

## GET TO KNOW THE ARTIST HELEN MCNICOLL

### 0:02

Born in Toronto and raised in Montreal, Helen McNicoll trained at the Art Association of Montreal.

Although she was deaf from age two, this did not impact her success.

One of McNicoll's works

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She moved to London, England, to pursue her passion.

London Bridge

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Internationally celebrated both today and during her lifetime, McNicoll is much admired for her significant role in transmitting Impressionism to Canada.

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Impressionism was an art movement that originated in France in the 1860s. It is famous for artists who were interested in painting light and atmosphere.

The Impressionists liked details of light like these

### 0:56

Many of these artists painted outdoors and experimented with colour and bold brushstrokes.

### 1:10

McNicoll's work is famous for being technically advanced and profoundly original.

### 1:24

She painted bright and sunny representations of rural landscapes, women, and charming child subjects.

McNicoll loved putting children in her art

### 1:39

Her beautiful and idealized paintings of childhood are a counterpoint to the lives of countless early 20th-century children who faced harsh conditions of poverty, child labour, and oppression.

### 2:11

Still, McNicoll's art is important because it addresses issues such as femininity and domesticity, rural labour, fashion, and tourism in a modern and original way.

### 2:27

During her decade-long career, McNicoll showed over seventy works in exhibitions in Canada and England.

### 2:41

She was elected to the Royal Society of British Artists in 1913 and the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in 1914.

### 2:58

"She maintained a strong attachment to the fundamental principles of 'pure' Impressionism and pushed the style further than any other Canadian artist." – Samantha Burton, author of *Helen McNicoll: Life & Work*