

Painting

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Painting on rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest.

Accession Number 2017.02.121

Artiste / Auteur Barcelo, Michel

Date 2007-02

Medium and Support watercolor, cardboard

Measurements 30,5 x 40,5 cm

Historical context

Michel Barcelo was an urban planner with the City of Montreal and an honorary professor at the Université de Montréal's Faculté de l'aménagement. He learned painting from his uncle, Marc-Aurèle Fortin, and uses it to illustrate the uniqueness of Montreal's streets. This particular watercolor, depicting Sainte-Catherine Street West on the south side, between Stanley and Drummond streets, illustrates the commercial character of this thoroughfare – one of the longest commercial arteries in Canada. Indeed, after a brief period of stagnation in the late 1980s and early 1990s following an economic recession, St. Catherine resumed its role as a fashion showcase and cultural hotbed at the turn of the century – the watercolor, produced in 2002, successfully captures this new effervescence.