

CORNO

ARTIST STATEMENT

I've been painting for 30 years. It's my passion. It gives me life and energy. The main idea behind my work is an impulse to create a burst of emotion that makes you go further, that makes you want to conquer the world. Vivid colors best express this. I paint large because it gives me room to breathe. I hate constraint. I value freedom and I want to express it through my art. I see larger than life and that's what I paint.

I describe my work as *new expressionism*. My style is a fusion of brilliant colors, explosive gesture and figurative details with a contemporary resonance and appeal. My paintings are loaded with raw energy. They reflect intense emotions of love, passion, death.

Music provides a bubble in which I isolate myself from the world in the creative process.

The subject matter that interests me is the human body. I have no shame about it. It's an object of beauty and an endless source of inspiration. I try to depict the body of men and women liberated from the censorship of puritanical attitudes.

New York City is raw, off limits. Within a few miles, you have access to the whole world. That's why I choose to live and paint here. I get restless elsewhere. The city's rhythm pulsates in my canvases.

Life is full of contradictions. I express these emotions with the contrasts and dichotomies I portray in any given painting. I bring it all together but there is never a resolution. It always remains a process, just like modern life. We live in a world of paradoxes and I'm always on the edge.

I have always believed that I have something to say and to bring to the world through my art. Nothing can stop me from saying it and following my vision, my dream. My gestural strokes reflect my unapologetic attitude - my drive for success, my restless dedication. I can't imagine not painting. It's my destiny.

"Believe in yourself. Listen to your inner voice. Follow your dream." Corno

Armed with her BA in Fine Art from the University of Quebec in Montreal, Corno quickly turned to a full time painting career. Her first representation was at the *Clarence Gagnon Gallery* in Montreal. By the late 1980s, she had become the darling of Montreal collectors and one of the most sought-after Quebec artists. Her reputation was quickly growing across Canada with shows in Toronto, Ottawa, Calgary and Vancouver. She was the featured artist at the *Quebec Pavilion* at *Expo 86* in Vancouver which propelled her visibility to new heights. During this period and into the early 90s, she was represented by *Yves Laroché Gallery*.

With a strong market in Canada, Corno turned to the US and had shows at the *Morgan Gallery* in Boston and *San Diego State University*. But New York City was an irresistible magnet, so she moved there in 1992. To jump start her career, she participated in group shows and various art events. Following in the footsteps of O'Keefe and Dali, she was the featured artist at *Steuben Glass* which placed her paintings in their flagship store on Madison Avenue.

The new millennium brought Corno to *Opera Gallery* in *Soho* which began representing her work worldwide. In a few years, she became their best-selling contemporary artist. Her work is now on permanent display in all of their locations: *New York, Paris, London, Monaco, Singapore, Hong Kong, Seoul, and Dubai*, not to mention *Los Angeles* and *Miami*.

Playing a balancing act of high energy dichotomies that stimulate the imagination and throw the viewer off balance, her *new expressionist* style superimposes itself over underlying intricate figurative details. The resulting fusion has a contemporary resonance and appeal. A superb colorist, she incorporates intense textures into her surfaces and uses bold brush strokes.

The year 2010 had several landmarks for Corno. First an important exhibition titled *In the Mood for Art* took place at *Opera Gallery Hong-Kong*. Next, Corno unveiled part of the *Marilyn Monroe Collection* which she had undertaken the previous year. Then she participated in the *SIDIM* (Montreal International Design Show) where her art work raised the most funds to benefit hurricane survivors in Haiti. Corno also immortalized rock star bad boy, Eric Lapointe by painting his portrait for the cover of his hit CD album. Two charming television interviews stand out : *Bénézet Reçoit* and *Des Kiwis et des hommes*. But the biggest surprise of all was the launch at *AKA Gallery* of *Cornographie*, Corno's autobiographical account of her beginnings in New York City published by *La Presse Editions*. Her anecdotes are whimsical and her style as colorful as her art. The year ended with an Opening at *AKA Gallery* and a one-woman show at *Opera Gallery New York* simply titled *Corno* that was by all accounts a smash hit.

In 2009, Corno had an important exhibition at *Opera Gallery Singapore* titled *Corno & Ali Esmaeilipour* followed by her first major exhibition at *Opera Gallery Dubai*, a joint exhibition with Wang Yehan. Another major event – she was the *Guest Artist* of the *Montreal International Jazz Festival* for the celebration of their 30th anniversary which coincided with the 30-year mark of her own artistic career. The commissioned painting is on permanent display at the *TD Gallery Lounge*. An Opening at *AKA Gallery* scheduled to coincide with this event made the evening news on CBC television.

The *Thompson-Landry Gallery* in Toronto featured Corno's work in a special anniversary celebration of their own gallery. An exhibition at *Opera Gallery London* took place in the fall and showcased several large murals. The year ended with the late Fall Opening at *AKA Gallery* which featured a selection of works rich in earth tones which marked a departure for Corno from her usually bright palette. The event made headlines once again and was mentioned on CTV's *eTalk* which airs nationally.

These exhibitions followed on the heels of several landmarks in 2008. First, Corno had a major exhibition at *Opera Gallery Hong Kong*. Next, it was *Opera Gallery Paris* that was at the forefront with the exhibition, *Corno & Moz*. Later in the year, a group show *MADE IN NY* juxtaposed her bold paintings and those of others artists with the American masters who influenced her figurative work. The frantic pace didn't let up and this exhibit was followed by an Opening at *AKA Gallery* in Montreal and another joint exhibition titled *Roc-Roussey & Corno* at *Opera Gallery NYC*.

This international rise to fame took place in several stages. In 2007, Corno was the *Guest of Honour* for the *Fido Spot* where her work was projected on the largest state of the art outdoor digital projector system in Canada. Before that, her work was featured at *Luminato*, Toronto's *Festival of Arts and Creativity*, in addition to being shown at the *Thompson Landry Gallery*.

In 2006, *AKA Gallery* in Montreal which exclusively represents Corno opened its doors. The event did not go unnoticed and was featured on prime time national news. At the beginning of the year, Corno had been the featured artist at the *Premiere* of the *Cirque du Soleil's Alegria* at the prestigious *Royal Albert Hall* in London. Her works were also on exhibit in the swank *Roof Gardens*. In tandem with this event, Corno's art was featured at *Opera Gallery London*. The year was rounded off with exhibitions at the *Left Coast Gallery* in Los Angeles, and a sold-out two-woman exhibit at *Opera Gallery Hong Kong*.

2005 highlights include an interview for the documentary *The Art of the Nude* directed by Bernar Hébert which premiered at the *International Festival of Films on Art*, and later aired on *Bravo!*, *Art-TV*, *France 5* and *CBC Television*. Before that, it was the *Massive Media Techno-Graffiti Event* at the upscale *Columbus Circle* and *Union Square* in New York City where Corno's art was projected on building façades in bold high-tech fashion. Earlier in the year, she was *Guest Artist* at the high-brow international event *The Train Paris New York* creating a 45 foot mural for fashionistas, curators, designers, diplomats and celebrities.

Corno's works can be found in museums, and corporate and private collections all over the world. In 2009, *MORE MAGAZINE* named her one of the *Top 40 over 40 Women in Canada*. Later in the year, *Chatelaine Magazine* included her in their list of the *Top 100 Women in Quebec*. After much hard work, she never takes her success for granted and encourages young artists to follow their dreams because sometimes... *dreams really do come true*.

For further information visit : www.akagallery.com
or write to : info@akagallery.com

COLLECTIONS *(sampling)*

PUBLIC / CORPORATE

Museum of Modern Art of Mexico, Mexico
Museum of Fine Art, Houston, Texas
Musée du Québec, Quebec
Musée du Bas-Saint-Laurent, Rivière-du-Loup
Musée Louis Hémon, Québec
Institut des Arts au Saguenay, Jonquière
Artothèque, Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal
Montreal International Jazz Festival
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Canada
Société des Casinos du Québec, Charlevoix Casino
TAG Heuer Watches, SA, Switzerland
Lise Watier Cosmetics Inc., Montreal
Holt Renfrew, Toronto
ZINK Magazine, New York
VIA Consultants Inc., Montreal
Perseus Capital LLC, USA/Canada/Germany/India
COGIR Management Inc., Montreal
Desjardins Lafond Dental Laboratories, Laval
Dr. Alain Dansereau Clinic, Montreal
Impulsion Beauty Clinic, Montreal
Weill College of Medicine, Cornell Univ, New York
Mount Sinai Medical Center, Miami
Clinique dentaire & d'orthodontie Jean Gervais
& Ass., Montreal
Elson Associates Interior Design, Toronto
Architect Profits Inc., Seattle
Dupras Ledoux Eng., André Dupras, CEO, Montreal
Workspace Group, Toronto
Bizhan Home, New York
Orca Design, Laval
Steuben Glass, New York
Absolutely Suitable, Miami
David Meister, Fashion Designer, New York
Shan Swimwear Inc., Montreal
Swank Boutique, Winnipeg
Hôtel Priori, Quebec City, Quebec
P. F. Chang's Restaurant, Scottsdale, Arizona
Son Cubano Restaurant, New York
Cosmo Café, Quebec City
Boris Bistro, Montreal
Whiskey Café, Montreal
Independent Films, Antwerp, Belgium
Jajou Productions, Paris/Montreal
International Video Club, Montreal
Multimedia Audio Consulting, Toronto
Kaibou Productions, Paris/Montreal
Garda Security, Stephan Cretier, CEO
Productions Playground, Montreal

PRIVATE

Lionel Ritchie, Jazz musician/Singer/Songwriter
Daniel Lamarre, CEO Cirque du Soleil, Montreal
Mr. & Mrs Jacques Menard, Chairman Nesbitt-Burns/BMO,
Montreal
Bruny Surin, Olympic Gold Champion, Montreal
Domenico Dolce, (Dolce & Gabbana), Milan, Italy
Luc Plamondon, Songwriter, Paris/Montreal
Luc Wiseman, CEO, Avanti Ciné Vidéo, Montréal
Louis Walsh, Impresario, London
Andreas Ugland, Oil magnate/European Champion F1 Boat
Racer/Chairman Queensgate Bank, Cayman
Islands/Oslo/Montreal
Amel Chamandy, Board of Directors, Museum of Fine Art,
Montreal
Caryn Lerner, President & CEO, Holt Renfrew, Toronto
Hélène Daneault, Mayor, Rosemere
Honorable Serge Joyal, Senator, Ottawa
Honorable Micheline Corbeil-Laramée, Judge, Montreal
Stephan Cretier, President, Garda Global
Jean-Marc Leboeuf, CEO, Groupe Créatech, Montreal
Markus Ehrhardt, Banker, Bank of London, NY/London
Thomas Spitz, Banker, Paris/New York
Enrico Cacciorni, Ass., Banc of America Securities, NY
Valerie Menard, Lawyer, New York/Montreal
Pierre Duquette, Lawyer, Ogilvy Renault, Quebec
Daniel Lacelle, Partner, Gowlings, Montreal
Robert Bolduc, CEO, Matol Botanical International Ltd,
USA/Canada/Mexico
Jeff Woods, Splice Interactive Media/Corus, Toronto
Jean Lessard, Editor/Designer, Montreal
Dominique Michel, Actor, Montreal
Danielle Ouimet, Actor, Montreal
Martin Matte, Comedian, Montreal
Jacques Boulanger, entertainer/host, Montreal
Dr. Réjean Thomas, MD, Clinique l'Actuel, Montreal
Dr. Roger P. Leblanc, Pres., L.O.R.I. Clinic, Montreal
Dr. Christian Fournier Orthodontist Inc., Laval
Connie Burcheri, CEO, Enrg X Change
Audrey Benoit, Model/author, Montreal
Margarita Podolej, Model, New York/Montreal
Alvaro, Hairdresser to the Stars, Montreal
Simon Carrier, Proprietor/director Bistro Grill Yamada,
Westin Hotel, Tremblant
Luc Le Flaguais, Proprietor, Conciergerie, Montreal
Ron Lores, Partner, Australian Airports Ltd, Australia
Daniel Lacombe, CEO, Colac Distribution, Montreal
François Odermatt, Collector, Montreal
Robert Toledano, CEO, Toledano Handbags, Montreal
Livio Ciaralli, Lanstar Cable Networks, Winnipeg

CORNO EXHIBITIONS

2010

New York	Opera Gallery, "Corno", One-woman Exhibition, Dec 15 – 30
Montreal Jonquière	AKA Gallery, "Cornographie", Nov. 26 Centre National des Expositions, "50 artistes pour 50 ans", July 11 – Sept 23
Montreal	SIDIM (Montreal International Design Show), May 15 - 18
Hong Kong	Opera Gallery, "In the Mood for Art", April 29 - May 15
Montreal	AKA Gallery, "Marilyn Monroe Portraits", June 1

2009

London	Opera Gallery, "Corno & Eduardo Guelfenbein", December 9 – January 15
Montreal	AKA Gallery, "Corno"
Singapore	Opera Gallery "Corno/Ali Esmaeilipour"
Montreal	Farha Foundation/Ogilvy's, "Maskerade" Exhibition/Fundraiser, Feb 3 – March 20
Dubai	Opera Gallery, "Corno & Wang Yehan", April 30 – May 15
Montreal	AKA Gallery, "Recent Paintings"

2008

New York	Opera Gallery, "Roc-Roussey & Corno", Dec 16 – Jan 11
Montreal	AKA Gallery, "Recent Works"
Monaco	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Venice	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Seoul	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
London	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Calgary	Thompson Landry Gallery, Group show
Paris	Opera Gallery, "Corno & Moz"
Montreal	AKA Gallery, Corno – "In Color"
New York	Opera Gallery, "Made in NY" Group Show
Toronto	Thompson Landry Gallery, Group show
Hong Kong	Opera Gallery, "Open Your Heart"

2007

Venice	Opera Gallery, "New Works"
Seoul	Opera Gallery, "New Works"
Los Angeles	Left Coast Galleries, "Corno – Recent Works"
Toronto	Fido Spot Inauguration, <i>Guest of Honor</i> , Multi-media projection
Toronto	Thompson Landry, Group Show
Montreal	AKA Gallery, "Corno – New Works"
New York	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
London	Opera Gallery, "New Works"

Singapore	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Paris	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Hong Kong	Opera Gallery, "Corno"
Miami	Opera Gallery, Permanent display

2006

Montreal	<i>Le Match des étoiles</i> , theatrical backdrop for Canadian version of <i>Dancing with the Stars</i>
Montreal	AKA Gallery, "Corno, New Works", One- Woman show
Los Angeles	Left Coast Galleries, "Recent Works"
Studio City	Left Coast Galleries, "Recent Works"
Hong Kong	Opera Gallery, "Two Artists"
London	Opera Gallery, "New Works"
London	Royal Albert Hall, Featured artist, Cirque du Soleil, <i>Alegria Premiere</i>
London	Roof Gardens, Featured artist, Cirque du Soleil, <i>Alegria Premiere</i>
New York	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Singapore	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Miami	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Paris	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Toronto	Thompson Landry, "Recent Works"
Québec	Ars Vivesco, "Group Show"
Montreal	Éco-Musée du Fier Monde, "Exposition Enchantée"

2005

New York	Opera Gallery, "Corno"
New York	Columbus Circle, "Techno-Graffiti" Event
New York	Splash Light Studio & Sweet Spot, Featured artist "Casablanca" Event for Jay-J & Latrice Barnet, with Vasili & Matthieu Lagarde, François Ayrault & AntiGravity
New York	<i>The Train</i> , Prêt-à-Porter Paris-New York, Featured artist
Paris	Opera Gallery, "Kaleidoscope"
London	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Hong Kong	Opera Gallery, "Recent Works"
Singapore	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Miami	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Montreal	Méliès at l'Ex-Centris, "New Works"
Québec	Ars Vivesco, "Group Show"
Montreal	Éco-Musée du Fier Monde, "Exposition Enchantée"

2004

Paris	Opera Gallery, "Corno"
New York	Opera Gallery, "Recent Paintings"
Miami	Opera Gallery, Permanent display
Montreal	"Black and Blue Festival"

2003 New York Miami	Opera Gallery, "Larger than Life" Opera Gallery, "Explosions of Color"	1993 New York	Alternative Museum, "Outrageous Art" Event
2002 New York	Opera Gallery, Permanent display	1992 New York Toronto Ottawa	Broome Street Gallery, Group show Galerie des Beaux Arts, Group show Galerie L'Autre Equivoque, Group show
2001 Montreal Vancouver	Galerie d'Art Yves Laroche Michel Blais Gallery, Group show	1991 Boston	Morgan Gallery, Corno, Recent Paintings / New Monoprints
2000 New York New York New York New York New York New York New York New York Calgary	Selima Gallery, Group Show Steuben Glass, "A Touch of the Exotic," featured artist Paul LaBrecque Salon Atmosphere Gallery "Portraits of New York" Atmosphere Gallery "Next" Atmosphere Gallery "Vision" Atmosphere Gallery "November" Atmosphere Gallery Opening Art Mode Gallery, "Corno Exposed"	1990 Montreal Montreal Montreal Toronto	Club Soda, "Corno Exposé" Event "Alvaro's Celebrity Portraits" Event Galerie Clarence Gagnon, Group show Galerie des Beaux Arts, Group show
1999 New York New York New York Zurich New York New York Miami	Skylight 6 Studio, "Manhattan File" Selima Gallery, "Bond 07" Event Steuben Glass, "Floral Event" Featured artist Belmundo Gallery Paul Labrecque Salon, Featured artist Art Mode Gallery "Corno Exposed" Dan Marino Gallery	1989 Montreal Montreal Boston	"Il n'y a que deux" Exposition Event Galerie Clarence Gagnon, Group show Morgan Gallery, Group show
1998 New York New York New York Philadelphia Vancouver Ft Lauderdale	Bond Street Studio, Opening Tristan & America, Featured artist Twilo Club Gallery, "Demo I" Event Corno, "In Private" Michel Blais Gallery, Group show Art Frenzié Gallery, "New Sounds, Visions & Textures Event"	1988 San Diego Ottawa Toronto Montreal Montreal	San Diego State University, Group show Galerie L'Autre Equivoque, Group show Galerie des Beaux Arts, Group show Galerie Clarence Gagnon, Group show Galerie de l'Université du Québec à Montréal, Group show
1997 Boston New York	Morgan Gallery, "Corno" Ludmilla Baczynsky Gallery, "Corno"	1987 New York Montreal	Broome Street Gallery, Group show Galerie L'Estampe Plus, "Via Roma", Group show Galerie des Arts Lavallin "Plate Forme", Group show
1996 Montreal New York New York Ottawa	Galerie Yves Laroche, "Kisses from New York" Bond Street Studio, Open Studio 24 Hours for Life Gallery Galerie L'Autre Equivoque, Group show	1986 Boston Vancouver	Morgan Gallery, Group show Expo '86, Pavillon du Québec, featured artist
1994 New York Miami	Novo Studio, Group show North-South Design Gallery, Group	1985 Paris Montreal Montreal Ottawa	Grand Palais, 36ème Salon de la Jeune Peinture, Group show Palais des Congrès, International Galleries' salon, Group show Galerie Clarence Gagnon, Group show Galerie L'Autre Equivoque, Group show
		1984 Montreal Montreal	Galerie Clarence Gagnon, Group show Salon International des Galeries d'Art, Conseil des Artistes Peintres du Québec, "Qui suis-je?"
		1981 Montreal	Galerie de la Cité

CORNO MAGAZINES / NEWSPAPERS/ ONLINE MEDIA

2010

- Corno comme vous n'en avez jamais vu*, Serge Boisseau, La Métropole, November 23
- Pinceaux, bio, Corno*, by André Duschesne, La Presse, Art and Events, November 20
- La Photo d'Herby*, LaPressSurMonOrdi.ca, November 20
- Artist Corno publishes her autobiography*, Agnes Gaudet, Frontenac St. November 17
- Corno lance sa Cornographie, Des toiles aux pages blanches*, Marie-France Pellerin, 7 Days, November 17
- La peintre Corno expose sa nouvelle série « Marilyn Monroe » à Galerie AKA*, Showtime Magazine, Vol. 5 No. 180, by Denis Beaumont, June 15
- La belle réussite de Joanne Corno*, by Marie-Joëlle Parent, Journal de Montréal, June 7
- Corno Celebrates SoHo Opening with Splatter Paint*, by Tiffany Etessami, Guest of a Guest, June 4
- La Marilyn de Corno*, by Marc-André Lemieux, Journal Métro, June 3
- L'artiste québécoise nous présente sa Marilyn Monroe*, by Michelle Coudé-Lord, Journal de Montréal, May 31
- Quand créativité rime avec générosité*, by Maxime Charbonneau, 7 Jours, Spectacles, le Show de Chaises, May 28
- Fashioning chairs at interior design show*, by Eva Friede, The Gazette, May 25
- Unforgettable Moment*, by Natalie Richard, VIA Destinations, April – May 2010, Vol. 7 No 2

2009

- Corno fait tourner les têtes à Londres*, Mali Isle Paquin, La Presse, Arts Visuels, December 12
- Larger than Life*, by Linda Corriveau, Montreal Recommends, Aug.
- Corno et le JIJM*, Brève arts visuels, by Tristan Malavoy-Racine, Voir, June 25
- Corno: fille de guérilla urbaine*, by Nathalie Petrowski, La Presse, June 13
- Interview*, by Anne-Marie Gravel, Le Quotidien, June 30
- 30^e anniversaire, Corno invitée au Festival de Jazz*, par Marie-Joëlle Parent, Journal de Montréal, 9 juin
- La diplômée Johanne Corneau, alias Corno, choisie pour souligner les 30 ans du Festival International de Jazz de Montréal*, L'UQAM au quotidien, June 9
- Une œuvre unique de Corno pour les 30 ans du FIJM*, by Reine Côté, 24 Heures, June 8
- Corno, An Interview*, by T. S. Tsonchev, The Montreal Review, June
- Corno réalise son rêve en exposant à Dubaï*, by Agnès Gaudet, Ruefrontenac.com, April 2009
- Artist Interview: Corno*, by Danielle Langley, Music is Art, April
- Corno à Dubaï*, by Bernard Bujold, Le Studio 1, April 2009
- Corno la femme*, by Sylvain Le Ludique, Vadrouilleur Urbain, April
- Corno's Art on Display in Dubai (8 paintings)*, by Alice Yoo, My Modern Metropolis, April 2009
- Corno : Currently showing at the Opera Gallery Dubai*, Indie Nut Jelly, April 2009
- Corno's Art on Display in Dubai*, Design You Trust, April 2009
- Color Pop Portraits*, Trend Hunder, April 2009
- Corno in Dubai*, Think Contra, April 2009
- Music is Art Blog, Artist Interview :: Corno*, April 29
- Johanne Corno, une peintre québécoise qui a le vent dans les voiles*, by Murielle Fournier, Le Babillart, April 22

- Franchir les frontières*, by Marie-Joëlle Parent, Journal de Montréal, Arts et Spectacles, April 16
- Across the Canvas*, by Anna Wallace-Thompson, Canvas Guide, April
- Joanne Corno – a Beautiful Face*, by Emerson Brooks, Heartbreak, April 8
- Love Is in the Air in Singapore*, by Igy, Offbeat Sessions, March 21
- Visions of Beauty, Clarissa Tan Takes a Look at Two Artists – One Canadian, the other Iranian*, The Business Times Singapore, The Arts, March 20
- Exhibition by Johanne Corno and Ali Esmaeelpour*, Tavoos Art Magazine, March 14
- Un encan contre le cancer*, CNW Telbec, March 3
- Johanne Corno, la fille de Chicoutimi n'a jamais oublié ses origines*, by Josée Florent, Frog Radio, March
- Presenting Corno*, by Vivianne Lapointe, The New York Optimist, March 2
- 40 over Forty*, by Kim Pittaway, More, Feb/March
- Corno*, by Marie-Hélène Sirois, Le Zèbre Bleu, Feb 11
- Faire tomber les masques pour briser le silence*, by Marie-Luce Pelletier-Legros, Métro Montreal, January 23

2008

- She pictured herself painting by the gallon in a loft in New York City*, by Vivianne Lapointe, The Luxury Spot, December 20
- Corno Private Viewing With Glitterati Magazine & Inocente Tequila*, Glitterati Magazine, December 17
- Kat Coric, Corno & AKA*, Être Magazine, Arts Visuels, December
- An Intimate Evening with Corno, Glitterati Magazine and Inocente Tequila*, The Quest for "it", December 12
- Corno Private Viewing With Glitterati Magazine & Inocente Tequila*, by Ariel Moses, NYC Arts, Guest of the Guest, December 11
- Opera Gallery Adds New Eclectic Flavor to Dubai's International Art Scene*, Executive Company Bulletin, Dubai, November 7
- Joanne Corno et l'art du portrait*, by Florentina Lungu, Vie des Arts, Fall 2008, Number 212
- Un homme et son tableau*, by Hélène-Andrée Bizier, Premières en affaires, Fall
- Corno, artiste internationale* by Marie Poupart, La Semaine, Oct. 4
- Starting from scratch*, by Jean-David Malat, The Gallerist, LUX Magazine, Number 28, Autumn
- Corno, Faire sa place*, by Robert Bernier, Parcours, Art & Art de vivre, Summer 2008, Number 64
- Pop Corno, Canadian artist Corno creates sensual pop art with a pulse you can dance to*, by Lucinda Catchlove, ZINK, V.1, # 2
- Vogue Loves Corno!*, by Kelley Hoffman, SHOP VOGUE.TV, Art & Culture, April-May
- Succès chinois*, by Marie-Joëlle Parent, Journal de Montréal, Arts et Spectacles, February 15

2007

- La talentueuse Corno présente ses œuvres à Toronto*, by Richard Caumartin, Le Métropolitain, Aug. 8, Vol. 15, Number 29
- Corno in Toronto Distillery District*, by Shannon Stephaniuk, Glossy Inc., Aug. 2
- L'Art contemporain québécois élit domicile à Toronto*, by Marta Dolecki, interview, L'EXPRESS, June 27 – July 3
- The "Fido Spot" celebrates the arts at the Distillery District's 1225th anniversary...in dog years!*, Newswire .ca, August
- Artists and Music & Entertainment Spotted at the Fido Spot*, Biz.Yahoo, August 1
- Distillery Day: Galleries*, Camille Gauthier, Out of the Loop, Aug 1
- Fido Showcases New Product with Fun Tie-In*, by Terry Poulton, Media in Canada, July 30
- Corno at AKA Gallery!*, 24 Heures, by Christiane Chaillé, July 06
- Linda Recommends*, Montreal Recommends, Julia Schroeder, June
- Vivement Corno Sparkles!*, Lise Giguère, Magazine VIA Destinations, March 1

Libres expressions, Francine Nascivet, Weekend Montreal, Vol. 4 No. 4, Spring
Nouveautés à découvrir, Marie-Claude Marsolais, Weekend Montreal, Vol. 4 No. 4, Spring
Corno Retour au pays natal, Gina Desjardins, Magazine Québec, Vol. 5 #1, Jan-Feb
Déco Design pour habiller la pierre, Johane Landry, Micasa, Jan. 12
Interview with Normand Cusson, Échos Vedettes, January 6
Interview with Vivianne Lapointe, Star Inc. Magazine, January

2006

Big on Busts, New York Post, December 20
Corno, La peintre veut inspirer les jeunes, by Olivier Jean, Arts et Spectacles, Journal de Montréal, December 14
Céline Dion et le Québec, by Bernard Bujold, LeStudio1.com, Dec 11
Corno à Montréal – une première, Tableau d'honneur, Bureau des diplômés, UQAM, Dec.
15 Chambres à faire rêver, by Françoise Le Grand & Florence Michel, Micasa.ca, Dec. 04
Exclusivement Corno, by Jocelyne Lepage, Arts et Spectacles, Arts Visuels, La Presse, Dec. 1
Interview by Jocelyne Lepage, Arts et Spectacles, La Presse, Nov 30
Corno est revenue à Montréal, by Marie-Joëlle Parent, Arts et Spectacles, Journal de Montréal, November 29
Nouvelle galerie d'art, Corno expose au centre-ville, AP, Arts et Scènes, Canoë, November 29
Corno, by Jocelyne Lepage, Arts et Spectacles, Agenda Arts Visuels, La Presse, November 29
Interview with Michel Joanie Fortin, Journal Ville-Marie, Nov. 29
Interview with Marc-André Lemieux, Journal Métro, November 29
La peintre de réputation internationale Corno retrouve Montréal, by Véronique Gauthier, November 28
Interview by Michelle Lemieux, Dernière Heure, November 27
Le Succès de la peintre Corno, by Marie-Joëlle Parent, Arts et Spectacles, Journal de Montréal, Nov. 17
Corno, le Bonheur!, by Marie-Joëlle Parent, Arts et Spectacles, Journal de Montréal, Nov. 17
Nouvelle galerie d'art, Corno expose au centre-ville, Canoe divertissement, November 9
ArtNews, Volume 105, Number 9, October
Le 11 Septembre et après, by Mylène Tremblay, Châtelaine Magazine, Volume 47 # 10, Oct.
Swinging Toronto, by Charles-Antoine Rouyer, Elle-Quebec, June
Distillery District, le nouveau must à Toronto, by Mario Girard, Cyberpresse.ca, June 6, 2006
New York Autrement, by Hélène de Billy, Châtelaine Magazine, May
L'Encan, la fête et les amis, à l'Éco-Musée du fier monde, Le Ville-Marie, Vol. 4 #26, May

2005

L'art décoratif détrône les grands maîtres, by Simon Diotte, Collaboration spéciale, La Presse/Mon Toit, December 3
Clin d'oeil, Interview by Paul Villeneuve, Arts Visuels, Journal de Montréal, November 26
Le Café Méliès récidive, by Luc Denoncourt, Allo Vedettes, Nov. 26
La Braise en hiver, Journal de Montréal, November 24
En bref, Métro, November 9
La Peintre québécoise Johanne Corno..., Cyberpresse, November 8
Corno sera à Montréal, Showbiz, TQS, November 8
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Pop CORNO, by Lucinda Catchlove,
ZINK
May 2008

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Pop CORNO, by Lucinda Catchlove
ZINK, May 2008



Full of vivacious color, ecstatic motion and sensual, muscular lines, the figures in the large-scale canvases by Canadian painter Corno seem to swirl in an orgy of motion. Her bodacious paintings are celebrations of form, figure and the rush of enjoyment. "You've got to turn yourself on. If you're not turned on by what you're doing, there's no point," she says from her studio in SoHo, the historical heart of New York City's modern art district, where she has lived since 1992. Clearly, painting turns Corno on and her paintings turn on many collectors. In fact, her work is so popular that all of her canvases are pre-sold. Represented internationally by Opera Gallery and in Canada by AKA, she's exhibited everywhere from Miami and Los Angeles to London and Hong Kong, and her paintings graced the London premiere of Cirque du Soleil's *Alegria* show.

Born Joanne Corno in Chicoutimi, Quebec, in 1952, Corno was a small-town girl with big ambitions. She moved to Montreal at the age of 17 and traded her dream of being a ballerina to study art education at the Université du Québec à Montréal. It didn't take long for her to realize that her burning desire was to paint, not teach. Informed by her love of dance and its muscular physicality, her four ongoing series — titled "Faces, Women, Men and Portraits" — found an immediate audience with Montreal's movers and shakers. "It's Pop Art with emotion," she explains. Certainly, the paintings in her Faces series owe much to Andy Warhol's screen-printed pop portraits of his adored icons. However, the people behind the visages in Corno's series remain anonymous even as they are immortalized. Where Warhol's work was about modernist identity and fame, Corno's pieces illustrate an instantaneous and transitory celebrity.

The fleshy weight of the figures in Corno's paintings have also incited comparisons to British painter Lucian Freud — grandson of Sigmund Freud. Yet Corno maintains her own work is more modern. "I have a very classical way of drawing. I just push it further." While Freud's paintings evoke mortality, Corno's erotically charged images are seductive celebrations of life. As such, the deathly serious might condemn Corno's work as simply decorative, and it is — both simple and decorative. But to dismiss simplicity is to forget that Picasso labored intensely over his most seemingly simple line drawings: Creating an impression of ease and fluidity is a hard-won illusion. "Sometimes people look and see only three lines, but sometimes it took me 30 years to get to those three lines. It's so hard to be simple and strong — to have all the information but be very basic."

Judging by how quickly Corno's Hong Kong exhibition sold out, her exuberant brushstrokes may soon reach an even wider audience. After all, sometimes a bit of light can remind us that life isn't so deadly serious after all. CornoStudio.com

LUCINDA CATCHLOVE





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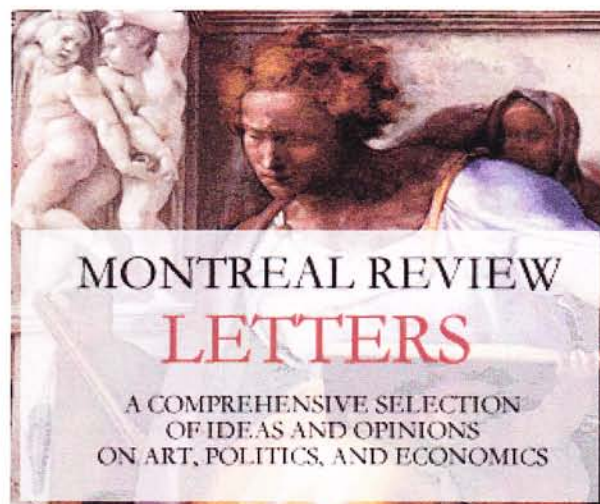
The Montreal Review: I see power in your paintings. "Power" was my first thought when I saw one of your canvases. Can we say that the power in your art, the power in the faces and the bodies of all these women and men comes from passion? Do you seal the human passion in your paintings?

Corno: Power always comes from passion. But I don't consciously try to infuse my work with it. I've always had that burst of energy and passion, and I guess I've translated it into my paintings. It's very instinctive, actually. It's not an effort.

Q. It is strange and sad that art was for

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centuries a male domain. Do you think that humanity lost irrevocably half of its creative genius because female sensitivity and ability for artistic expression had been oppressed and excluded for so long?

A. Female sensitivity was always expressed in art, but in a different way. On the

business side, of course, it's not easy to be a woman artist in a man's world. For instance, last year I went to a contemporary art auction at Sotheby's where only one female artist was represented. It may be harder to break through, but I firmly believe that to be an artist is not a choice, it's a vocation. I don't think it has anything to do with gender.

Q. What is Montreal for you? You studied Fine Art at the University of Quebec in Montreal. Your first representation was at the Clarence Gagnon Gallery in Montreal. You are permanently represented at AKA Gallery in Montreal's Golden Mile.

A. Montreal is where I was born, and where I started my research. I've always loved this city, but at a certain point the market became too small for the scale I wanted to work on. Everything I did was too crazy, too big, and too expensive. I kept wanting more. I wanted international representation, I needed to be challenged. I found no end of challenges and new opportunities in New York, but I still spend some time in Québec and find it important to stay rooted. For instance, I was just selected to be the artist of the Montreal International Jazz Festival for its 30th anniversary.

Q. What does painting mean to you – freedom, expression, meditation, communication, salvation..?

A. When you paint, you're in a zone. I always meditate before I start working: it's all about concentration. You have to let go, you have to be totally involved and focused



and aware of what's going on between you and the painting. In a sense, you become this channel of emotions, and transpose them into the canvases: starting with something that doesn't exist, plain white, and creating a character, a light, an emotion from scratch. It kind of has a spiritual aspect to it, so I try to be open minded and available, not trying to control the whole thing. I just let it come to me.

Q. If I'm not wrong, Andy Warhol influenced your work. Who are the other masters that you like and from whom you learn?

A. I like artists from various periods of history. Art is like music: you don't listen to only one band. I like many painters. Off the top of my head, I'd say Renoir, Toulouse-Lautrec, Julian Schnabel. My biggest inspirations don't necessarily come from other painters, they come from all sources of art I'm confronted with every day: food, music, photography, cinema, billboards. It also comes from traveling and discovering different cultures.

Q. Tell me some of your favorite books and writers.

A. I like to read biographies, like Charlie Chaplin's, Barbara Walters', Notorious BIG's. I find them very inspiring. It's great to read stories about other people who struggled, fought and succeeded, and to discover how it all happened. Recently, I liked reading Augusten Burroughs and Deepak Chopra, and I read lots of magazines, like Andy Warhol's Interview. I'm very interested in people.

Q. You are a successful painter. You are highly esteemed among art collectors and MORE MAGAZINE listed your name among the Top 40 Women in Canada for 2009. There is always something bigger and probably more valuable behind the success - a personal story of hopes, hard work, hardships and probably moments of despair. What is your advice to the younger artists, to those who start their professional life now?

A. Follow your instinct! Believe in yourself. Always be daring.

Q. When I was a child I liked to draw, all my school notebooks were filled with small caricatures and drawings, but I never became a painter... I know that it is a risky profession to be a painter; for this job you really need to be a special sort of man. Do you remember the moment when you said: I will devote my life to art?

A. I don't think I ever decided. I always say I was born a painter. It was hard, of course, at first to figure






out how to earn a living, but I preferred to bartend three nights a week rather than teach art, so I could make enough cash to pay for a small studio and work, work, work.

Q. Your last show was at Opera Gallery, Dubai. When and where is your next exhibition?

A. I am having an important exhibition in London in the Fall of 2009 which will be closely followed by an exhibition in Hong Kong at the end of this year.

Thank you, Corno. It was a pleasure to speak with you.

Thank you!

 **SHARE**    

Corno's paintings can be seen and purchased at **Aka Gallery in Montreal located on 2122 Crescent Street.**

AKA Gallery is spearheaded by gallery director Linda Corriveau and director of development Kat Coric.

Corno is internationally celebrated for her colorful paintings that combine bold new expressionist brush strokes with edgy contemporary portraiture. She paints large scale human faces and torsos that reflect the mastery she has gained from a career spanning thirty years.

Corno's work is now acclaimed in North America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, from Montreal, Toronto, New York, Los Angeles and Miami, to London, Paris, Monaco, Venice, Dubai, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Seoul.

Presently Corno lives and paints in Manhattan.

Websites:

Aka Gallery: www.akagallery.com

Corno's website: www.cornostudio.com