

Paintings inspired book

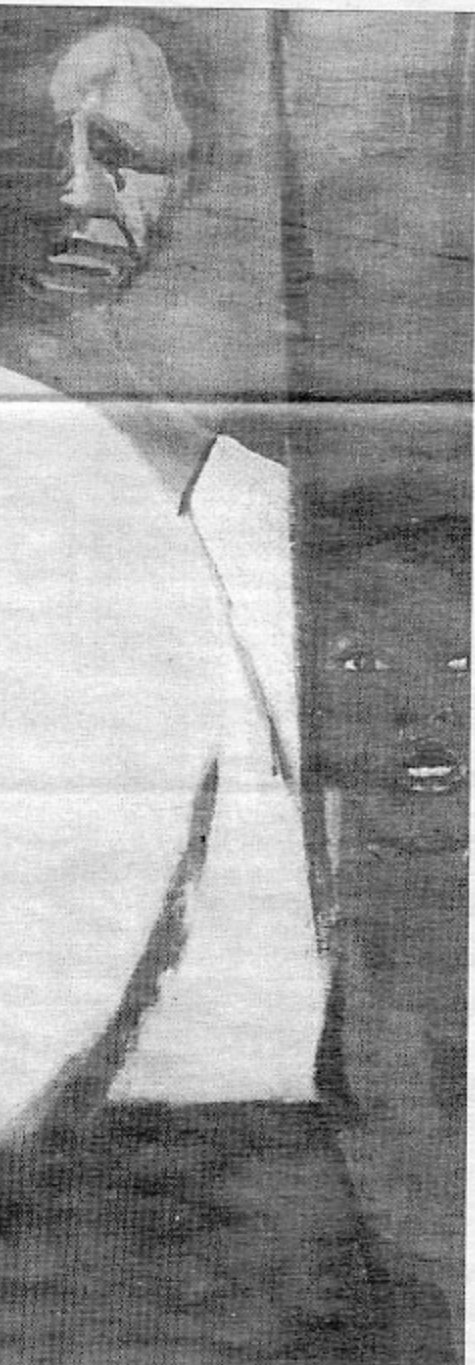
Geometry and the heart

By Tanya Ives
SHERBROOKE

Dominique Dubreuil spent two years creating the pieces hanging in her latest show. "I wanted to have 20 paintings in my collection but it stopped at 17,"

Dubreuil says. "I rented a big room and just set about painting. I had one subject but no set ideas."

Dubreuil's new show is titled *La Géométrie du Coeur* — and she uses geometrical forms in her paintings to represent humans throughout the cycle of life. Among the works are titles like "Couple - Love, Birth, Mother and Child", "Youth", "Generations"



and "Goodbye".

Dubreuil said she used as little paint as possible and stayed as close to strong primary colours as she could. "I wanted to express more emotion by using less mixes. I wanted to keep the whole thing — well — primary."

Dubreuil is an Ascot-Corner native who graduated from Bishop's University and still lives in Sherbrooke. Her artist's statement talks about a "creative approach expressing the inner world, named 'instantanéité instinctive' or 'immediacy'.

"Favorite themes are alternation between identity, multi-ethnicity, human motions of sceneries from the Indian ocean."

Suzanne Pressé, of Sherbrooke's Musée des Beaux-Arts, has written about Dubreuil's work. Pressé says this collection is one of Dubreuil's best yet.

SEEING EMOTION

Pressé says she sees the emotions in the forms, bright colours, wiggly lines and spontaneous strokes of Dubreuil's brush.

Another fan of the artist's work is Johanne Girard, a writer from Sorel, who used Dubreuil's paintings as the inspiration for a collection of writings.

Says Dubreuil: "I loved her poetic style of writing and knew it would accompany my paintings beautifully. So I asked her to look at photos of my drawings and write to them."

The two women then put together a small book, *La Géométrie du Coeur*,

matching Dubreuil's images with Girard's words. "The beautiful texts are entirely hers," says Dubreuil.

Although the 40-odd page book is in French only, both painter and author agree that the paintings have universal language. They are reproduced in full colour.

Girard, whose own first book is due out later this year, says that for her, *La Géométrie du Coeur* is "a human cycle where the solstice and equinox join, either in a straight line or by a tangent, born from a movement that is vital to the human spirit that pulsates in the middle of fragments of existence."

Dubreuil is now working on a new collection that centres on the theme of humans and sexuality.

"I am painting on smaller canvases this time," Dubreuil says. "This way a person has to get closer to my work and will be on a more intimate level with it."

The collection should be ready sometime this spring.

WATERLOO NEXT

Le Géométrie du Coeur is up until Friday, Jan. 26 at La Nef, the art centre at 1175 King St. W. in Sherbrooke.

Call 819-569-1946. Hours are variable.

The exhibition will then move to Waterloo (Maison de la culture at 441 de la Cour St., 450-539-4764), where it will be up from Friday, Feb. 2 to Feb. 28. Hours are Tuesday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday and Saturday noon to 5 p.m.

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