



# MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL

## PRESS RELEASE

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### THE ALPHABET OF THE MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL

Montréal, October 23, 1997. From November 9, 1997, to April 12, 1998, the Musée d'art contemporain is presenting *The Musée Alphabet*. This didactic exhibition consists of a group of twenty-six works from the Musée's permanent collection, each of which has been associated with a French word starting with a different letter of the alphabet.

#### Works from A to Z

The Musée's collection includes close to six thousand works, so the choice was vast and varied. Project coordinator Christine Bernier selected the works of twenty-six artists, from diverse disciplines, to illustrate the following words: *arbre* (tree), *ballon* (ball), *cône* (cone), *ding! dong!*, *escalier* (staircase), *frigo* (fridge), *grenouille* (frog), *hélice* (propellor), *insecte* (insect), *jeu* (game), *kayak*, *lune* (moon), *maison* (house), *nacelle* (gondola), *oiseau* (bird), *portrait*, *quadrillage* (grid), *rideau* (curtain), *soulier* (shoe), *table*, *univers* (universe), *vélo* (bicycle), *wagon* (trolley), *x* (cross), *yeux* (eyes) and *zigzag!*

Christine Bernier chose works from the collection by Québec, Canadian and international artists to associate with these words. The selected artists are Penone, Townsend, Rabinowitch, Boyer, Kiopini, Lavier, Béland, Cournoyer, Ayot, Bouchard, Irqumia, Bruneau, Geleynse, Duchamp, Woodrow, Boltanski, Noland, Van Halm, Steinbach, Morin, Ewen, Curnoe, Frank, Tâpies, Pellan and Sonnier.

In an effort to increase public awareness of the issue of literacy, the Musée has been working in collaboration with the Fondation québécoise pour l'alphabétisation and the Fédération canadienne pour l'alphabétisation en français.

On Sunday November 9, guided tours of *The Musée Alphabet* are being offered all afternoon.

After a tour of the exhibition, this literacy project can be explored further at the Musée via the *The Musée Alphabet* book, created in 1995 by Danielle Legentil and co-produced by the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal and Les Publications du Québec. The book is available at the Librairie Olivieri, at the Musée's boutique and at good bookstores everywhere. Price: \$14.95 (plus tax).

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