

For immediate release

TRIGGERS

Art and Society – Québec in the 60's and 70's at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal and the Musée de la civilisation, Québec City

Montréal, March 18, 1999. The Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal and the Musée de la civilisation, Québec, will simultaneously present the exhibition *Triggers: Art and Society – Québec in the 60's and 70's*, from May 28 to October 31, 1999 in Montréal and from May 26 to October 24, 1999 in Québec City.

1968: Prague Spring, May 68 in Paris, assassinations of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King — the whole world is in turmoil. In Québec, students occupy the École des beaux-arts, questioning the role and status of the artist. Under the impetus of a group of artists, operation *Déclics* (Triggers) takes place in November. Five days of deliberation on the position of the arts in Québec, five days of multidisciplinary encounters between poets, writers, musicians, and people from the theatre and visual arts worlds.

With the approaching end of the 20th century, a look back at Québec artistic activity of the 60's and 70's was called for. This survey will take the form of two exhibitions on a single theme. The Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal will shed light on the various ways in which society served as the "raw material" for many Québec artists, while the Musée de la civilisation, Québec, will highlight the transformations which the public image of the artist has undergone over the last two decades. More than 225 works, by some 90 artists, will be on display at the two museums.