

Sale Name: Fine Art & Artifacts Canadian & Abroad Auction - October 25th to November 8th 2022

LOT 50 - Toller Cranston - Strawberry Decoy



Artist Description Toller Cranston (1949 - 2015 CAD) Born in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1949 and grew up in Kirkland Lake. When he was 11, his family moved to suburban Montreal. Growing up, Cranston had an uneasy relationship with his family, especially his mother, who was a painter and who he says had a domineering and self-centred personality. He later compared his childhood to "being in jail". In school he had the

habit of asking provocative questions that made his teachers think he was being disruptive. Although he enjoyed history, he disliked more structured subjects like mathematics. After high school, Cranston attended the École des beaux-arts de Montréal. By his third year, he became restless with his studies. One of his teachers suggested that there was nothing more he could learn at the school, so Cranston set out at that point to establish himself as a professional artist. In 1976, he teamed up with personal manager Elva Oglanby to write his first book, *Toller*, a mixture of autobiography, sketches, poems, paintings, humour and tongue-in-cheek observations. It reached number two in the Canadian non-fiction charts. After leaving the Ecole des Beaux Arts, Cranston became self-supporting as an artist, making enough money to cover his skating expenses. He held his first exhibition at his coach Ellen Burka's home in the spring of 1969.[5] In November 1971, he had another successful one-man show in Toronto, the result of almost a year's work.[6] Thereafter, he continued to have gallery and museum displays, with over 250 exhibitions around the world.[7][8] He continued to paint even after his official retirement.

Description

Mixed Media '99

Signed & Dated Lower Right

Sight - 31 ins x 23 ins (78.7 cm x 58.42 cm)

Provenance:

Ritchie's Auctioneers

Private Collection

Quantity: 1



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