

MOVING PICTURES

The Paintings of Filmmaker Don Owen
and his Two Sons, Martin and Andrew

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

About Don Owen

Don Owen is a pioneering Canadian filmmaker who began his career film career at the National Film Board in Montreal, producing many documentaries on a range of subjects, with a focus on profiles of numerous Canadian artists and musicians which brought these artist's work broader national recognition. These films include: *Toronto Jazz*, '63 (Michael Snow et al); *Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Leonard Cohen*, '65 (Leonard Cohen); *Monique Leyrac in Concert*, '66; *The Ernie Game*, '66 (Leonard Cohen); *Two Men of Montreal*, '66 (Leonard Cohen and Emile Legault); *Richler of St. Urban*, '70 (Mordicai Richler); *Snow in Venice*, '70 (Michael Snow at Venice Biennial); *Graham Coughtry in Ibiza*, '72; *Cowboy and Indian*, '72 (The Artist's Jazz Band: Gordon Rayner, Robert Markle, Nobby Kubota, Jim Jones, Graham Coughtry).

Don also directed several feature films that are considered seminal in the history of Canadian cinema and garnered international awards, including, *Nobody Waved Goodbye*, '64; *Notes for a Film About Donna and Gail*, '66 (Jackie Burroughs); *The Ernie Game*, '67 (Jackie Burroughs, Leonard Cohen); *Gallery: A View of Time*, '69 (commissioned by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York).

In later years Don returned to writing poetry, and took up painting, developing an entirely self-taught style. Many paintings feature the landscape surrounding his home in Green River Ontario, some of which are very large scale (~5 x 8 ft.). Don's entire filmography was celebrated as the featured artist at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2007, which included publication of the monograph Don Owen, Notes on a Filmmaker and his Culture, by Steve Gravestock. Don's poems were published as Yab Yum Rub Rum, and his paintings featured at a large solo exhibition at the Varley Art Gallery in Markham, Ontario the same year. At 83 years old, Don Owen is rather frail, and presently resides at Kensington Gardens, a long-term care facility in Toronto

About Martin Owen

Martin Owen studied drawing and painting under Graham Coughtry, Gordon Rayner, Richard Gorman, and Tom Dean at the Ontario College of Art and the Toronto School of Art. The figurative abstraction of Graham Coughtry has perhaps had the greatest influence on Martin's painting style. Martin maintains a highly prolific painting practise while dealing with mental and emotional challenges. Martin's work has been presented at many group and solo exhibitions at community centres, coffee shops and galleries, including Creative Spirit and Show Gallery. Martin's artworks have never been exhibited in a commercial gallery. Martin maintains a highly prolific painting practise in Toronto, which includes vast numbers of drawings, pastels, watercolours, oil paintings and massive acrylic paintings. Of the three painters in the Owen family, Martin is the most talented and prolific.

About Andrew Owen

Andrew Owen began his artistic career as the first "brand name" graffiti artists in Toronto, and remains highly active in producing large-format photo-based urban art interventions known as Photo-cubic Tableaux and United Diversity Portraits across Canada. Andrew went on to pioneer the production of big-budget, interior décor art treatments for major Toronto nightclubs, and massive outdoor advertisements and 3D spectaculars for numerous major brand-name clients. Andrew later withdrew from the advertising industry, and redirected focus to pioneer the production of massive community-engaged public art projects for a range of national and international clients, including schools, private clients, and municipal and federal agencies.

Andrew worked as an assistant to Canadian painter Gordon Rayner in the mid-80s; however, the work of Michael Snow has had the greatest influence on his work.

Andrew formally studied Korean, Japanese and Chinese languages, literature, poetry, philosophy, calligraphy, ink painting, seal carving, and scroll mounting during long-term intensive one-on-one tutorials from master practitioners, while immersed in the respective languages and cultures for more than a decade.

Andrew has exhibited widely in commercial galleries and art museums locally, nationally, and internationally, including, Marion Scott Gallery, Vancouver; Tank Gallery, Tokyo International Art Festival, and the Canadian Embassy Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; Dam Gallery, Gallery Noaksek, and the Illmin Museum, Seoul, Korea; and Garnet Press Gallery, and Isaacs Gallery, Toronto. Andrew's work is extensively covered in the popular press, prestigious art journals, and exhibition catalogues, both nationally and internationally, selected examples of which are available here: [Print Media Articles, Reviews, Catalogues](#)

Don Owen

Selected Paintings

Additional images available online here: [Don Owen Paintings](#)



Don Owen

Field in Snow

acrylic on canvas

~ 60 x 84 ins. / 5 x 7 ft.



Don Owen

Farmland Panorama

acrylic on canvas

~ 60 x 84 ins. / 5 x 7 ft.



Don Owen

St. Miguel de Allende at Night

acrylic on canvas

~ 60 x 84 ins. / 5 x 7 ft.



Don Owen Life Force acrylic on canvas~ 60 x 48 ins. / 5 x 4 ft.



Don Owen The Path acrylic on canvas ~ 60 x 48 ins.

Martin Owen Selected Paintings

Additional images available online here: [Martin Owen Paintings](#)



Martin Owen

Self-portrait with Guitar

acrylic on canvas

~ 24 x 36 ins. / 2 x 3 ft.



Martin Owen

Reclining Nude I

acrylic on canvas

~ 18 x 24 ins.



Martin Owen

Reclining Nude II

acrylic on canvas

~ 18 x 24 ins.



Martin Owen

Reclining Nude III

acrylic on canvas

~ 24 x 18 ins.



Martin Owen

Wolves at Sunset

acrylic on canvas

~ 24 x 40 ins.

Andrew Owen A01

Selected Paintings

Additional images available online here: [Andrew Owen A01 Impressions](#)



Andrew Owen A01

Pacific Spirit Ferns

aerosol enamel on canvas

60 x 96 ins.



Andrew Owen A01

Whack Colour Wildflowers

aerosol enamel on canvas

60 x 96 ins.



Andrew Owen A01

Scotch Mountain Wildflowers Diptych



aerosol enamel on canvas

60 x 36 ins. ea.



Andrew Owen A01 Don River Wildflowers & Humber River Wildflowers (2 of 9 works from Nine Rivers Romance series)

96 x 60 ins. ea.



Andrew Owen A01 歲寒三友 Three Friends of Winter [after 趙孟堅 Zhao Mengjian, 13th century China] aerosol enamel on canvas 31 x 42 ins.

M O V I N G P I C T U R E S

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Additional images and information, or
private viewings, are available upon request.

CONTACT

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