

Preface

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The preparation of the first public retrospective in Great Britain of the major Canadian artist Jack Bush, whose importance and influence were in no way diminished by his death in 1977, has required the assistance of an unusually large number of collaborators:

The Canadian High Commission, London, Canadian Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, Canada Council, Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Toronto, Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Trustees of the Jack Bush Estate – especially Mrs. Jack Bush, Clement Greenberg,

Aaron Milrad, Kenworth Moffet and David Silcox.

All these responded wholeheartedly to the enthusiasm of the exhibition's selector, Dr. Duncan Macmillan, and many extended hospitality to him during his research visits to Canada. Their good advice and encouragement, and his own enthusiasm, have resulted in the present exhibition of 36 paintings and 50 drawings, and an enlightening catalogue introduction. It is surely proper that the exhibition's first showing should be at Edinburgh's Talbot Rice Art Centre, of which Dr. Macmillan is curator.

We are grateful to all lenders but especially to the Trustees who have been most generous in making works available to the exhibition and Mr David Mirvish, to whom we are especially indebted for giving us

access to the whole of his unique collection of Bush's work.

The executive burden of the organisation in Canada has been largely borne by Ms. Ella M Agnew to whom the organisers owe a special debt of gratitude. We are also indebted for organisational help to Mrs Eva Robinson, Registrar of the Art Gallery of Ontario, Joan Murray, Director of the Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa and the Andre Emmerich Gallery Inc, New York.

Many others have been most helpful in different ways and we should especially like to acknowledge the help and kindness of Dr Allan Walters, Mrs Kay Graham, Alex Cameron, Karen Wilkin, Professor Ken Carpenter and Griselda Bear.

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