

PRESS RELEASE For immediate release

Drawings from the Collection at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal October 29, 2005 to January 8, 2006

Montréal, October 25, 2005. They rarely come out of their storeroom. They are fragile and, above all, sensitive to light. From October 29, 2005 to January 8, 2006, the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal presents *Drawings from the Collection*, a brand-new exhibition in the galleries devoted to the permanent collection.

Works on paper make up no less than half of the 7,000 works in the museum's collection. This exhibition, which contains 130 pieces by a hundred or so artists, forcefully reasserts the current interest and expressive power of this literally ageless medium. The different groupings highlight the contribution made by leading figures in the history of contemporary art and offer an interpretation of the major genres in pictorial tradition: still life, portrait, landscape, genre painting. Visitors may observe the surrealist game of *cadavres exquis* played by Alfred Pellan, Jean Benoît, Mimi Parent and Jean Léonard; landscapes by John Lyman; and the energetic gestural language of Jean-Paul Riopelle and Fernand Leduc, along with the more structural approach of Jauran, Guido Molinari and Claude Tousignant. Conceptual art, American minimalism and hybridity of practices will also be present. Drawings by Mel Bochner, Melvin Charney, Paterson Ewen, Betty Goodwin, Roland Poulin, Rober Racine, Michael Snow and Irene F. Whittome, to name only a few, will be on display.

According to Josée Bélisle, the curator in charge of the Collection, "whether graphic, formal or critical, the works in the exhibition all arise out of genuine aesthetic quests."

Meet the curator

As part of the Point(s) of View series, the curator of the Collection, Josée Bélisle, will present the exhibition to the public on Wednesday, November 16, 2005 at 6 p.m. (in French). Marie-France Bérard, the educator in charge of tours at the museum, will host the meeting.

Art videos

In conjunction with the exhibition, a program of videos on some of the artists featured will be screened in the Omer DeSerres Gallery. January 10 to February 5, 2006: *Betty Goodwin: le cœur à l'âme* (dir. Claude Laflamme, 2003, Montréal: Groupe ECP, 52 min); February 7 to 26, 2006: *Roland Poulin: rencontre avec artiste* (dir. Michel Pétrin, 2000, Montréal: Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, 55 min); February 28 to April 2, 2006: *L'alchimiste et l'enlumineur* with Irene F. Whittome and Rober Racine (dir. Diane Poitras, 1997, Montréal: Productions de l'impatiente, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, 50 min). Schedule: daily from 12 to 4:30 p.m., as well as Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

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