

Montrealer artist and designer, Roger Katch counts more than 30 years of national and international accomplishments in conceptual design, corporate image and artistic creations.

After graduating from the Design & Technology Institute in Italy, Katch arrived in Montreal during the magic of Expo.67 with the intention of visiting Canada. He immediately fell in love with the country, decided to make Quebec his home, pursued studies in ergonomics at the Université de Montréal and launched his own Design & Art studio. Katch's professional career, quickly took flight, thanks to several major and exclusive projects in Canada, the United States and Europe.

If most of us take for granted the many symbols that depict certain aspects of our urban landscape, the same cannot be said of Roger Katch. His artworks embrace a unique, powerful, innovative graphical expression and his conceptual approach strongly favours a minimalist purity of style. These particularities make him a much sought-after and celebrated artist in modern architecture projects, as well as the Avant-Garde cultural milieu and among the new generation of young professionals.

Katch participated in various research workshops, cultural events, seminars, exhibitions... and experienced enormous success within his artistic works. Heralded by the art-critics as Pop'Art artist very nouveau-genre, Katch's works are more than simple compositions executed to excel the highest level in graphic design. Keenly identifiable as optical aphorisms, each piece exposes confrontational values, by transforming common objects, into intelligible messages rich in sarcasm and iconoclastic tones. By creating a visual synthesis charged with subtle humour, Katch's inquisitive eye, transforms pictographic elements with plenty of daring and harmony, into pure Art.

Since the colours selections are applied from the palette offered by the manufacturer, the perfect Hard-Edge*execution of Katch's acrylics on canvas, emulates silk-screen printing. Plexiglas, glass and mirror panels are other media often used to support collages of three-dimensional objects in conjunction with neon tubing as an interactive element. Executed in variable styles, Katch's trademark hearts are present in many of his compositions with roles that seem to reflect the struggle of humanity, in placing materialism against idealized love. Finally, the graphic element in Katch's work is often complemented by written idiomatic expressions that bring voice to the visual aspect of the composition creating a direct and witty dialog with the viewer who can read between the lines.

Cynical yet hopeful, Katch sagacious symbolism, stands as an ongoing commentary facing our society and forces us to reflect about the false values confronting the human spirit.

Roger Katch

A portrait of a man with grey hair and a beard, wearing round glasses and a black turtleneck. He is looking slightly to the left. The background is a large red circle on a black and white geometric pattern.

painter

Hard-Edge Technique

At the end of the fifties, art-critics came up with this term, to satisfy a need to describe the non-gestural input abstract style painting. After having gone through some terminological adjustments... "Hard-Edge" now refers to a preconceived pictorial technique, dividing the painting's surface in coloured planes with sharply defined geometrical contours, having no colour transition between one and the other.

An initiator in that field is the American Artist Ellsworth Kelly, who creates in 1949/50 an artistic abstraction, based on a serial repetition of graphic elements painted in full, clear, solid tones, uniformly delimited and distributed on the canvas. From then on, "Hard-Edge" came into being and was very rapidly adopted by the greatest modern-art painters such as: Lichtenstein, Tounsignant, Molinari and... last but not least, Roger Katch.

The use of "Hard-Edge" as a technique during the sixties and seventies, can also be seen in most of the contemporary works executed in Pop'Art style, with a tremendous influence on graphics, where purity and precision in die-cutting of geometrical shapes are mandatory. Bringing together this technique to that style, favours large format creative expression artworks, which interestingly enough, are also found in Modern, High-Tech and Neo-Classical Architecture.

Latest Exhibitions

- 2009 Gallery MX / Montreal, QC. Exhibition Duo coeurs en lumière "Katch & Britto" / Néons, plexis, acrylique... in 3D. Sponsored and organized by Galerie MX and Cirque du Soleil.
- 2009 Gallery Las Olas Fine Arts / Florida, USA. Exhibition Coeurs en lumières / Partial collection signed Katch, presented in exclusivity.
Galleria QS / Sardegna, Italia.
Espace Decca 77 / Montréal, QC.
- 2008 Gallery Gora / Montreal, QC. Exhibition J'ai mis du Rouge / acrylique on larges canvas.
Espace Léo-Victor / Montréal QC.
- 2008 Espace Iegor / Montreal QC. Exposition Automobil'Art / Collages and sketches signed Katch, presented in exclusivity.
- 2006 Centre Culturel Edgar / Montreal, IDS. Verdun, QC. Exhibition Coeurmania / Plexis & acrylique on canvas. Selected and sponsored by the Conseil des Arts de Montreal and the Arts et Cultures division of Verdun municipality.
- 2005 Espace Avant-Scène / Montreal, QC. Exhibition Collezione Arteluce Italia & Pop'art neon sculptures.



Title: *Find me if you can*

Latest TV Shows & News Articles

- March 09 Radio / Radio-Canada
Radio weekly program "Arts & Cultures" presented by Francine Grimaldi.
- March 09 Newspaper Voir, Mirror, Hour, E-Magazine, Tourisme Montréal
Publications on Toursime, Événements, Arts et Cultures ...
- Feb. 09 Television Radio-Canada
TV show "On fait tous du show business" presented by Catherine Perrin.
- Feb. 09 Cultural Event / Montreal High Lights Festival
The 6th. Edition of the "Nuit blanches à Montreal" at Gallery MX.
- Feb. 09 Magazine www.Kollectif.net / Design & Architecture
The exhibition "Duo coeur en Lumière" signed Katch/ Britto at the Gallery MX.
- March 08 Television TQS
Émission "Star System" presented by Penelope McQuade
- January 07 Daily Newspaper The Montréal Gazette
Section Home Front / A great place to live by J.D.Gravenor.
- Nov. 06 Magazine IDS.
Section Arts & Spectacles / Pop'Art & Katch by P. Vigneault.



Major Accomplishments

MUSEE DE L'AUTOMOBILISTE / Montreal, QC.
Interior design configurations, conceptual display approach, official identity, communication tools, promotional orientations... for the "Musée de l'automobiliste de Montréal" project.

CEG INTERNATIONAL FILM INDUSTRY / Montreal, Toronto, Bahamas.
Exhibition stand design development, corporate image branding, communication tools, official promotional posters and videos... to present and promote children adventure TV series, at the Worldwide Film Festivals of Cannes, Milan and Los Angeles.

STRATSITE Co. Ltd. / City of Multi-media / Montreal, QC.
Art Director, managing the Production Teams in all artistic and technical phases, related to major website layout developments, specially conceived for Air Transat, University of Montreal Innortech, Implanciel, California Dream...

MAUNA KEA TELESCOP / Hawaii, USA.
Interior design configuration studies, for all technical utilities, scientific personnel facilities, equipment storage... in collaboration with Architects Victor Pruss & Associates, for the International Canada/France/Hawai joint-venture project Mauna Kea telescope.

MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL / Montreal, QC.
Building orientation plans, pavilions' signage, children's area wall decoration and medical static animation videos.

UNIVERSAL THERMO BRICKS / Kuala Lumpur, ASIA.
Corporate image modernization, production line optimization and transfer of technology programs... for a Canadian Building Products Co. and her future site in Kuala Lumpur.

APPLIED HIGH TECHNOLOGIES / Montreal, QC.
Office space configuration studies, reception and conference room design layouts, corporate image, communication tools and promotional videos.

CBG INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM / Republic of Guinea, AFRICA.
In charge for the study and the design development for all National Urban Projects (Historical Museum, Municipal Libraries, Community Centers...) sponsored by International Organizations, US/AID and the World Bank.

COJO / Olympic Games Organizing Committee / Montreal, QC.
Design and layout of the Olympic Events official journal.





Title : Out of order



Title : All you need is love



Title : Coeur a tirer



Title : Coeur a soulever



Title : Coeur à découper



* Map Montreal's International District

galerie **MX** .com

333, Viger avenue West / Montréal (Qc) H2Z 0A1
www.galeriemx.com
T 514.315.8900



* **us**