



1 JANET CARDIFF and GEORGE BURES MILLER

Cardiff and Bures Miller's moment is now. Winning the jury prize at the 2001 Venice Biennale (the first Canadians ever to earn the honour) made them instant international art darlings. Let's honour our stars while they're still rising.

2 GENERAL IDEA (AA BRONSON, FELIX PARTZ and JORGE ZONTAL)

Only Bronson is left of this super-slick art triumvirate who goosed the Canadian art scene with their in-your-face Miss General Idea Pageants and traced the day-to-day ordeal of living with AIDS.

3 CARL BEAM

Beam chooses life on the rez (Manitoulin Island) over the city. His politically barbed large-format mono-prints changed the face of Canadian art by focusing on native issues.

4 ROBERT HOULE

Saulteaux painter Houle traded a curatorial day job at the Museum of Civilization for a critical mentoring role. It doesn't hurt that his own abstracted canvases are so powerful they can make you weep.

5 JOYCE WIELAND

Feminist, nationalist, idealist, eroticist, pioneering filmmaker and textile artist and damn fine painter, Wieland wound down tragically with Alzheimer's but never stopped blazing.

6 JOHN BROWN

A real painter's painter, Brown is legendary for needing to be pried from his oils. In an ideal world, he could spend a lifetime perfecting one image. He gets closer than most.

7 LIZ MAGOR

Magor's sculpture gets under your skin and stays there. From her *I Weighed 98 Pounds* to a survivalist log cabin foreshadowing the *Unabomber*, Magor's imagery remains unforgettable.

8 MICAH LEXIER

From samples of handwriting rendered in laser-cut steel to the brick surrogate city currently growing in the Toronto Sculpture Garden, Lexier's elegantly understated public sculptures enrich our urban landscape.

9 WARREN QUIGLEY

A junked car filled with plants outside York Quay Centre, Daniel Lanois's very private fireplace – no one makes garbage look better than sculptor Quigley.

10 JOANNE TOD

Calm, cool and very collectible, Tod's appealing painting style makes it easy to swallow her tough philosophical musings.

11 SPRING HURLBUT

Found objects take on profound meanings with only the subtlest alterations by sculptor Hurlbut.



12 JAMES LAHEY

Lahey pushes his painting practice into experimental corners. It never quite drops off the edge, but watching him hone his creative balance can be breathtaking.

13 FASTWÜRMS

Times have caught up with the psychedelic sensibilities of openly wiccan installation duo Kim Kozzi and Dai Skuze.

14 JOHN MASSEY

Massey's multi-layered large-format photo-based images have a knack for insinuating themselves into a viewer's permanent visual Rolodex.

15 RAE JOHNSON

Johnson's early twisted urban interiors are great, her more recent landscapes sublime.

16 ANDY FABO

Publicly outed when he was busted in a gay bathhouse, ChromaZone collective co-founder and ace painter Fabo made it cool to be queer.

17 LYL A RYE

Rye isn't afraid to turn a room inside out (literally!), or to transform a space into a maze of chicken wire or string. Her spatial potential is palatial.

18 JANIETA EYRE

Eyre's deeply disturbing staged self-portraits owe more to Joel-Peter Witkin than Cindy Sherman, and bear comparsion to both.

19 BRUCE MAU

Mau's chosen media – things like book layouts and landscape projects – won't wow genre snobs, but in realizing his design projects, he's a true artist.

20 MICHAEL SNOW

Snow's *Walking Woman* defined Canadian art for the world when she graced Expo 67, and the painter/sculptor/filmmaker/photographer/musician/composer/conceptual artist/Renaissance man keeps on reinventing himself. Brilliantly.



Janet Cardiff (top left), Joanne Tod and Carl Beam.