

# PRESS RELEASE

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## The McCord Museum opens its doors for the 26<sup>th</sup> Montreal Museum Day

**Montreal, May 27, 2012** – The McCord Museum is delighted to invite the public to visit its exhibitions free of charge during the 26<sup>th</sup> Montreal Museum Day on Sunday, May 27, 2012. Between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., visitors will have the chance to see and admire numerous artefacts drawn from the Museum's own collections as well as works on display by many talented artists in five fascinating exhibitions.

### A discovery of Montreal and Canadian history

A stroll through any of these exhibitions will provide the visitor with an appreciation of the variety of programming offered by the McCord Museum. Should you feel that you may not have enough time to see everything, the following summaries will help you choose the exhibitions of greatest interest to you.

A must-see for Montrealers and tourists to the city alike, the McCord Museum's permanent exhibition, **Montreal-Points of View**, allows visitors to explore 10 different facets of the city, from its first inhabitants, pre-dating the arrival of the Europeans, to today's Montreal, with its metro lines and skyscrapers. Each legendary neighbourhood, a discovery in itself, features a selection of artefacts that mark key moments in its history and the people who had an impact on its development.

Wander into **Inuit Modern**, an exhibition from the Art Gallery of Ontario, and enjoy a one-of-a-kind opportunity to view the Esther and Samuel Sarick collection, one of the most exhaustive collections of Inuit art in the world and an excellent way to learn how this art evolved during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. You will see some 138 sculptures, prints, and drawings by 75 artists.

Take advantage of Montreal Museum Day to stop in and see the remarkable black and white photos on display in **Impressions of a City, Montreal Through a Pinhole**, an exhibition that ends the same day. It presents 18 oversized photos, some up to five metres in length, taken by Guy Glorieux with a pinhole camera. Mr. Glorieux has worked with this technique for more than 12 years. It consists of a rudimentary camera comprised of a box pierced with a tiny hole about 1.5 mm in diameter. The hole allows light to enter, and the image generated is printed on paper or photographic film placed at the back of the box. Visitors will see the many faces of the city, from new neighbourhoods to iconic places and buildings, from a decidedly mysterious and often surprising angle.

Just steps away is **Mary Pickford and the Invention of the Movie Star**, an exhibition organized by TIFF (TIFF Bell Lightbox), which features a selection of 209 objects from the archives of the Rob Brooks Mary Pickford Collection and the TIFF Film Reference Library. Presented are photos, postcards, posters, and a range of merchandising products of the era, and all stand as a testament to the heritage left by one of the world's greatest silent film stars. Visitors can delve into the world of motion pictures and even view screen clips from Pickford's films on the big screen, just as they were shown during the Roaring Twenties.



Photograph  
The Capitol Theatre, Ste. Catherine St.,  
Montreal, QC  
Anonymous  
About 1925, 20th century  
Purchase from Mr. Fritz Arnold  
MP-0000.587.144  
© McCord Museum  
*Montreal-Points of view*



Mary Pickford as she appears in *Coquette*  
Vintage print  
Unknown Photographer  
1929  
*Mary Pickford and the Invention of the Movie Star*

And finally, the McCord Museum recommends a visit to its most recent exhibition, ***Edward Curtis – Beyond Measure***, which presents a series of photographs of Native North Americans. Edward Curtis, born February 16, 1868, in Whitewater, Wisconsin, became interested in photography at an early age. In 1906, he undertook a large-scale project viewed by many as excessively ambitious: he set out to photograph North American Aboriginal peoples in order to document their way of life and their traditions. In 1930, he completed *The North American Indian*, a 20-volume encyclopedic work that included 2,200 illustrations and accompanying texts. In its exhibition, the McCord Museum offers a selection of photogravures taken from these volumes.

If, despite your best efforts, you are simply unable to decide what to see on Montreal Museum Day, remember that the McCord Museum is also open year round!

### **About the McCord Museum**

The McCord Museum is dedicated to the preservation, study and appreciation of Montreal's social history, as recounted by its people, artists and communities. 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 one million artefacts. The McCord Museum produces exciting exhibitions that engage visitors from Montreal 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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