



For immediate release

**STUDIOLO: MARTHA FLEMING & LYNE LAPOINTE
AT THE MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL**

Montréal, May 19, 1998. From May 28 to September 13, the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal presents *Studiolo: Martha Fleming & Lyne Lapointe*. This exhibition, organized by the Art Gallery of Windsor, covers 15 years of collaboration between the two artists. It includes paintings, sculptures, drawings, photographs, furniture, etc., along with several works added for its Montréal presentation, which forms a kind of archeology of fragments. A theme that runs through all their projects is the artists' exploration of historical and sociopolitical concerns.

An extraordinary collaborative artistic effort

Since meeting in Montréal in 1981, Martha Fleming and Lyne Lapointe have produced a collaborative artistic effort whose results to date have little or no equivalent, either locally or on the international scene.

It all really began in 1982, with the now famous *Building/Caserne # 14* project in the Plateau Mont-Royal area, which was the first instance of the artists taking over an entire abandoned building, in this case a fire station. This was followed by a post office in Little Burgundy and the Corona Theatre in Saint-Henri. As exhibition curator Gilles Godmer points out, other projects then ensued, in New York, Madrid, London and Sao Paulo. Each time, the undertaking develops from a particular architecture, a disused building, and tends to bring out its sociopolitical dimension and fantastic power of evocation.

From the marginalization of women to colonialism

Supported by research focusing on the feminist perspective, Fleming & Lapointe raise other issues, related to history, science, colonialism, the marginalization of women, lesbian desire, the diversity of power, the symbolic aspect of certain human activities (such as collecting), notions of private and public, and so forth.

Rather than a chronological reconstruction of each of the projects, the exhibition suggests a new order, a kind of archeology of fragments that groups together works or elements of these projects. In this way, it sets out to provide both a reflection and an extension of the working method of these two artists.