

COMMUNIQUÉ

Mousseau

January 31 to April 27, 1997

Curator: Pierre Landry

Mousseau The title of this exhibition conjures up a name, a multifaceted *signature*. It is, first of all, the *signature* of a socially committed artist. Associated with the Automatist movement and a signatory of the Refus global manifesto, Jean-Paul Mousseau was one of the first Québec artists, in the late fifties, to assert the need to bring artistic practice closer to contemporary social reality.

Over the course of his career, he carried out more than 50 projects integrating art and architecture. His works include the interior mural at Montréal International Airport-Dorval (in collaboration with Claude Vermette), his light-filled mural for Hydro-Québec's head office, and interior murals at the Peel, Viau, Honoré-Beaugrand and Victoria Square metro stations.

Mousseau is also the *signature* of an outstanding set designer, the highly prolific creator of lighting, sets and posters for the Théâtre de l'Amphitryon, Théâtre de l'Égrégore and Théâtre du Nouveau Monde, among others.

Finally, his environments for discothèques, such as the Mousse-Spachthèque, and his light sculpture-objects and jewellery unmistakably bear the *signature* of a remarkable cultural leader and an original designer.

This first retrospective of Mousseau's work since the exhibition which the Musée devoted to him in 1967-1968 will bring out all these *signatures*, through art works and a large body of photographic material. *Mousseau* will be on view at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal from January 31 to April 27, 1997.

On the occasion of this event, the Fondation Jean-Paul Mousseau will join together with the Musée to present *Les Espaces de la scénographie (Set Spaces)*, which will run from January 23 to March 2, 1997. Organized by Mario Bouchard, this exhibition will use a stage set as a backdrop for models, drawings and artifacts by Québec set designers.

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