



John Little, *The Young Skaters and their Ice Rink, Maria Street, St. Henri, Montréal*, painted in 1970, oil on canvas, private collection, Montréal.

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JOHN LITTLE

Montréal's Heritage in Paint

Montréal, June 19th 2025 – the **Château Ramezay – Historic Site and Museum of Montréal** is proud to announce the inauguration of the first-ever museum exhibition dedicated to the Montréal-born painter, **John Little (1928-2024)**, one of Canada's foremost urban artists. This temporary exhibition offers a rare glimpse into the artist's work, as well as access to preparatory material from his studio archives, all while exploring the city in a new light.

John Little, urban artist

John Little devoted his career to preserving the architectural heritage of Montréal. However, not much is known of him, Little having refused throughout his life to take part

in interviews and exhibitions. From St. Henri to the Plateau-Mont-Royal, his paintings preserve the richness of urban life during the 1950s and the 1960s.

Today, his paintings are considered to be of great archival value, most streets and neighbourhoods portrayed in his paintings having all but disappeared over the years. In the words of Craig Klinkhoff, the exhibition curator, Little “painted the city like no other Canadian artist.” His work serves as a poignant reminder of the loss of historic areas across North America. In 1961, he lamented to Maclean’s Magazine regarding the demolition frenzy which was sweeping the city at the time: “If we knock all our old buildings... we’ll become a people without a past.”

First-ever exhibition

This exhibition is comprised of nearly 30 artworks from 14 private collections. It will be open every day starting **June 20th** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until **September 28th 2025**. Let yourself be transported by Little’s vibrant colours, winter sceneries, and Montréal’s unique architectural landscape. Who knows, maybe you’ll recognize a beloved street corner among his works...

About

The **Château Ramezay – Historic Site and Museum of Montréal** is a non-profit organization which aims to preserve and make accessible the first building in Quebec to be classified an historical monument, as well as highlight a collection centered around the history of Montréal and the province. Founded in 1895, the Museum is certified by the Government of Quebec. Visit our website at chateauramezay.qc.ca and our Facebook page, facebook.com/Chateau.Ramezay.

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