

## COMMUNIQUÉ

Pour diffusion immédiate

The Galerie d'art du Centre culturel  
de l'Université de Sherbrooke  
(Art Gallery of University of Sherbrooke )  
proudly presents the exhibition

# Henry Saxe

Hommage aux peintres/Tribute to Painters

### Opening :

**Wednesday March 7, 2012, at 5 p.m.**

in the presence of the artist, Henry Saxe,  
and Ms Sylvie Belzile, Director General,  
Service des bibliothèques et archives,  
Université de Sherbrooke,  
and sponsor of the exhibition



Henry Saxe, *Labatt*, 2011.  
Painted Aluminium, 92 x 92 cm.  
© Henry Saxe / SODRAC (2012).  
Picture by Bernard Clark.

Henry Saxe has a solid academic background. Fine Arts graduate from Sir George Williams University (now Concordia University) and the Fine Arts School of Montreal (now the Université du Québec à Montréal), the artist puts a lot of effort into an art form full of movement and spontaneity.

Since the 1960s, Henry Saxe devotes himself to sculpture. Metal is his favourite material. In his studio located near Kingston, Ontario, he cuts, engraves, polishes and assembles materials that are mostly manufactured. In these complex structures, the idea of potential movement is omnipresent, but all is not expressed, though. "I never want to emphasize mechanization too much in my works. I want to create mental images without any reference to a specific era of industrialization."

His recent works are aluminum surfaces that are cut, engraved, polished and painted. They are drawings on aluminum enhanced with paint. They seem like paintings. You could call them non-figurative paintings on aluminum. The artist told me the paintings are inspired by abstract expressionist painters and Quebec automatist painters he has known and admired. The titles are revealing: *Hommage à Borduas* (Tribute to Borduas) (2011) and *Hommage à*

*Riopelle* (Tribute to Riopelle) (2011). Thus, for his exhibition at the Galerie d'art du Centre culturel de l'Université de Sherbrooke, Henry Saxe pays tribute to painters.

Henry Saxe took part in several major exhibitions in Canada and abroad, including the Paris Biennale (1963 and 1968), the Venice Biennale (1978), and the Cent jours d'art contemporain de Montréal (1985). The Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal presented a retrospective in 1994.

Recipient of the Paul-Émile Borduas Prize (1994), the highest distinction awarded to a visual artist by the Quebec Government, Henry Saxe pursues a solitary and very coherent artistic career stamped with an out-of-the-ordinary research about the forms and the volumes he puts into contact.

Henry Saxe lives in Kingston Ontario.

**The exhibition will be held to april 7, 2012.**

### For informations and interview with Henry Saxe contact

**Marie-Josée Demers**

Tel. : 819.239.9106 (cell)

marie-josée.d.demers@usherbrooke.ca

Des images gravées de l'expo sont remises aux journalistes