

# Painting

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Painting on rue Saint-Denis.

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Accession Number 2017.02.66

Artiste / Auteur Barcelo, Michel

Date 2007-03

Medium and Support watercolor, cardboard

Measurements 30,5 x 40,5 cm

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## Historical context

Michel Barcelo (1938-2013), a Montreal urban planner, was also a watercolorist. A graduate in architecture from the École d'architecture de Montréal, he was a long-time employee of the Ville de Montréal before becoming professor of architecture at the Université de Montréal's Faculté d'aménagement. He learned painting from his uncle, Marc-Aurèle Fortin. His profession led him to appreciate cities and their layout: he wanted to capture the unique personality of Montreal's streets. Here, the watercolor depicts a row of residences on Saint-Denis Street, in the Plateau-Mont-Royal borough. Because they are set back from the street, these houses feature a front garden area, often wooded. The combination of this green space and the exterior iron staircases gives these Plateau-Mont-Royal rows a unique style that Barcelo has faithfully reproduced.