

THE MICHELANGELO OF CANADA – GUIDO NINCHERI (1885-1973)

Under the tenure of Fr. Carleton, the church's side stained glass windows were created by Guido Nincheri studio, Montreal probably in the 1930s and were installed in St. Stephen's Church. Three windows were signed by Guido himself. His studio remained in operation 20 years after his death. He was the pride of Montreal's Italian community; he was knighted by the Italian government in 1972; in 1933, Pope Pius XI honoured him as one of the church's great religious artists; Italy declared him as Knight of the Republic; he was made an honorary citizen of Rhode Island; and posthumously declared a builder of Montreal.



He employed skilled Italian and French Canadian artists who remained with him for decades and carried on 20 years after his death. Guido was born in Tuscany, won awards at the Florence Academy of Fine Arts and immigrated to Montreal in 1914. He created some 5000 stained glass windows in 9 provinces alone plus frescos, bronze and marble sculptures, and even designed churches. His stained glass style is unmistakable in the broad palette; boldly rendered rays emitting symmetrically from sacred figures; border ornamentation is fresh and harmonious; 3-d effect attained by using models including his wife and studio workers. Each stained glass tells a story and contains many icons of religious significance.

THE MICHELANGELO OF CANADA – GUIDO NINCHERI (1885-1973)

This stained glass window was created by Guido Nincheri in the 1940s under the impetus of Fr. O'Brien, from his studio in Montreal to be installed in St. Stephen's Church. Two others were designed by Guido himself and his studio created the remaining windows in the church today. His studio remained in operation 20 years after his death. He was the pride of Montreal's Italian community; he was knighted by the Italian government in 1972; in 1933, Pope Pius XI honoured him as one of the church's great religious artists; Italy declared him as Knight of the Republic; he was made an honorary citizen of Rhode Island; and posthumously declared a builder of Montreal.



He employed skilled Italian and French Canadian artists who remained with him for decades and carried on 20 years after his death. Guido was born in Tuscany, won awards at the Florence Academy of Fine Arts and immigrated to Montreal in 1914. He created some 5000 stained glass windows in 9 provinces alone plus frescos, bronze and marble sculptures, and even designed churches. His stained glass style is unmistakable in the broad palette; boldly rendered rays emitting symmetrically from sacred figures; border ornamentation is fresh and harmonious; 3-d effect attained by using models including his wife and studio workers. Each stained glass tells a story and contains many icons of religious significance.