

Ethnohistorical collection

Plate commemorative

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Olivier-Guimond Trophy. Round plaque depicting Quebec comedian Jean Duceppe. The medallion, sock left, features Quebec comedian and humorist Olivier Guimond.

Accession Number 2022.51

Date 1974 c

Materials metal, bronze

Measurements 32,5 cm

Historical context

The Olivier Guimond trophy was presented to comedian Jean Duceppe (1923-1990) in 1974. The award was created by TV Hebdo and Brasserie Labatt in 1972, following the death of comedian Olivier Guimond (1914-1971). It enables Quebecers to reward an artist each year.

In fact, Olivier Guimond, pictured in the sock at left, is one of Quebec's most prominent comedians. Making his debut in cabarets at the age of 17, he appeared on television with the show Music-Hall, broadcast from 1955 to 1962. He quickly became a star, creating acts comparable to those of Charlie Chaplin. Building on his success, he moved into advertising, notably for Labatt 50 beer. His starring role as a soldier in the 1970 TV show Bye Bye helped establish him as a fixture of Quebec comedy culture.

Jean Duceppe, an actor, comedian and radio and TV host, is an equally important figure in Quebec comedy. He established his reputation with the creation of his theater company in 1973, which became an institution in the Montreal and Quebec cultural industry. The Compagnie Théâtrale Jean-Duceppe's tours helped popularize the art of theater throughout the province. In 2016, he was posthumously named Commander of the Order of Montreal, a title recognizing the talent of the people who shape the city.

Photo by Michel Julien