



MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL

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COMMUNIQUÉ

FAY'S FAIRY TALES BY WILLIAM WEGMAN AT THE MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL

Montréal, January 7, 1997. From this coming January 15 to March 16, the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal will present photographs by American artist William Wegman. While this artist has developed a remarkable body of work since the 1960s, making use of such varied supports as painting, drawing, video and photography, it is mainly for the series he has produced with his dogs that he has become known. And so, to launch the new year, the Musée has decided to exhibit Wegman's photographs devoted to the well-known fairy tales *Cinderella* and *Little Red Riding Hood*.

Humour, fantasy, irony...

William Wegman's magnificent Weimaraner pointers are the "stars" of the exhibition, playing the leading roles in Charles Perrault's famous stories. For each of the two tales, the Musée is showing a series of large Polaroids (24 x 20), in which the artist's dogs illustrate key moments in the narrative. Each fairy tale thus unfolds over some 30 images.

According to curator Réal Lussier, "Wegman has managed, while remaining true to the traditional story lines of the two narratives, to give them a new, magical and fantastical character by tapping all the powers of the imagination... Created with impeccable technical quality and fascinating attention to detail, these photographs amuse and charm young and old alike."

By focusing on Wegman's works on the themes of *Cinderella* and *Little Red Riding Hood*, the Musée hopes this exhibition will bring out the humorous, fanciful character of his photographs, as well as their subversive, ironic tone. This event is not only the first showing of these photographic works in Canada, but also the first exhibition devoted to William Wegman at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal.

William Wegman will meet the public on January 15 at 5:30 p.m., when he will discuss various aspects of his work. A book signing will follow at 6:30 p.m.

- 30 -

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