



CANADIAN WAR
MUSEUM
-
MUSÉE CANADIEN
DE LA GUERRE

CANADIAN ART OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

WITNESS



TRAVELLING EXHIBITION

CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM

warmuseum.ca/travelling

Canada



A poppy field, France, Vivian John Cummings
Canadian War Museum 20110004-024

WITNESS

CANADIAN ART OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

The 100th anniversary of the First World War is a headline story for Canadians because of the historic role this event played in our country's emergence as a nation. Often left out of the story are the artists who recorded their experiences of the war.

The Canadian War Museum is proud to present some of these unique visual testimonies in a new touring exhibition *Witness - Canadian Art of the First World War*. This evocative art display of massive battle canvases and tiny trench sketches brings celebrated Canadian painters together with soldier artists whose work has never before been displayed. Visitors will be gripped by this little-known legacy and find themselves reflecting on the tragedy and spectacle that was the First World War.

Many Canadian soldiers in the First World War were designers, sign painters, draughtsmen and architects.

In the trenches, prisoner-of-war camps and behind the lines, they recorded their experiences of the conflict on scraps of paper and in pocket-sized sketchbooks. Well-known Canadian artists André Biéler, Randolph Hewton, Henrietta Mabel May, Homer Watson and Frederick Varley also memorialized the First World War on canvas and paper and many of their compositions were later shown in post-war international war art exhibitions. *Witness - Canadian Art of the First World War* combines for the first time official and unofficial perspectives on the Great War as expressed in art.

In depicting the towns where they were billeted, their everyday tasks, factory workers, battlefields and bombed houses, these artists showed what they wanted to be remembered about the First World War. In so doing, they left an indelible and remarkable legacy for all Canadians.

CONTENT

- Approximately 30 oil paintings and 20 works on paper
- Text panels

REQUIRED EXHIBITION AREA

120 linear metres (400 linear feet)

AVAILABILITY

2014-2019 (minimum 12-week rental)

LOAN FEE

Starting at \$24,000¹, transportation included.²
The borrower must provide insurance for the total value of the exhibition.

ENRICHMENT AND RETAIL MATERIAL

- Souvenir catalogue available in English and French
- Educative material

CONSERVATION

- Approval of Standard Facility Report
- Humidity: 43-50% (+/- 5%)
- Temperature: 21-23°C
- Variable lighting levels: depending on the objects displayed, maximum level is 150 lux.

SECURITY

- 24-hour electronic or human surveillance.
- Human surveillance during the unloading and loading of cases.
- Human surveillance during the installation and dismantling of the exhibition.

CONTACT

Travelling Exhibitions

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1. Museums can apply for government funding.
2. Certain conditions apply.