

PRESS RELEASE

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Roll to the rhythms of Montreal at the 2012 McCord Museum *Nuit Blanche*

Montreal, February 7, 2012—The McCord Museum is presenting *Montréal au rythme du temps*, as part of the ninth edition of the city's *Nuit Blanche* (all-nighter), taking place February 25, 2012, from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. For the occasion, the McCord will highlight the rhythms and images of Montreal, both historical and contemporary. In a musical ambience created by artists and musicians **Christian Carrière and Frank O'Connor**, the public will be invited to take part in a unique creative workshop with **Mere Phantoms**, a Montreal-based collective of video projection and shadow theatre artists. During the activity, visitors will be able to participate in games of shadow and light, in a specially designed setting representing the city of Montreal, in the same way as with the McCord Museum's permanent exhibition *Montreal—Points of View*.

Music, creation and improv in the heart of downtown

At **10 p.m.**, **11:30 p.m.** and **1 a.m.** Christian Carrière and Frank O'Connor will perform live in the McCord Museum's Atrium, with each show lasting 40 minutes.

At the same time, the Mere Phantoms collective, known for its original creative workshops, will provide a space for experimentation where visitors can build their own vision of the city. Participants will be able to use the materials provided to create a figure, building or monument they can include in the city and its neighbourhoods. Each individual contribution will enable Montreal to expand and grow. But that's not all! Visitors will then be able to position their work as they wish and combine it with those of other participants to invent stories and generate movement. It's all about teamwork, spontaneity and group creation!

Then, light and shadow come into play and, together, create a world that is both magical and real. For those who manipulate their object in the décor, an entire world of gestural exploration opens up. Spectators will be dazzled by the amazing visual effects that are created.

This *mise en scène* will inspire the artists to create their music. The movements produced by manipulating light and the objects created in the experimentation area will generate rhythms; the music that results will have the same rhythms (for example, to create a festive atmosphere, you need quick, lively movements!) "The performances will combine improvisation and experimental music, semantic alterations to the human voice and the piano," says Mr. Carrière. This workshop is intended as an activity for discovery and growth for all participants. A family-oriented version aimed at kids will be offered from 8 to 10 p.m.

And to cap the experience...

Visitors will be able to view the exhibitions *Montreal—Points of View*; *Luis Jacob—The Eye, the Hole, The Picture*; *Toys 2*; *Inuit Modern* and *Impressions of a City. Montreal through a Pinhole*. Admission to the activities and exhibitions will be free! For more



Paper city
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Shadows
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information about the guest artists, visit christiancarriere.com and merephantoms.com.

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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