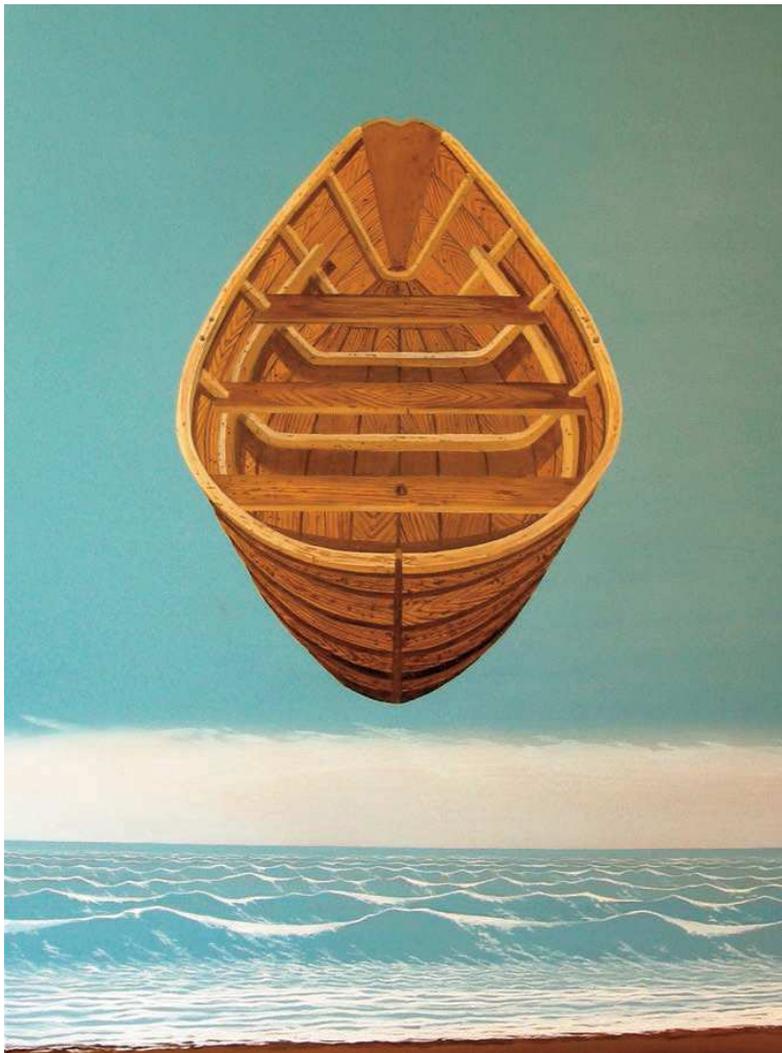




Daniel Gautier

Yearns for the Sea



« THE CONTINENT'S DRIFT/La dérive des continents », oil on canvas, 40 x 30 in.

Daniel Gautier's home in Hudson, Québec could be located in the Magdalen Islands. Scattered through his living room are wooden ship miniatures, a walrus skull, seashells and

an old aircraft propeller, as well as his own maritime scenes hung on the walls and displayed on easels. Through his window you can see the Lake of Two Mountains.

Given that the majority of his work

as both a painter in oils and an engraver is maritime, this is as it should be. His work hangs on the walls and is displayed on easels.

Gautier was born in a Montréal suburb in 1957. Although he had always drawn and sketched he consciously dates the moment when he first began to look at art as a career to the time when he was 12 and watched a television program on the life of Gauguin.

The next day he received his first set of oil paints and the die was cast.

Gautier came of age during the 70s in Québec, when the old was thrown out in favour of the new, art studies, then, did not provide an adequate training. Gautier decided that he would learn by going to Europe and studying with individual artists.

He first saw the sea when he was on holiday with his family and visited the Magdalen Islands. He liked what he saw and wanted to return. And he did in 1993 and opened a combined gallery/studio.

Now he spends half of his time in the Maritimes and the rest in Hudson, a small village some 40 kilometres to the west of Montréal.

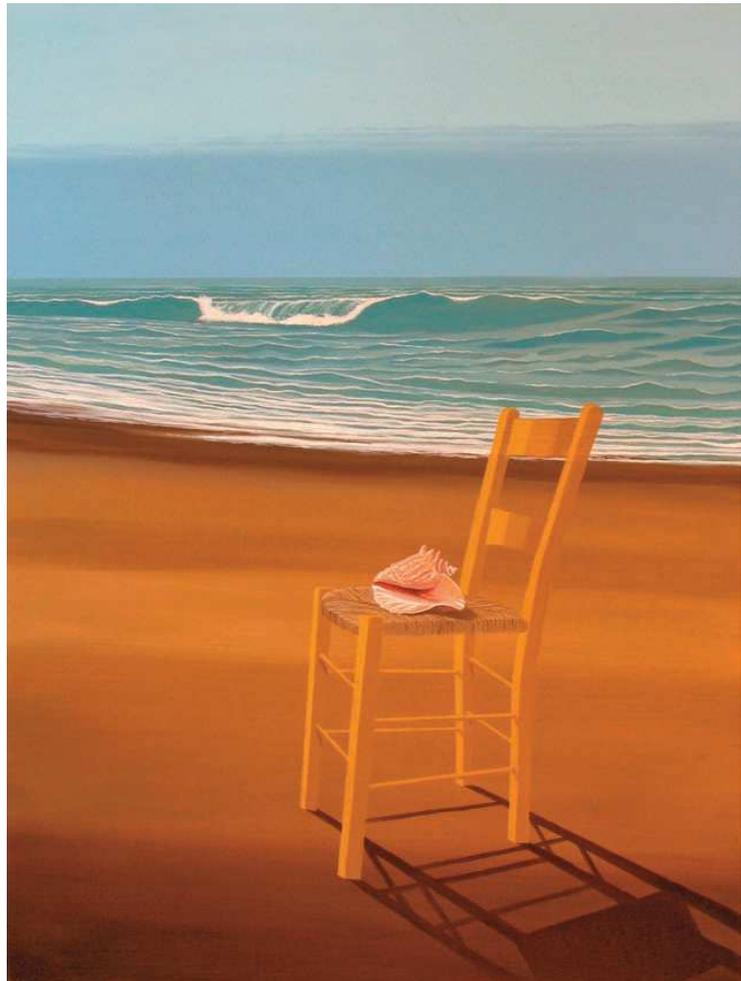
Gautier's first work was influenced by Salvador Dalí, to the extent that when Gautier was in Europe he arrived at Dalí's studio hoping to see the great man, but unfortunately he wasn't there.

When Gautier moved to the Magdalen Islands his work underwent a sea change. Slowly he moved towards realism. One impetus for this grew out of his work in founding Admare, an organization dedicated to promoting artists' symposiums. As he succeeded in attracting Québec artists like Tex Lecor, St. Gilles, Armand Vaillancourt





« LOST PARADISE/Le paradis perdu », oil on canvas,
24 x 30 in.



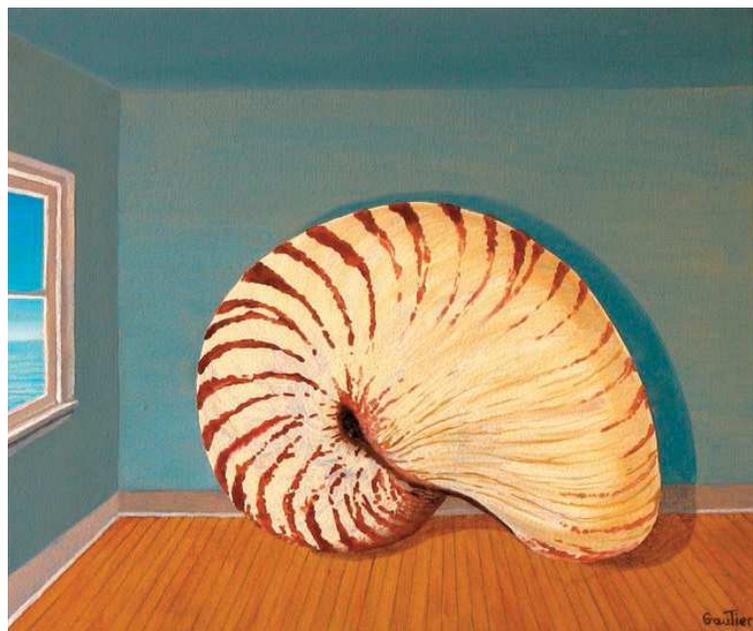
« I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE SEA/
Je voudrais voir la mer »
oil on canvas, 40 x 30 in.

and Jacques Hébert, among others, he became drawn into realism and began to appreciate and be influenced by Alex Colville, Mary Pratt, Edward Hopper and N.C. Wyeth.

Gautier's themes are mostly maritime: boats, beaches, sand dunes, fish, whales, waves and isolated houses on windswept promontories. For the last 15 years his work has been a blend of the two schools. There will be a boat suspended inside a living room, or a beach scene with a boat suspended over the waves.

Gautier usually paints in larger formats, 30 by 40 inches, for instance and his palette is mainly composed of blues, ochres and yellow and pink to red highlights. He is also not averse to painting diptychs and triptychs.

He is also a printmaker. "Dali, Picasso, Riopelle and the majority of great artists made prints. Nowadays reproductions don't have the significance they once did. You have splashes of colour, posters and all manner of digital imagery, but that doesn't have the

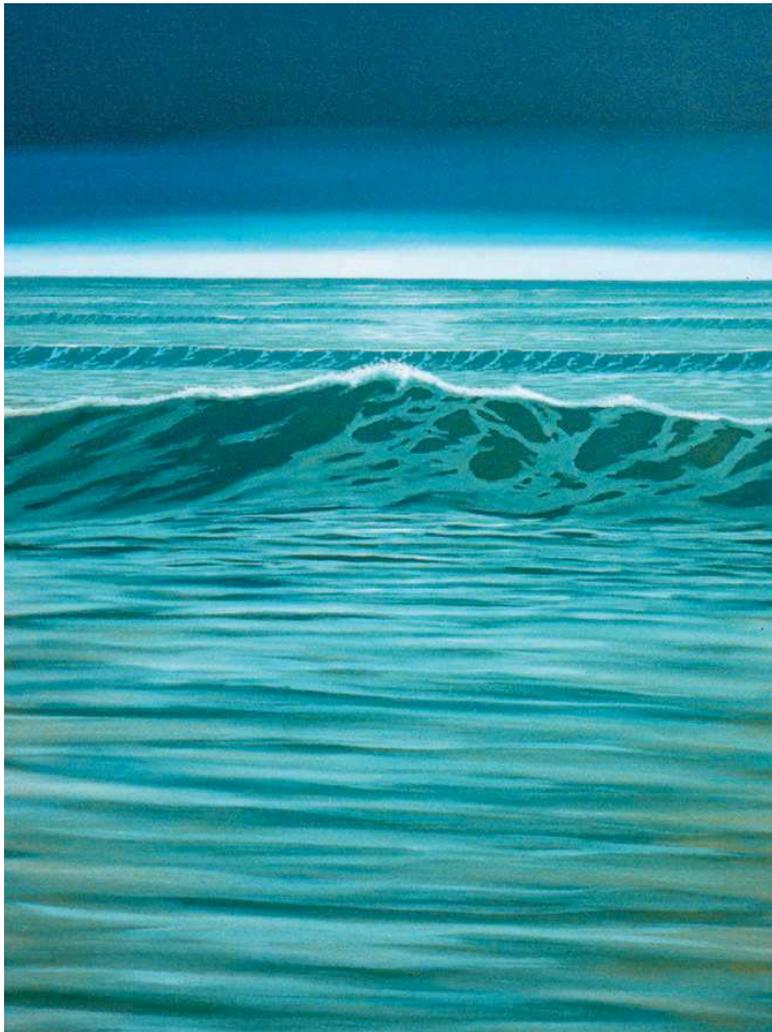


« HAVRE-AUX-MAISONS », oil on canvas, 10 x 12 in.





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« ATLANTIC MEMORY/
Mémoire d'Atlantique »,
oil on canvas, 40 x 30 in.



« SUMMER WIND/Brise d'été », oil on canvas, 24 x 30 in.



« TRAVEL SOUVENIRS/Souvenirs de voyage »
oil on canvas, 48 x 36 in.

same value for me. I'm of the old school and I like traditions." He also works in watercolours.

Gautier's prints show diverse influences. Some of them have cartoon-like elements that evoke Edward Gorey's approach to illustration an equally well, the influence of Japanese print-makers.

Gautier's work is hung in private and public collections including the Québec National Assembly, the Ministry of Indian Affairs, the Acadian Museum of Québec and the French Consulate in Montréal. **I**

Robert Lafontaine

Daniel Gautier is represented by the following galleries: Les Artisans du Sable and l'Espace Bleu, Magdalen Island, QC; Pilar Shephard ArtGallery, Charlottetown P.E.I.; Knowlton Gallery, Knowlton, QC; La Muse Gallery, Hudson, QC; The Wareham Art gallery, Massachusetts, USA. He is listed in the *Biennial Guide to Canadian Artists in Galleries* published by MAGAZIN'ART.

