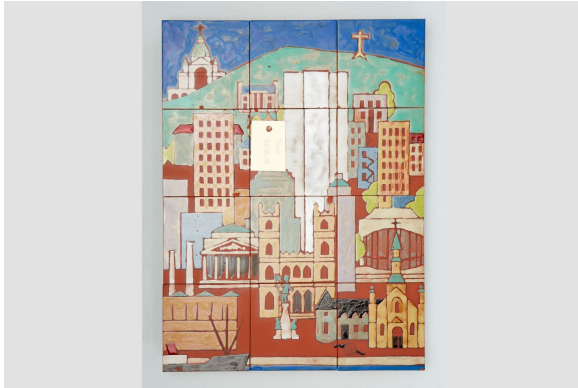


Paint

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MTL” decorative panel made from ceramic tiles representing the city of Montreal and its main points of interest, Place Ville-Marie; Grand Séminaire, Oratoire St-Joseph, etc. Work by Jean Jacques Spénard, a teacher at the École du meuble in the 1940s and one of Quebec’s leading contemporary ceramists.

Accession Number 2021.59.188

Artiste / Auteur Spénard, Jean Jacques

Materials ceramic, clay, glaze

Measurements 40 x 30 cm

Historical context

A brief overview of the symbols of Montreal, immortalized on ceramic: first and foremost, Mount Royal, the beacon of the Montreal landscape, to which are grafted emblematic buildings and monuments erected in different eras. These include the Mount Royal Cross, Place Ville-Marie, Notre-Dame Basilica, the Grand Séminaire, Saint Joseph's Oratory, Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours Chapel, the Bank of Montreal, the Royal Bank, Château Ramezay, the Maisonneuve Monument and finally the Port.

The creator of this mural is Jean-Jacques Spénard, one of the pioneers of ceramics in Quebec. A native of Trois-Rivières, he belonged to the first generation of ceramists trained in Quebec from 1935 onwards at the École des beaux-arts de Montréal, where he taught from 1944 to 1972. Spénard is renowned for his red clay vases and murals decorated with polychrome drawings depicting folk scenes and characters from traditional life.

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Photo by Michel Pinault