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SUZANNE SAUVAGE AND THE McCORD MUSEUM TAKE THE SPOTLIGHT: THREE AWARDS FOR THE CULTURAL INSTITUTION AND ITS PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Montreal, September 27, 2017 – The McCord Museum has been honoured at three major events over the past week. These awards recognize the distinguished work of the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Museum, Suzanne Sauvage, as well as the exceptional quality of the temporary exhibition *Notman, A Visionary Photographer*, presented at the Museum from November 2016 to March 2017.

Suzanne Sauvage, winner of the 2017 Event Award and the 24th Women of Distinction Award

Two Montreal organizations have highlighted Suzanne Sauvage's remarkable commitment and efforts to make culture accessible to everyone.

On September 22, Suzanne Sauvage was given the 2017 Event Award by the magazine *Montréal centre_ville*, in concert with Destination centre-ville, as part of the Montréal centre_ville Awards. Presented by André Poulin, Executive Director of Destination centre-ville, the award singles out an event that has generated considerable interest over the past year and impressed the organization's management as well as the magazine team. The President and Chief Executive Officer stands out for her determination to make the McCord Museum a place of sharing that is innovative and open to the world – a key player in Montreal's cultural life.

In the same vein, the Women's Y Foundation presented her with the 24th Women of Distinction Award on September 26 in the prestigious category of *Arts and Culture*, an honour that recognizes her ongoing commitment to the cultural and artistic world. The award also acknowledges her many professional achievements that have brought lasting change and made a positive contribution to society.

Suzanne Sauvage, has always had a passion for the arts and culture, a constant source of inspiration throughout her career. A true cultural entrepreneur with extensive experience in the field of communications, notably as president of Groupe Cossette Canada, she has brought her vision and managerial experience to the McCord and Stewart Museums. Since her arrival at the helm of the McCord Museum, the institution has welcomed numerous major international exhibitions attracting tens of thousands of visitors. The Museum has also presented exhibitions from its own collection that have toured museums across the country and abroad.

Concerned about the importance of inclusion, especially in a city such as Montreal, she has implemented programs aimed at new immigrants so they can learn about their adopted city and have an opportunity to explore their own cultures and share their stories with other Montrealers. Throughout her career, Suzanne Sauvage has also been active on many boards of directors, including those of the Women's Y Foundation, the Foundation of Greater Montreal, Concordia University, the Orchestre Métropolitain, the Compagnie Marie Chouinard, La Vitrine culturelle, and the Festival Montréal en lumière.



Winners of the 2017 Montréal centre_ville Awards
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Award of Excellence from the Société des musées québécois © McCord Museum

The Société des musées Québécois presents the Award of Excellence to the McCord Museum

On September 26, the McCord Museum was honoured with the Award of Excellence from the Société des musées québécois (SMQ) for its magnificent exhibition *Notman, A Visionary Photographer* and a book carrying the same name published by the Museum. This superb work, with 200 illustrated pages, revisits Notman's iconic images and offers new landscapes and portraits from the 19th century.

The SMQ has been presenting these awards since 1986 to recognize, encourage and reward excellence in museum practice and highlight the achievements of members who have made significant contributions to the advancement of museology in Quebec.

Presented from November 4, 2016 to March 26, 2017, this major thematic exhibition on the life and work of one of Canada's most celebrated photographers, Montrealer William Notman, was produced, organized and circulated by the McCord Museum to celebrate the anniversaries of Canadian Confederation and Montreal. Offering a new perspective on the career of William Notman (1826-1891), the exhibition showed how the artist's personality traits contributed to his immense success. The exhibition highlighted his modern approach to photography, founded on the principles of communication, management and innovation. While focusing on vintage prints, displays were supplemented by multimedia installations and interactive devices that provided dynamic information and helped clarify the notion of modernity in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The exhibition brought together some 300 photographs and objects drawn mainly from the Museum's collection.

The exhibition, made possible in part by the Government of Canada, will begin a Canadian tour in 2018.

About the McCord Museum

The McCord Museum is dedicated to the preservation, study and appreciation of Montreal's history, as recounted by its people, artists and communities living in the city's past and present. The McCord Museum is home to one of the largest historical collections in North America, consisting of First Peoples objects, costumes and textiles, photographs, decorative and visual artworks, and textual archives, totalling more than 1,451,000 artefacts. The McCord Museum produces exciting exhibitions that engage visitors from Montreal, Canada, and beyond by offering them a contemporary look at the world. The McCord Museum also offers educational and cultural activities, as well as innovative projects on the Internet. ***McCord Museum: Our People, Our Stories.***

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Interviews possible with Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the McCord Museum, and Sylvie Durand, Director, Programs. Photographs available upon request.

Source and information:

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The McCord Museum is grateful for the support of the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, Accès Montréal, CAA, and its media partners, *La Presse*, *Montreal Gazette* and *La Vitrine Culturelle*.