MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONT
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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR ITS 500TH EXHIBITION
THE MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL PRESENTS
L'ART CONCEPTUEL, UNE PERSPECTIVE

Montréal, July 30, 1990. After Paris, Madrid and Hamburg, the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal is pleased to present, from August 5 to October 21, the exhibition **L'ART CONCEPTUEL, UNE PERSPECTIVE.** Organized by Claude Gintz, curator of the exhibition, and produced by the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, this exhibition represents the first major retrospective of conceptual art. It includes over 100 works by some 30 artists who, in the sixties and early seventies, strongly challenged the conventional categories used in art. Montréal is the only North American stop for this important international exhibition which, without doubt, constitutes a high point in the history of contemporary art.

What exactly will the public see at the Musée? A great many words and numbers, both on the wall and in notebooks, numerous writings in typed texts and photocopies, inscriptions, graphs, photos, objects like files and binders, along with installations, all of which may be more suggestive of a laboratory for experimentation than a traditional artist's studio. Visitors will observe, in particular, that the idea takes precedence over colour, light or canvas.

The works shown at the Musée lay out a new conception of art and the artist, a new perspective, through the introduction of new elements such as language, time, space and the environment around the work.

The sixties and early seventies, a time when conventional artistic categories were transformed, often radically, are represented in this exhibition by works from artists usually classified as "conceptual," such as Joseph Kosuth, Lawrence Weiner and the Art & Language group. Also included are pieces by artists working during the same period whose approaches either contradicted or aimed to transcend "conceptual" practices: Michael Asher, Daniel Buren and Hans Haacke, among others. Finally, the presentation is completed by works from artists whose investigations may be described as "pre-conceptual" in that they raised aesthetic issues that were later to lie at the very heart of the conceptual dialectic: Marcel Duchamp, Piero Manzoni, Robert Morris...

Meeting with Claude Gintz

The public is invited to meet Claude Gintz, curator of the exhibition **L'ART CONCEPTUEL, UNE PERSPECTIVE**, on Sunday August 5 at 2 p.m., one hour before the exhibition opening. This meeting will take the form of a tour through the galleries.

Catalogue

A comprehensive catalogue, produced by the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, is available at the Musée's Boutique at a cost of $47.95. It features articles by Claude Gintz, Benjamin Buchloh, Charles Harrison and Gabriel Guercio as well as illustrated notes and commentary on each work and an anthology of critical texts and artists' writings.

In addition, a brochure providing notes on the exhibition, originally conceived by the curator, Claude Gintz, and adapted for the Montréal presentation by Pierre Landry, is offered to all visitors.

Pierre Landry, curator, was responsible for the presentation of this exhibition here at the Musée.

The Musée wishes to thank the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris for its invaluable cooperation in bringing this exhibition to Montréal, and thanks Air Canada for its financial support.

Regular STCUM bus service, via line 168, is available from McGill, Bonaventure and Square Victoria metro stations, from Monday to Friday only.

On weekends, from 12 to 6 p.m., a group taxi service runs every half-hour, between Bonaventure metro station, certain major hotels and the museum. Dial A-U-T-O-B-U-S for more information.

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Notice to media representatives: During his visit to Montréal, curator Claude Gintz will be available for interviews from August 3 to 7. Please call 873-4382.

Source: Claude Guérin
Public Relations Coordinator
(514) 873-4382