



NEWS RELEASE — For immediate publication

Montréal, June 21, 2022 — This summer, from July 9 to July 30, and then from August 23 to September 10, 2022, two exhibitions—*David Nash: Shaping Nature* and *Guido Molinari en série!* will be on view at Galerie Simon Blais.

David Nash: Shaping Nature — Gallery 1

This exhibition showcases the sculptural and pictorial work of **David Nash**. It includes a number of stencilled pastels, a favourite technique of the artist, as well as burnt wood and bronze sculptures.

This English artist, who has made Wales his home, has developed an artistic vocabulary of forms—triangles, circles, squares, cones, spheres and cubes—and pure, clear colour. In his works on paper, Nash “sculpts” outlines through a meticulously studied chiaroscuro, a painstaking shaping of shadow and light effects. In doing so, he creates blank and solid spaces faithfully rendering the proportions of the volumes depicted.



For his sculptures, the artist carefully selects the type of wood he will use, choosing only trees that are very old, if not already dead. He knows the distinctive characteristics of each species and works in a kind of communion with the material. His work also falls within a broader approach that is similar to Land Art.

Illustrated: *Habitat*, 2013, stencil pastel on paper; *Yellow Stack*, 2016, stencil pastel on paper; *Very Black*, 2011, burnt oak.

Brief biography

David Nash was born in 1945 in Esher, Surrey. Following his secondary school studies, he took courses at the Kingston School of Art, and then painting at the Brighton School of Art. He returned to the Kingston School of Art to study sculpture from 1965 to 1967. In 1967, he settled in Blaenau Ffestiniog, located in a remote corner of northern Wales that he had known well since childhood and not far from the slate quarries characterizing the landscape of the area. A member of the Royal Academy of Arts since 1999, his work is included in the collections of the major museums of Europe, North America, Australia and Japan.



Guido Molinari en série! – Gallery 2



In the 1950s and 1960s, increasingly committed in his creation of graphic compositions to a radicalization of motifs, **Guido Molinari** explored a variety of geometric forms through a series of prints in black and white. This body of work also examines

the notion of rhythm—visual rhythm—by means of a sophisticated organization in which the subtle asymmetry of lines alters our perception and creates an optical effect.

Illustrated: *Quadri noir*, 1956/1967, screen print on paper; *Vertical blanc*, 1956/1967, screen print on paper.

Brief biography

Born in Montréal in 1933, Guido Molinari died there in February 2004. His training in art consisted only of a few courses taken at his hometown's École des beaux-arts and Museum of Fine Arts' school between 1948 and 1951. His first solo show was held at the L'Échourie gallery in 1953 and, three years later, his work was exhibited in the United States for the first time. In 1965, he took part in a major exhibition, *The Responsive Eye*, at New York's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), before representing Canada in 1968 at the 34th Venice Biennale, where he was awarded a David E. Bright Foundation prize. In 1980, he became the youngest recipient of the Prix Paul-Émile-Borduas.

About Galerie Simon Blais

Since 1989, Galerie Simon Blais has showcased the talents of emerging and established artists working in such varied media as painting, drawing, sculpture, prints and photography. The painting and sculpture that have marked the history of Canadian art since 1945 are other areas of its special interest. A dynamic exhibition space, the gallery is known both within Canada and abroad through its participation in various contemporary art fairs.

Notes concerning the exhibition

The gallery welcomes everyone and admission is free. Our opening hours are Tuesdays to Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The gallery will be closed for its summer break from July 31 to August 22, inclusively. **Any request for images or further information can be sent to info@galeriesimonblais.com**