

Dear Collectors To following your dreams



Tommy Prince Jr. speaks at stamp unveiling event honouring his father, Sergeant Thomas (Tommy) George Prince, MM.

While we usually wrap up the year with our Hanukkah, Christmas and holiday stamps, we're ushering out 2022 with a grand finale honouring a grande dame: Monique Mercure.

The stunningly beautiful and immensely talented Mercure (1930-2020) was one of Canada's most acclaimed francophone actresses and a household name in her native province of Quebec. A struggling, single mother of three when she decided to devote her life to acting, she was propelled to stardom through hard work and determination.

Mercure earned many accolades over the course of her career, including being appointed a Companion of the Order of Canada and winning Canada's first Festival de Cannes award for best actress.

As we head into a new year, may her story inspire us all.

Passez de joyeuses Fêtes.

Bronwyn Graves, Director, Stamp Services

Coming soon!

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- Black History Month **January**
- Flowers: Ranunculus March
-) Fid **April**

Tidbits

Stamp printing specifications

- · Perforations are all 13+ or simulated perforation.
- Tagging is on four sides. unless otherwise indicated.
- · Paper is Tullis Russell, unless otherwise indicated.
- · Gum type is pressure sensitive, unless otherwise indicated.

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Details

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Monique Mercure

Issue date: November 14, 2022



"She was so focused on acting... she put all of her heart in it. It was a vocation – a calling – for her."

Michèle Mercure, speaking of her mother, Monique Mercure

Pane of 6 stamps 404215107 **\$5.52**

Known for her fiery spirit and intensely powerful performances, Monique Mercure, c.c. (1930-2020), was one of Canada's most admired and acclaimed francophone actresses. The stamp illustration, based on a photo from the early days of her career, captures the magnetism of Quebec's grande dame of stage and screen and her arrestingly expressive eyes.

"It was just such a pleasure looking through all the pictures and seeing her again when she was young," says her daughter, Michèle Mercure, who was closely involved in the project. "She was so beautiful."

After parting ways with her husband, composer Pierre Mercure, Montréal-born Monique Mercure left

Paris to return home, where – despite the challenges of life as a single mother of three – she threw herself into a career as an actress. She went on to appear in more than 100 theatrical productions and dozens of movies and television series, becoming a household name in Quebec for such films as Mon oncle Antoine. Naked Lunch and The Red Violin.

"It was always an experience to see her in different roles – she was so incredibly versatile," says Michèle, whose personal favourite was as Rose-Aimée in *J.A. Martin photographe* – which earned Monique Mercure Canada's first Festival de Cannes award for best actress. "It was one of those roles where I was watching her on screen, but I didn't see my mother anymore."

Hard-working and talented, Mercure is remembered by her daughter as a walking encyclopedia of music and theatre who loved to garden, knit and play the piano – and who was always ready with an interesting anecdote. "She had an irreverent side to her, and that made her quite funny," says Michèle. "She was very spontaneous – always full of surprises – and just bursting with

positive energy. You were never bored when you were around her."

Mercure also served as a director with the National Theatre School of Canada and starred in the TV dramas *Providence* and *Mémoires vives* into her 80s. "She received a lot of honours," says Michèle, "but she would definitely have considered this stamp the cherry on top."





First day of issue special envelope 414215131 **\$1.92**







Booklet of 6 stamps 414215111 **\$5.52**

Specifications

Product	Denomination	on Size		Printing process
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Pane of 6 stamps‡	Permanent™ (domestic rate)	160 mm x 180 mm	20,000	Lithography in 6 colours
Official First Day Cover	Permanent™ (domestic rate)	190 mm x 112 mm	7,000	Cancellation site: Montréal QC

Design: Underline Studio Illustration: Oriana Fenwick Printing: Colour Innovations *Gum type: PVA Included in Stamps of Canada October-December 2022 collector pack: die-cut stamp from booklet, pane of 6 stamps.

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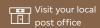
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