)

Untitled 1960

oil on canvas

Gift of John Foster, 1992

10. Richard Gorman (Canadian 1935-2010)

Jacks 1961

oil on canvas

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin L. Stringer, 1982

11. Dennis Burton (Canadian 1933-2013)

Egypt Asleep 1966

oil on canvas

Gift of Walter A. Carsen, 1995

12. Christiane Pflug (Canadian 1936-1972)

untitled (Woodlawn Avenue) 1962

oil on linen

Gift of Dr. Michael Pflug, 1993

13. Christiane Pflug (Canadian 1936-1972)
Marlborough Avenue, Rear View from Yonge Street Apartment
1960
oil on canvas
Gift of Dr. Michael Pflug, 1995

14. Joyce Wieland (Canadian 1931-1998)
Sinking Liner 1963
oil and collage on canvas
Gift of Irving Zucker, 1992

15. William Kurelek (Canadian 1927-1977)
Free Ukrainian Mountaineers 1968
mixed media on Masonite
Gift of the Estate of George G. Sinclair, 1992

16. Christiane Pflug (Canadian 1936-1972)
Portrait of Av Isaacs 1962
oil on canvas
Gift of Dr. Michael Pflug, 1998

17. Joyce Wieland (Canadian 1931-1998)
Time Machine No. 2 1961
oil on canvas
Gift of Irving Zucker, 1992

18. Christiane Pflug (Canadian 1936-1972)

Pont de Grenelle 1956

oil on plywood

Gift of Dr. Michael Pflug, 1993

19. Dennis Burton (Canadian 1933-2013)

Abstract 1956

oil on board

Gift of Pierre Karch and Mariel O'Neill-Karch, 2007