

# Jane's body found at the bottom of Val-David construction site

(by Christine Unger)

The tragic and untimely death of Jane, a self-proclaimed iconic figure in the North American art scene, seems like something out of a paperback novel. The circumstances of her death are still being investigated but a statement from the police confirmed evidence of foul play. It was only last a few years ago that suspicions of Jane's death arose when her wig was found floating in a shallow pool next to her trademark red boat on the California coast near her mother's home, but without other evidence the police could see no reason to investigate further at the time. Rumours of Jane's presence in China then lulled concerned friends into believing that Jane was simply on one more of her famous "Journeys."

A recent photograph of Jane in China is now believed to be what print artists like to call an "interpretation" of Jane's earlier work and police are questioning the gallery in hope of tracing it back to its source. There is evidence to support that Jane's China-doppelgänger may be involved in her murder. Police are asking that anyone with information about Jane come forward. A reward is being posted by her partner Dick.

Police are also following up sightings of Jane's enormous Wolf-hound Spot (seen in the photograph below) around the area where her body was found. Large footprints, matching those of Spot were found circling around the body. The body was found only miles from Jane's home studio where she worked during most of her career as an artist. While she was her own most frequent subject matter her neighbors were shocked to hear that her death may have been the result of foul-play. All insisted that despite her glamorous appearance in her art she was the soul of generosity, the best neighbor you could hope for, quiet, loyal and dedicated to the preservation of her village environment.

There is evidence that her small apartment in Montreal may have been used briefly by the doppelgänger. Her landlady noted that Jane had always been a very quiet resident and that she had been offended by recent occurrences of loud music and late parties below. They had always had a strict agreement about not smok-



Jane's body was found yesterday on a construction site in the mountain village of Val-David. Although the body had suffered significant damage post-mortem and had already begun to decompose, the coroner confirmed that they have rule out suicide as a cause of death.

ing as well and the landlady distinctly recalls the odour of cigars two weeks earlier. "I couldn't believe it when I called to Jane in the street and she didn't even turn her head or nod hello. I'm so sorry I didn't say anything to anyone at the time but no one listens anymore and she may just have been preoccupied, she's had a lot on her mind. I didn't want to be indiscrete," said Jane's landlady.

Could this be a case of stolen identity, a stalker, cover-up for an accident, a crime of passion or, as is so often the case in these troubled times, a crime of faceless violence, an outburst of anger against the society which Jane had made it her lifetime endeavor to expose. Was her irony and humor lost on one of the masses of unhappy people who believed she represented the privileged few. We may never know the truth...



*South West, (Jane's Journey series), 2008*