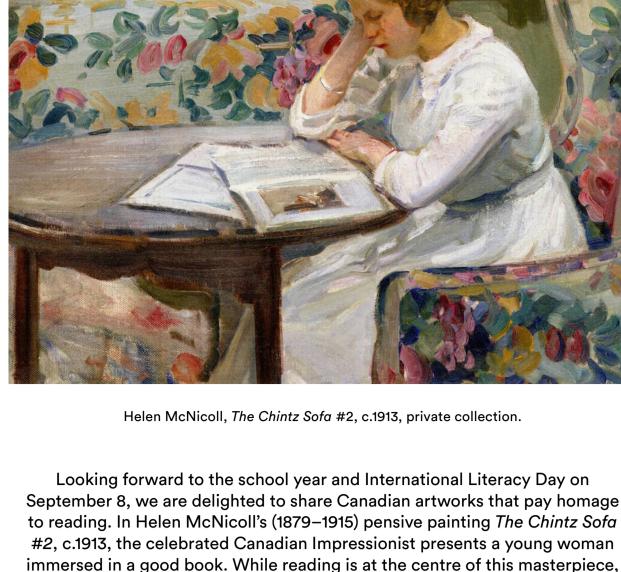
## FOR THE LOVE **OF READING** As back-to-school beckons and with International

Literacy Day just around the corner, here are 5 Canadian artists to help us celebrate learning, literacy, and a love of books.



different shapes and forms. From exploring connections to literature in the dramatic paintings of Alex Colville (1920-2013) to cracking mathematical literacy in the glass mosaic "magic squares" of Jamelie Hassan (b.1948), we

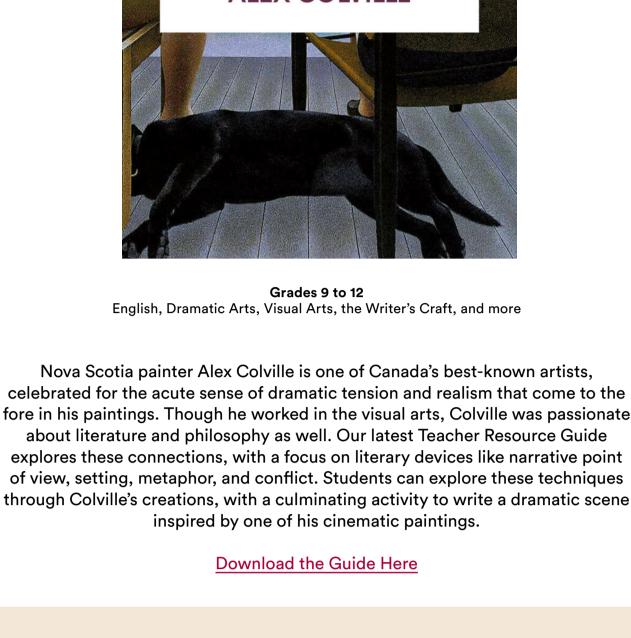
literacy reaches beyond the written word to encompass learning in many

hope that our selection this week sparks creative inspiration. A love of learning

is at the heart of what we do, and from all of us at the Art Canada Institute Education Program, we wish you a safe and happy return to the classroom in the coming days and weeks ahead. — The Art Canada Institute Education Team Alex Colville and **Literary Techniques** 

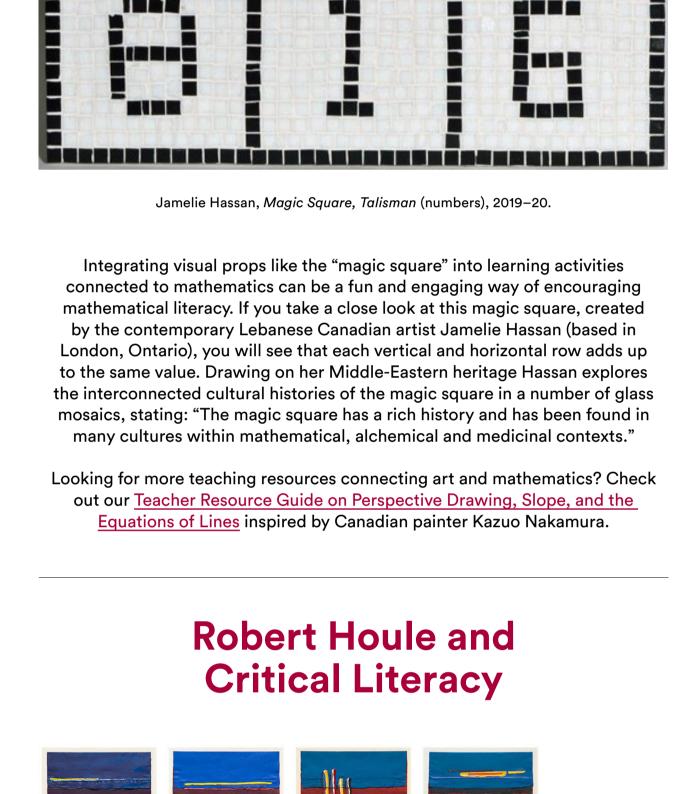
**LEARN ABOUT** 

## through the art of **ALEX COLVILLE**



Jamelie Hassan and **Mathematical Literacy** 

**AVENUES TO EXPLORE** 



Robert Houle, Parfleches for the Last Supper (from top, left to right: Matthew, James the Less, Jude, Simon, Philip, Andrew, Bartholomew, Thomas, Peter, James, John, Judas, Jesus), 1983, Winnipeg Art Gallery.

In contemporary artist Robert Houle's (b.1947) work *Parfleches for the* Last Supper, 1983, the artist creates thirteen traditional medicine parfleches while evoking the Christian story of the last supper. It is a bicultural work bringing together two spiritual traditions of the artist: his Saulteaux heritage and his education in Christianity. Works like this one are a powerful way of exploring the concept of critical literacy with students through art, encouraging them to understand the concept that different forms of cultural output, from stories to images, can be understood as "text", de-coded, and discussed through an exchange of ideas.

> For more resources inspired by the work of Robert Houle, see our Teacher Resource Guide on Decolonization and a short learning video to introduce your students to the artist and his work.

Oscar Cahén and Visual Literacy

MACLEAN'S



Printer's proof of Oscar Cahén's cover illustration for Maclean's, October 15, 1951.

The dynamic illustrations of artist Oscar Cahén (1916–1956), who came to Canada in 1940 as a political refugee, invite infinite opportunities to introduce students to visual literacy and how to read an image. Cahén was a master of visual language, creating covers for leading magazines like Maclean's in his role as a professional illustrator and designer. Our Teacher Resource Guide on professional illustration and graphic design invites students to analyze and construct images in different media, guided by Cahén's expert eye.

Download the Guide Here

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Launched in 2013, the Art Canada Institute is the only national institution whose mandate is to promote the study of an inclusive multi-vocal Canadian art history

As a bilingual organization, we are proud to offer our materials in both French and English, including this newsletter. Use the sign up links below to receive emails in your preferred language.

to as broad an audience as possible, in both English and French, within Canada and internationally. The ACI works with more than fifty of Canada's leading art historians, curators, and visual culture experts who are dedicated to the creation of authoritative original content on the people, themes, and topics that have defined Canadian art history.

We are creating a central digital resource to tell the world about Canada's most important works of art and where they are located. By functioning as an online art museum, a digital library, and an interactive Canadian art encyclopedia, the ACI is an indispensable resource on Canada's visual heritage.

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Image Credits: [1] Helen McNicoll, The Chintz Sofa #2, c.1913, oil on canvas, 81.3 x 99 cm, private collection. [2] Jamelie Hassan, Magic Square, Talisman (numbers), 2019–20, glass mosaic tile mounted on plywood, 38.1 x 38.1 cm. Courtesy of the artist. [3] Robert Houle, Parfleches for the Last Supper (from top, left to right: Matthew, James the Less, Jude, Simon, Philip, Andrew, Bartholomew, Thomas, Peter, James, John, Judas, Jesus), 1983, acrylic and porcupine quills on paper, thirteen paintings, each 56 x 56 cm. Winnipeg Art Gallery, gift of Mr. Carl T. Grant, Artvest Inc., (G-86-460 to G-86-472). © Robert Houle. [4] Printer's proof of Oscar Cahén's cover illustration for Maclean's, October 15, 1951. Collection of The Cahén Archives, © The Cahén Archives.

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# LITERARY DEVICES

## **EDUCATION NEWSLETTER**