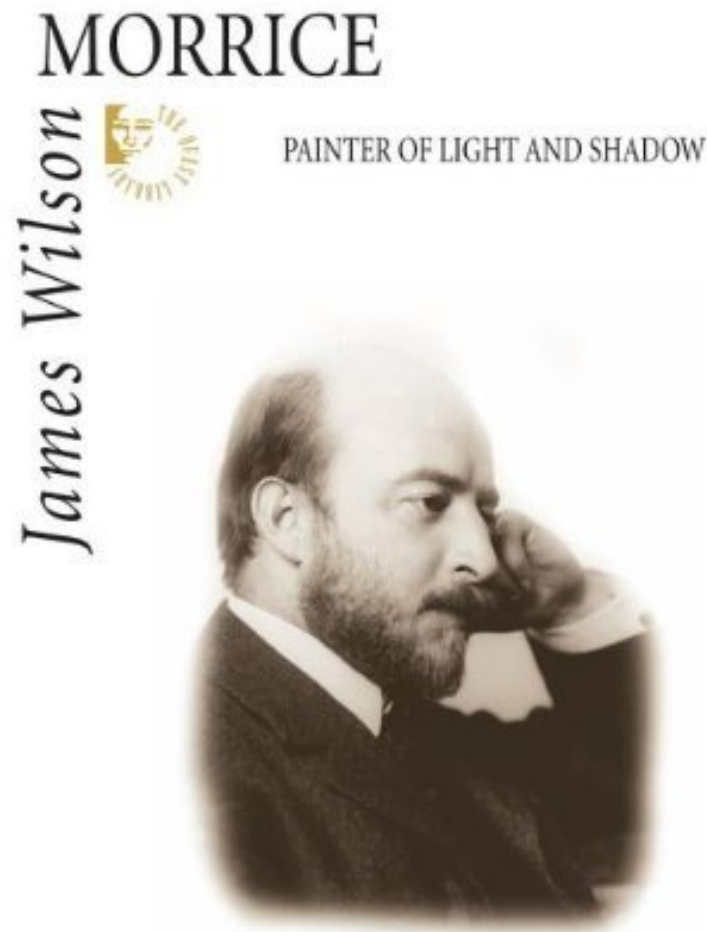


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## James Wilson Morrice: Painter of Light and Shadow (Quest Biography)

Wayne Larsen

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**Wayne Larsen : James Wilson Morrice: Painter of Light and Shadow (Quest Biography)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised James Wilson Morrice: Painter of Light and Shadow (Quest Biography):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Somewhat useful for personal background on MorriceBy Blue in

Washington A short biography of one of Canada's best early 20th Century painters. James Wilson Morrice did not leave much in way of written notes, letters, etc. for art historians to work with, so there's a fair amount of supposition in this biography by Wayne Larsen. The artist's associations with some of the great painters of the post-Impressionist/Modernist era are chronicled, but without much detail about interactions. A pity, because he apparently spent a lot of time with Matisse, Marquet, Manquin, and even Monet. Morrice's addictions and quirky personality didn't leave much behind in that context. This is also not a book (all black and white) that aspires to present many illustrations of the painter's work.

James Wilson Morrice (1865-1924) was a Canadian painter of extraordinary passion and simplicity whose canvases and oil sketches are valued throughout the world and cherished in Canada as our first real examples of modern art. Though cut short by chronic alcohol abuse, Morrice's restless bohemian life was spent in constant motion. From the colourful canals of Venice to the sun-drenched markets of North Africa to the snowy streets of Quebec City, he was, as his friend Henri Matisse described him, "always over hill and dale, a little like a migrating bird but without any very fixed landing place." In *James Wilson Morrice*, Wayne Larsen chronicles the creative but often troubled life of this early cultural icon as he travels in search of the colours, compositions, and subtle effects of light that would inspire a revolution in Canadian art.

"Larsen infuses Morrice's biography with colour and context, from snowy Montreal winters to crowded Parisian cafes. He presents a compelling and laudable portrait of a painter and his exciting milieu." (Fall/Winter 2008) (Montreal of Books) "Wayne Larsen, a journalist, educator and landscape painter delivers in *James Wilson Morrice* another first-rate biography of an important Canadian artist." (CM Magazine) From the Inside Flap Larsen chronicles the troubled life of painter James Wilson Morrice (1865-1924) as he searches for the colours and compositions that would inspire a revolution in Canadian art. About the Author Wayne Larsen is a Montreal-based newspaper editor, columnist, teacher, and landscape painter. Educated at Champlain College and Concordia University, he has written extensively on art and the media since his first byline in 1979. He is currently editor-in-chief of the Westmount Examiner and teaches in Concordia's Faculty of Journalism.