

## « Se voir contempler / Paysage-intérieur » by Éric Lamontagne

From mid-January on, the Sutton town hall will feature special artwork designed specifically for the town hall as mandated by the *Politique d'intégration des arts à l'architecture et à l'environnement des bâtiments et des sites gouvernementaux et publics* (integration of art and architecture policy), known as the « one percent policy .»

Following a lengthy process, Montérégie artist Éric Lamontagne's proposal was the one selected. Since 1993 he has had his work featured in both group and solo exhibitions in the province of Quebec and internationally. His exhibition "Du haut de mon sous-sol", shown at the Salle Alfred Pellan of the Maison des arts in Laval, earned him first prize in the category awarded to the best exhibition of the year held in an art centre, at the 2012 Visual Arts Gala of the *Contemporary Art Galleries Association* (AGAC). The same show was named among the top three best exhibitions of 2012, according to *Canadian Art* magazine. Éric Lamontagne's pieces are held in many public and private collections including the art-lending program of the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, and the Musée du Bas-St-Laurent, Cirque du Soleil and Loto-Québec collections.

The main criteria used in the selection by Sutton under the integration policy called for a work of enduring value that would be inspired by landscapes and local heritage. Entitled « Se voir contempler / Paysage-intérieur » the successful project combines the interior and exterior dimensions of our lives by juxtaposing motifs from old-fashioned wallpaper typical of our kitchens in the past with a landscape emblematic of the Township of Sutton. Moreover the artwork has a mirrored surface in which the observer becomes part of the work itself, part of the land and part of the Sutton community. As you look at Éric Lamontagne's work, your eye will discern motifs taken from the woodwork found on Sutton's heritage buildings, particularly the scrolled brackets holding up Rumeur affamée's porch roof.



Caption: La Rumeur affamée's woodwork inspired Eric Lamontagne. Come discover his work in the council meeting room of the town hall. Photo credit : Louis-Michel Major.