



# Swiss precision paired with joy, vibrance and skill

↳ EXHIBITION: For the first autumn art exhibit at the ELA Cafeteria Art Space we invite you to enter the artistic world of Anzère-based 'artiste peintre' Jean-Pierre Moulin. Join us for a walk through the colorful professional and artistic life of a man who is passionate about painting.

Gusta van Dobbenburgh  
Curator

The art books of Jean-Pierre Moulin are a feast for the eye. The energy that radiates from every page reveals the life-embracing spontaneous creator and people-loving personality behind a vibrant collection.

Jean-Pierre is a man of many talents. "I was born in Yverdon les Bains and became a 'dessinateur technique' after my technical education," he explains. "I first started out at a factory that produced brakes for army trucks. Decades of industrial designing followed and I became all-round in engineering and design, the subjects varying from construction of molds for the injection of plastic matter to precision medical devices and water measuring equipment. I also had the pleasure to work for Le Castel, a well-known Neuchâtel pendulum producer in Chez-le-Bart, fully operational today. The job focused on the very fine clockwork of their timepieces. In the designing process my projects always required meticulous drawing. And drawing is what I have loved all my life."

"One of my teachers in elementary school picked up on his creativity at an early stage, and my family was always supportive," Jean-Pierre continues. "My natural feel for line and proportion supported me throughout my professional career in industry."

However, even though Jean-Pierre's mechanical background comes through in his art, his paintings leave room for a lot of fantasy and imagination. He created various deserted landscapes, for example, that are distinctly surreal. We also find huge bird-like images among his work, and vast skies that seem to come out of an illusionary universe. "I started out working in a figurative style," he comments, "but these days it is always imaginary abstract."



His brush and composition are strong and show the techniques of someone who knows about paint: mixing them, experimenting with them and applying them in an inventive way. His oil pieces portray an explicit 3D effect through the thick and luscious application of the paint. The coloring is generally bold, but even when he uses more pastel tones Jean-Pierre's work is, be it in a more tender way, still abundant and rich. Only a skilled hand can create that effect.

To him, painting is also a road to discovery. "I really like to experiment in the process. If I do not like the first outcome of a water color I take the paper to the sink,

rinse off the colors, let it dry and begin all over again. It is a very good way to saturate the water color sheet, and it makes for spectacular backgrounds for the next try."

Some of his pieces are huge and would look spectacular in a big space with great light. The smaller pieces would look good either by themselves or beautifully combined in one great 'color block.'

His art has other applications as well. For wine house Keller & Fils he designed labels that did not depict the more traditional grapes or leaves. Instead, the warm tones of the wines guided him, resulting in an abstract 'étiquetage' of gol-

den whites, rosé tints and deep red cabernet flames that make you want to buy the bottle and open it.

Jean-Pierre began to exhibit his work in 1975 at the Maison Communale de St.-Aubin-Sauges, then continued on to art galleries and a large variety of other venues. One time a large 'triptyque' was sold in an auction in Neuchâtel.

Naturally, he creates his own frames. Their blond, natural wood allows the focus to remain on the art work, while giving it a professionally finished look in a non-obtrusive manner. "I designed my frames in such a way that if the works are stacked together for transport, one canvas can never damage or scratch another," he smiles. The technical designer in him is always at work.

Enjoy the show! ☺

La peinture à l'huile spontanée

Jean-Pierre Moulin  
Show: September 22 – October 31

Vernissage: Thursday, September 25, 18h00 – 20h00

Location: ELA Cafeteria Art Space room 010

Information:  
astie.epfl.ch

Or call: 021 691 11 88