

“Excellence is an art won
by training and habituation.

We do not act rightly because we have
virtue or excellence, but we rather
have those because we have acted rightly.
We are what we repeatedly do.

EXCELLENCE, then,
is not an act but a habit.”

— ARISTOTLE (384 BC - 322 BC)



THE ARTS have a place in our lives, as much as air and water and Mother Earth — we could not live without them.

Art enriches, challenges, soothes, inspires, stirs emotion, satisfies and leaves us wanting more.

I am delighted to be able to host the Lieutenant-Governor's Awards for High Achievement in the Arts, and I look to all involved to take action, promote, educate, mentor, support and hold others accountable on the value of the arts in New Brunswick.

The Honourable Graydon Nicholas
Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick

MORE PROVOCATIVE
than definitive;
more lyrical
THAN NARRATIVE.

— GLEN NICHOLS

“MORE PROVOCATIVE than definitive; more lyrical than narrative” would describe the work of the three exceptional artists that we are honouring tonight. We see a sense of freedom in the images Yvon Gallant creates. Although his work is without facial detail, it invokes storytelling that celebrates and amuses. France Daigle’s work also has no pretensions. In its intensity and in its form it takes us beyond the rigid structures of writing which inhibits creativity. Patrick Clark has been described as a theatre designer with no boundaries. He is able to create a world in which actors and audience alike can play.

As I reflect on these works of art, I feel inspiration for all artists in New Brunswick. Art moves us beyond the everyday; projects possibility for us. You all have brought us places we never thought of going. For this and for the enduring passion you have shown in your craft, the [New Brunswick Arts Board](#) would like to thank you deeply.

Tim Borlase, Ed.D., ONL
Chairperson
New Brunswick Arts Board

France Daigle



2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARD for
High Achievement in French Language Literary Arts



**2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARD for
High Achievement in French Language Literary Arts**

Complex, yet laced with subtle humour, Daigle's captivating tales reveal her light-hearted look on life and her characters' foibles, capturing both the tragedy and the comedy of life.

Although writing—in its broadest sense—has always been part of France Daigle's life, she explored other forms of artistic expression before deciding to focus on creative writing. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Literature from Université de Moncton and studied photography and cinema in Toronto.

She began to seriously pursue her literary career in 1981. Her style—shaped by her enthusiasm for cinema, song, theatre, and photography—would change with each publication, ranging from the poetic to the romantic.

Daigle has published a dozen titles since her début in 1983 with *Sans jamais parler du vent* (Éditions d'Acadie). She had a number of her poems published in magazines, wrote seven original plays, all produced in Moncton, and took part in several scripting projects. Her last five novels were translated into English and published by Toronto-



FRANCE DAIGLE has been part of the New Brunswick literary milieu for more than thirty years. Born in Dieppe, she is one of the most prominent Acadian authors, with a reputation extending far beyond her native region. Her work is studied not only in Canada, but also in countries that are particularly interested in Acadian history and culture, such as the United States, France, Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, and Belgium. She is also featured in several literary anthologies, and her novels have been praised by the public and critics alike.

Since emerging on the literary scene in the 1980s, Daigle's brilliant body of work has continued to astonish and challenge readers, mirroring our journey as individuals and as a society. She possesses that rare quality of connecting the local to the global, and the personal to the collective.

based House of Anansi. One of them, *Just Fine* (original title *Pas pire*), won the Governor General's Award for translation in 2000.

Daigle has received many awards in recognition for her outstanding and original writing. In 1991, the Government of New Brunswick presented her with the Pascal-Poirier Award for excellence in French-language literary arts. She was awarded two Éloizes prizes by the Association acadienne des artistes professionnel.le.s du Nouveau-Brunswick, once in 1998 for her novel *Pas pire* and again in 2002 for her novel *Un fin passage* (*A Fine Passage*). She also won the France-Acadie Award in 1998 and the Antonine-Maillet-Acadie-Vie Award in 1999. She was writer-in-residence at Université de Moncton in 1997 and at Ottawa University in 2006.

Last September, France Daigle launched her latest novel *Pour sûr*, published by Montréal-based Boréal, a masterpiece that once again demonstrates the Acadian



novelist's rigorous approach. Her publisher regards it as her most ambitious book to date. "It was a monumental task, which France Daigle saw through with dazzling virtuosity."

Unpretentious, with her usual wisdom and modesty, Daigle weaves her stories into a fine-spun tapestry. Novel after novel, this virtuoso continues to work towards a modern and ever-evolving Acadie, a space where culture and arts thrive.



2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARD for
High Achievement in French Language Literary Arts

2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S
AWARD

for **High Achievement**
in Visual Arts

Yvon Gallant





2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARD
for **High Achievement in Visual Arts**



YVON GALLANT

A marvellous storyteller with a tremendous appetite for life, painter and engraver Yvon Gallant has managed, throughout the years, to preserve a sense of wonder that infuses each of his works. A tribute to joy and to life, his paintings depict tales in much the same manner as authors write them.

Born in 1950 in Moncton, a place he still calls home, Gallant draws heavily on the city and its surroundings for inspiration, his works reflecting the reality of the people living in and around the area.

As early as 1972, Gallant has made his mark by creating paintings that are both innovative and disconcerting, inspired by scenes from everyday life. A true archaeologist

of Acadian culture, he renders—in his own inimitable style—childhood memories, family rituals, humorous anecdotes, and social events, either his own or those of others. His visual narratives can be fantastical, dramatic, amusing, or even ironic, depending on the message Gallant intends to convey. He shows that which all can see, but fail to notice. His world is one of human experience.

Gallant's vivid pictorial imagery is immediately recognizable: blocks of bright colours, objects and figures outlined in black, featureless blank faces, and exaggerated hands. Besides contributing to the revival of contemporary art's imagery, his works have the merit of being universally understood. He will say that he found his style rather quickly, his major influences being the great masters such as Vincent van Gogh, Paul Gauguin, and Andy Warhol.

Part of the first generation of artists who studied at Université de Moncton, he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Visual Arts in 1976. Before dedicating himself entirely to painting, he worked on several projects for the National Film Board of Canada and

held the position of director at the Moncton's Galerie Sans Nom (GSN). He is also a founding member of both the GSN and Le Centre culturel Aberdeen.

His artistic work has been featured in more than eighty solo and group exhibitions in Atlantic Canada, across Canada, and abroad. In 1994, a retrospective exhibition entitled *Yvon Gallant: Based on a True Story*, showing more than one hundred of the artist's paintings, was curated by Terry Graff, then director of the Confederation Centre Art Gallery and Museum, in Charlottetown. The exhibition was later shown at the Galerie d'art de l'Université de Moncton in 1995. These paintings are now part of many public and private collections at home and throughout the world.

Yvon Gallant received various grants and awards from the Canada Council for the Arts, the New Brunswick Arts Board, and the Government of New Brunswick, including



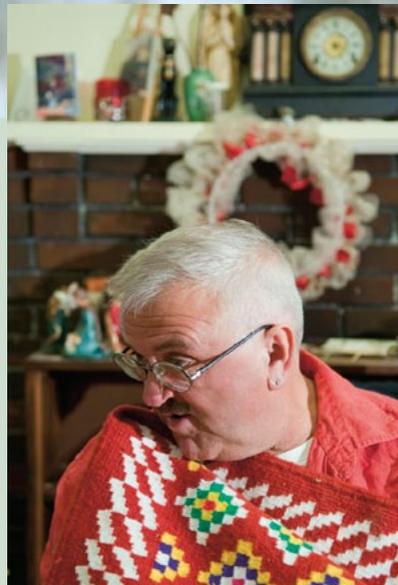
the Miller Brittain Award for Excellence in Visual Arts in 1992. He was elected a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in 2005.

Terry Graff wrote in a monograph dedicated to Yvon Gallant:

By reinstating the course of events in his daily life, the uncertainty and discomfort of the present, personal and cultural identity are confronted and reimagined. Blurring the distinction between fiction and factual experience, his art demonstrates that there is no absolute truth, only interpretations, and that painting can be, simultaneously, an interrogation and construction of history, culture and identity.

Serene as always, Gallant steers his work, come wind or high tide, as he has been doing for the last forty years with the same enthusiasm as on the first day. "I paint and continue to do what I love and that's all that matters."

2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARD
for **High Achievement in Visual Arts**



Patrick Clark



2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S
AWARD

for **High Achievement**
in **Performing Arts**



2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARD
for **High Achievement in Performing Arts**



PATRICK CLARK

Where others see dusty floorboards and bare walls, Patrick Clark envisions, and creates, a lively barn dance in the American mid-west, a grimy, gas-lit London Street, or a lush, secret garden.

One of the most sought after set and costume designers in Canada, Patrick Clark is a designer *sans frontières*. He has created award-winning designs for new work in small, experimental spaces, for Shakespearean and classical theatre, and for huge musicals in vast performance spaces. He is a theatre artist of the highest quality; one who sees and truly understands the art form.

His designs are clean and spare with nothing to distract the eye. He strives for containment at all times, fashioning sets and costumes that support the actors, rather

than compete for attention. Known as an actor's designer, Clark embraces a specific ethos, what the playwright Tennessee Williams described as "the color, the grace and levitation, the structural pattern in motion, the quick interplay of live beings, suspended like fitful lightning in a cloud."

Patrick Clark grew up in downtown Fredericton and continues to make the capital city his home. As a student at the University of New Brunswick, he spent much of his free time with the UNB Drama Society. "At one point I was acting, directing, and painting the scenery," Clark recounts with his trademark hearty laugh. He graduated from UNB with a degree in classics, after starting out, surprisingly enough, in pre-med.

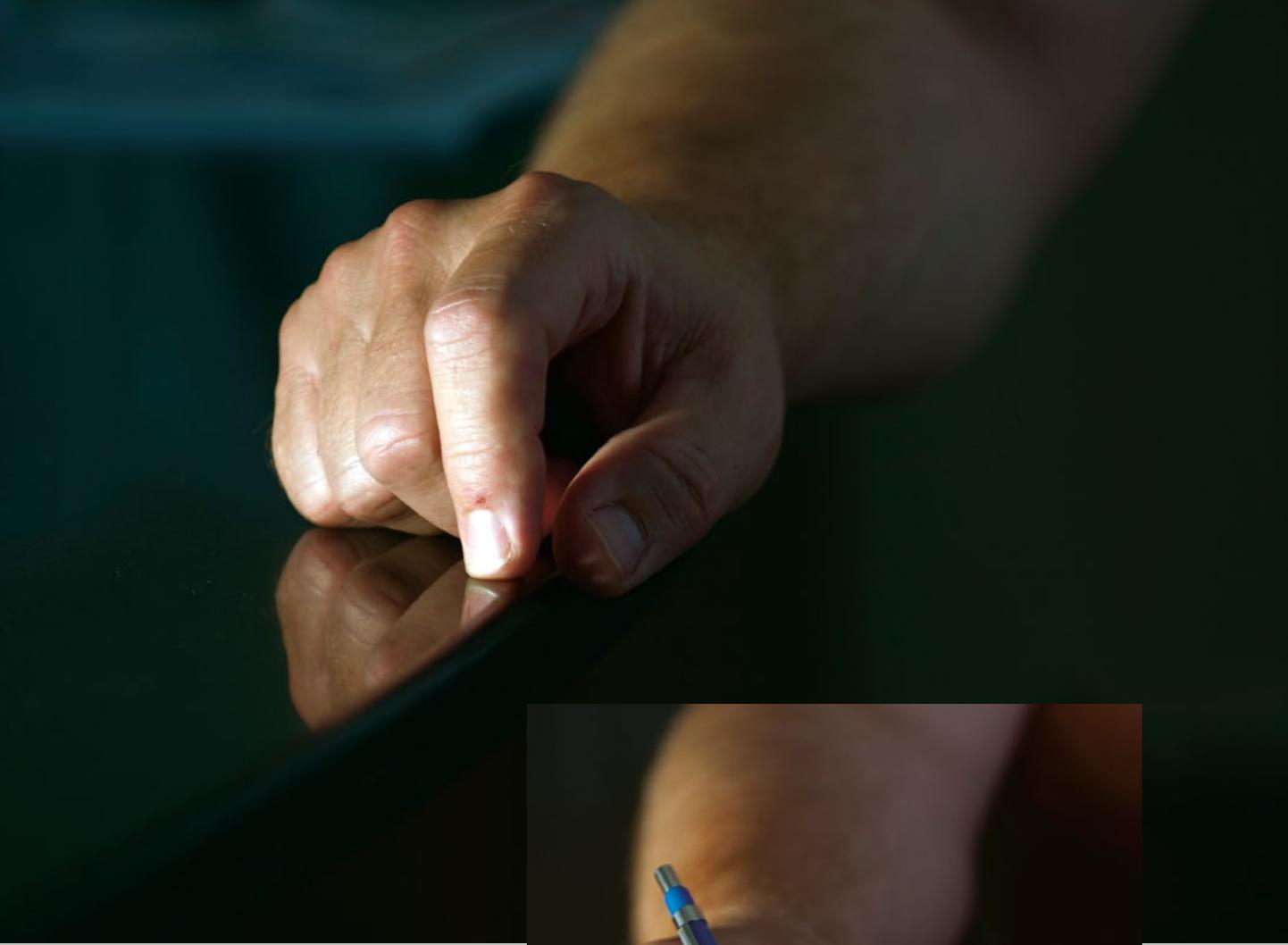
He began his career as an assistant in the Properties department at Theatre New Brunswick. "I am eternally grateful to Theatre New Brunswick. It was a new world in the 1970s. It was the beginning of great Canadian theatre, when we started telling our own stories."

TNB's Sheila Toye, a leading designer in Canada and Europe at the time, was an early mentor. "She taught me, set me on the course. She had the patience and time and that

is how it was always done, you start at the bottom and work your way up. I'm the last of the old school. As I keep saying to students, once upon a time no one went to school to study how to work in the theatre. You learned by doing, through apprenticeship."

Having had an excellent mentor, Clark, in turn, has mentored many others, something in which he believes, passionately. "I have to hand out this information, it's like the oral tradition."

Clark's wealth of experience and expert eye make him an invaluable resource on any creative team. His fully realized sets, from images to clothing and from furniture to props, bring entire worlds to life for audiences. Veteran Canadian director and actor Ted Dykstra works with Clark as often as possible. Patrick Clark is his favourite designer. "His knowledge of period and style is unmatched. His genius for making use of any space is astounding. His body of work is now approaching legendary status in the theatre world."



For over thirty years, Clark has practiced his art to its highest level, taught many students, mentored numerous assistants, and made a tremendous contribution to theatre design in this province, all the while working extensively in the United States and in Europe. In such high demand, he can and does work in many places, but this world class New Brunswick designer still takes on theatre work at home, because this is where his heart lies. He is currently Resident Designer at TNB, while working on as many three other projects at any given time.

Patrick Clark never stops creating; his mind teems with ideas. He thrives on problem solving, figuring out how to make the impossible possible. In the words of his longtime friend and colleague Ilkay Silk, Clark's "mentoring spirit, kindness, and sharp wit make him a theatre artist of the highest calibre." Bravo, Patrick. Bravo.

2011 LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARD
for **High Achievement in Performing Arts**



Previous Lieutenant-Governor's Awards for High Achievement in the Arts recipients

Chantal Cadieux

Dance, 2010

Calixte Duguay

Music, 2010

Beth Powning

English Language Literary Arts, 2010

Raymond Fraser

English Language Literary Arts, 2009

Rino Morin Rossignol

French Language Literary Arts, 2009

Roméo Savoie

Visual Arts, 2009

Marcel-Romain Thériault

Theatre, 2009

Kathy Hooper

for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts, 2007

Gloria Richard

for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts, 2006

Claude Roussel

for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts, 2005