

# PRESS RELEASE

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## FALL CULTURAL CALENDAR AT THE McCORD MUSEUM OFFERS A DIVERSE PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

**Montreal, August 22, 2013** – The McCord Museum is pleased to announce its programming for the fall cultural season. The Museum's exhibitions will enable visitors to discover the wealth and diversity of its collections as well as activities that will appeal to everyone from photography enthusiasts to history buffs to fashionistas!

### A view from above

In collaboration with the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Mois de la Photo à Montréal – *Drone: The Automated Image*, the McCord Museum presents ***Plotting from Above – Mishka Henner and Montreal Aerial Survey***, from **September 7, 2013, to January 5, 2014**. The exhibition, designed by guest curator Paul Wombell, explores the automated image by juxtaposing aerial photographs from the Museum's collection with works by British artist Mishka Henner, which draw on satellite imagery similar to that used in Google Map. The exhibition opening will be held on Friday, September 6 at 4 p.m. Admission to the exhibition will be free to all visitors from September 7 to October 5, 2013.

### An extraordinary life's journey

**Until October 6, 2013**, the McCord Museum presents ***From Philadelphia to Monaco: Grace Kelly – Beyond the Icon***. Visitors are invited to learn about the real Grace Kelly, muse of director Alfred Hitchcock, winner of a best actress Oscar for her remarkable performance in *The Country Girl*, and Princess of Monaco upon her marriage on April 18, 1956, to Rainier III, Prince of Monaco. She was the focus of attention and fascination throughout her life and had an enormous influence on women around the world. The exhibition offers a unique opportunity to admire some 100 archival documents and objects that belonged to her, from testimonials, love letters and notes of friendship to photos, film clips and many items of clothing, including approximately 40 dresses from designers who helped shape fashion history. The exhibition is a production of Grimaldi Forum Monaco, in collaboration with the McCord Museum, and is based on an exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

As conjunction with the exhibition, Jean-Claude Poitras, designer and exhibition spokesperson, will hold two talks on the influence of Grace Kelly on style and fashion. The Museum will also present a series of films starring Grace Kelly as well as a special evening event in September. The McCord Museum also invites the public to enter a contest.

### Lost in space

For the Museum's fourth edition of its **Toys** exhibition, children ages 3 to 9 will head off on a space adventure to rescue a playful teacher. From **November 16, 2013, to April 6, 2014**, cosmic dolls, characters and toys invite Museum visitors of all ages to join them on a magical intergalactic journey! Story hour, grandparents' weekend, Sunday workshops and a host of spring break activities will be offered in the months ahead.

### Touching Reality

From **December 5, 2013, to April 13, 2014**, the McCord Museum presents ***Claire Beaugrand-Champagne – Touching Reality***, an exhibition dedicated to this Quebec photographer. Through more than 100 photos taken between 1970 and 2013, visitors will discover the body of work of this pioneer of documentary photography in the province. Since the 1970s, Beaugrand-Champagne has photographed the people who surround her, managing to deftly capture the emotional impact of each encounter. Her photo essays present a powerful portrait of society. A discussion on the photography of Claire Beaugrand-Champagne will be held in February 2014.



NATO Storage Annex,  
Coevorden, Drenthe  
From the series *Dutch Landscapes*  
(2011)  
© Mishka Henner



Articulated figure (Toy)  
1920-1930  
Created by A. Bücherer  
M982.209.1 © McCord Museum

### Artist-in-Residence – Kent Monkman

From **January 30 to May 25, 2014**, Kent Monkman, internationally renowned contemporary artist of Cree and Irish ancestry, will present an artistic work inspired by the McCord Museum Notman Photographic Archives. When his exhibition opens, Monkman will join H el ene Samson, Curator of the Notman Photographic Archives, for a conference about his work.

### Permanent exhibitions

***Wearing our Identity – The First Peoples Collection***, the new permanent exhibition at the McCord Museum, enables visitors to discover ancient traditions, where the creation of garments displayed a rich heritage of identities and cultures. *Wearing our Identity – The First Peoples Collection* is an eloquent statement about the importance of clothing in the development, preservation and communication of the social, cultural, political and spiritual identities of the First Nations, Inuit and M etis.

The exhibition also includes works by contemporary Aboriginal artists, who examine the notion of identity. Selected twice each year by Aboriginal guest artist and curator, Nadia Myre, the works are integrated into the exhibition. Terrance Houle and Maria Hupfield are the first two contemporary artists whose artwork will be displayed.

This exhibition has been produced through a financial contribution from the program *Aide aux projets – Appel de projets pour le soutien des expositions permanentes, volet 4* of the Qu ebec Cultural Heritage Fund of the Minist ere de la Culture et des Communications du Qu ebec. The restoration of the artefacts presented in the exhibition has been made possible through the generosity of the Molson Foundation. The Museum also thanks its partner Tourisme Montr al.

Complementing the exhibition is a catalogue published by  ditions Gallimard (in English and French versions at \$49.95 at the McCord Museum Boutique as well as in many book stores in Montreal and across Quebec). In addition to numerous colour photographs, the catalogue features texts written by 16 members of the Aboriginal community, who examine the issue of identity, not only through dress but in all of its facets. The catalogue has been published through the generosity of the Peter Cundill Foundation.

A special event and film screenings by Wapikoni Mobile, as well as workshops featuring beading activities, will be offered in the coming weeks.

### Montreal and its districts

Ten vivid snapshots of Montreal's history, from before the arrival of the Europeans to today's vibrant city with its metro and skyscrapers, make up the McCord Museum's second permanent exhibition, ***Montreal – Points of View***. Visitors witness key moments in the city's history, learn about its unique neighbourhoods, and meet the people whose vision shaped the Montreal of today. Twice annually, the McCord Museum also takes a fresh look at the city by devoting the red wall in its exhibition hall to photographs by a contemporary artist. Until 2014, visitors are invited to discover the work of photographer Guillaume Simoneau.

This exhibition has been made possible with a financial contribution from the program *Aide aux projets – Appel de projets pour le soutien des expositions permanentes, volet 4* of the Qu ebec Cultural Heritage Fund of the Minist ere de la Culture et des Communications du Qu ebec.

### Outdoor exhibition

#### ***Honouring Memory – Canada's Residential Schools***

For an eighth consecutive year, the McCord Museum presents its outdoor photography exhibition on McGill College Avenue. In keeping with its mission to shed light on our people and our stories, the Museum, through ***Honouring Memory – Canada's Residential Schools***, recalls the fate of thousands of First Peoples children who, willingly or by force, grew up in residential schools intended to eradicate all traces of their culture. In association with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and **until October 20, 2013**, the McCord Museum is displaying archival photographs giving back to First Nations, Inuit and M etis people memories of their children and exposing this shameful attempt at assimilation.



Modern pentathlon, Cross-country,  
Olympic Games, Montr al, 1976  
  Claire Beaugrand-Champagne



Girl at St. Michael's Indian Residential  
School in Alert Bay, British Columbia,  
1924  
Alice Constance Dunn  
M2010.81.10.111   McCord Museum

This exhibition has been made possible with the support of BMO Financial Group, Rio Tinto Alcan, Arrondissement Ville-Marie, La Maison Simons, Busac, and Buffalo David Bitton. The Museum also thanks the Société de gestion COGIR S.E.N.C. and its partner Hôtel-Musée Premières Nations de Wendake. In conjunction with the exhibition, visitors are invited to enter a contest open to the general public. The prize: a one-of-a-kind stay at the Hôtel-Musée Premières Nations de Wendake.

**The complete program of the many activities associated with these exhibitions is included with this document.**

**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 1.4 million 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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Photographs available on request. Interviews can be arranged with Sylvie Durand, Director, Programs, and Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the McCord Museum.

**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 and the Conseil des arts de Montréal as well as its media partner, *Journal 24 heures*.