

PRESS RELEASE: AQUART – FLINTKOTE, QUEBEC ON AUGUST 6-7-8TH 2010

AQUART, " Submarine Exhibitions of Art and Underwater Events for All " has closed its 4th edition, on August 6-8th at Thetford-Mines (Quebec) and once again attracted in the waters of the Flintkote Quarry a crowd of divers, free-divers and swimmers who were able to admire, with fins, masks, and snorkels, the works of more than 40 artists from Quebec and other countries. With more than 250 art pieces immersed this year on four levels at various depths, AQUART won not only in quantity, but also in quality.

The presence of several world-famous artists demonstrates indubitably the international potential of this uncommon event, UNIQUE IN THE WORLD ! Let us underline the participations of David Martel, Pascal Lecocq, Jean-Louis Courteau, Steve Saint-Pierre, Dominique Danvoye, Cynthia Coulombe Bégin, Philippe Descôteaux, Caroline Giroux, and Audrey Bégin, to name only some, for their special contributions.

Some works in particular struck the imagination of the public, such as Alain Racine's " The Predator ", a smith of the abyss, who added his immense wrought iron work in front of his "Alien" who has the big star for the visitors in 2009, and the submarine gallery of 50 works of the painter Pascal Lecocq particularly appreciated during the decompression stage of the divers.

Ground performances also took place for the visitors without fins, as every year. This time, in the workshop of the Aquartistes, five huge half-spheres of 4 feet by 8, were painted by the artists under the eyes and sometimes with the collective complicity of the public. Pascal Lecocq realized a new version of his "Matador". The half-spheres will soon be immersed in the Flintkote Quarry to be added to the permanent works which AQUART leaves at the bottom of water every year since 2008.

The Chief Executive Officer and Coordinator, Fabrice Vanhoutte, is particularly proud that AQUART generated so rapidly the collaboration of such a variety of participants : " Today, AQUART became the inescapable link between arts, sports, and environment. Furthermore, this submarine artistic festival became an engine of major development for the underwater world in Quebec, besides emphasizing the region which welcomes it. It is now a wonderful tool for the regional tourist development, that waits only for the cooperation of the concerned entities " .

This year, AQUART explores other interesting places for submarine exhibitions, and will present a simplified and lightened version of 100 works in the Morisson Quarry, near Gatineau, on September 4-5th this year, then in the Saint Lawrence river, in Brockville (Ontario), on September 11-12th, with each time 25 Pascal Lecocq's works. This will allow AQUART to become more known and to attract new visitors to the complete and awesome version of AQUART in the Flintkote Quarry of Thetford-Mines.

See the magnificent images of AQUART on www.aquart.ca , www.pascal-lecocq.com .

In the years to come, AQUART will again be present in Thetford-Mines, the second week of August.