

Sculpture

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Collections / Post-war to present day / sculpture



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Reproduction of a horse harnessed to a cariole and its crew. Folk art. Carved wooden horse in stopped position. It is hitched to a cariole with all its rigging, with a red pom-pom on its head. Cariole with two benches. The father (in front), mother and child (behind) are dressed in fur coats and hoods. These figures are also covered with a fur blanket. The whole set is

mounted on a varnished pine board.

Accession Number 2021.59.154

Date 1980 c

Materials fiber, wool, fur, metal, iron, skin, leather, wood, pine

Measurements 30 x 58 x 15 cm

Historical context

Since the days of New France, local people have devoted themselves in their spare time to the production of small works of art. Easily available and inexpensive resources such as wood and scraps of household and labor waste are used to represent their vision of daily life. In both Europe and America, this naive art did not find favor with connoisseurs, as it was produced by amateurs with no artistic training. At the turn of the 20th century, this movement gained recognition for its distinct, rudimentary depiction of artists' lives. Naïve art, whether painted or sculpted, enjoyed widespread popularity throughout Quebec. Lucien Bolduc, a worker in the textile, farming and lumbering industries, devoted himself to this art form in the Eastern Townships for most of the 20th century. He left behind an artistic legacy of works depicting his life and the trades of yesteryear. This wood carving depicts a two-seat cart, pulled by a horse hitched to it, and a family dressed in fur garments. This depiction of the people he met on the road is the

latest in a collection of works depicting the environment he lived in all his life.

Developed through the observations of local artists long considered marginal by their contemporaries, these works depict means of transport, trades, people in action and village settlements, and leave us with an honest, unfiltered representation of the daily life of many Quebecers in bygone days.

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Photo by Michel Pinault