

## About the Artist

*Michael Kluckner*

**M**ichael Kluckner is an artist and writer whose early books on the history of Canadian cities, heritage, planning issues and art, include *Vancouver The Way It Was*, *Vanishing Vancouver*, *Paving Paradise*, and *British Columbia in Watercolour*. They have won numerous awards, including the Duthie Prize, the Vancouver Book Prize, the Toronto Book Prize (short list), the Hallmark Society (Victoria) Award of Merit, and the Heritage Canada Medal of Achievement.

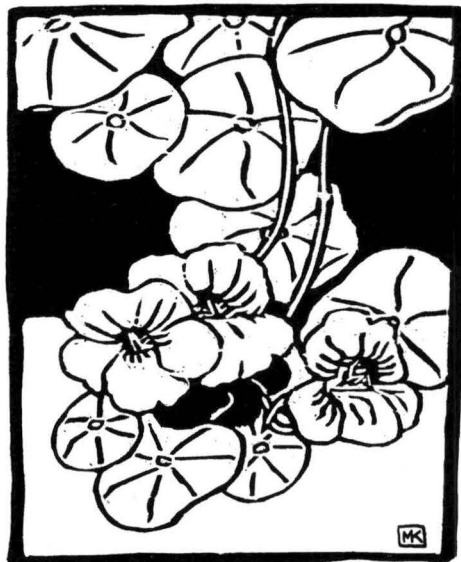
Recent books include *Michael Kluckner's Vancouver*, a collection of paintings, and *The Pullet Surprise: A Year on an Urban Farm*, which reflects on his move from the city to the country. His 1998 book, *Canada, A Journey of Discovery*, explores the places and countryside that made up his childhood image of Canada. He followed up *The Pullet* with a farm-noir sequel, a classic tale of mind over mutton, entitled *Wise Acres*, published in the fall of 2000. His current project is the book *Vanishing British Columbia*, currently under development and scheduled for publication in Spring, 2005. He writes for *Harrowsmith*, *Cottage Magazine*, and *Canadian Geographic*.

In 1991 he was the founding president of the Heritage Vancouver Society, and served as president of the Langley Heritage Society from 1993 to 1998. From 1996 until 2001, he was the British Columbia member of the board of governors of the Heritage Canada Foundation, and served as chair from 1998-2000. He also sat on the board of the Heritage Society of British Columbia during that period. He chaired the Vancouver Heritage Foundation in 2002-3.

He received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002 for the contributions made, through books and volunteer efforts, to increasing awareness of Canada's heritage and culture.

He lives on a farm in rural Langley, British Columbia, where he raises sheep and chickens and helps his wife maintain her large cottage garden. His wife, Christine Allen, is the author of *Roses for the Pacific Northwest* (1999, Steller Press), *Gardens of Vancouver* (1999, Raincoast Books), and *Climbing Up* (2002, Steller Press), and is a regular contributor to gardening magazines including *Garden Wise*.

He does a lot of lectures throughout the year, mainly talking about ongoing projects, especially *Vanishing British Columbia*, the history of Vancouver, etc. A recent, very interesting project was conducting a week-long seminar for the Université de Laval in Québec on sketch-books and travel watercolours. Look for Michael Kluckner's web site at <http://www.michaelkluckner.com>.



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