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## RENOWNED INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER MIMMO JODICE AT THE McCORD MUSEUM

**Montreal, October 10, 2012** — On October 11, the McCord Museum will welcome its newest exhibition, *Mimmo Jodice Sublime Cities*, by Italian photographer **Mimmo Jodice** ([www.mimmojodice.it](http://www.mimmojodice.it)).

### A unique, exclusive project

For the McCord Museum, the significance of this exhibition is twofold: the first solo exhibition in Canada for Mimmo Jodice, it presents a one-of-a-kind look at Montreal. In addition, an illustrated exhibition catalogue with a text by author Dany Laferrière has been produced by the McCord Museum and will be distributed in Canada by Gallimard Ltd. Featured in the catalogue are previously unpublished photos of Montreal and Venice.

### A few words about the exhibition

*Mimmo Jodice Sublime Cities*, presented from October 11, 2012, to March 3, 2013, consists of 53 large-format black and white photos by Italian artist Mimmo Jodice. The exhibition pays homage to some of the world's greatest cities: Naples, Rome, Venice, Moscow, Tokyo, New York, Boston, São Paulo, Paris, London, Lisbon, Berlin, and, of course, Montreal. Upon an invitation from the Museum, the photographer visited Montreal in the spring of 2012 to take a series of original shots, 10 of which have been integrated into the exhibition.

"How fitting to present the work of Mimmo Jodice at the McCord Museum, a museum that mirrors a city that mirrors the world. Even more fitting is that Montreal, *sublime* city that it is, has been captured by this great artist and made part of the exhibition," declared Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the McCord Museum. "We are honoured and delighted that Mimmo Jodice agreed to photograph Montreal and share his vision of our city with us. In doing so, he provides us with a brand new view of the city."

Devoid of any space-time references or other markers that might allow the visitor to associate the images topically, the Jodice works offer a perspective that pulls these iconic locations a step back from reality.

Throughout his career, this world-renowned Italian artist has been fascinated by vast cityscapes, architectural beauty and urban road networks. "All of my city shots, even those featuring modern architectural elements, seek above all to create a sense of being suspended in time. Each photo could well have been taken a century ago or a century from now," the artist explained.



*Montreal, 2012*  
Inkjet print with carbon pigments on cotton rag paper, 2012  
Credits photo: Mimmo Jodice



*Tokyo, 2004*  
Inkjet print with carbon pigments on cotton rag paper, 2012  
Credits photo: Mimmo Jodice

“This master of film-based photography takes a singular approach using his own photographic and print techniques. The effects of light and movement he produces give these timeless cities a poetic power that can only be described as sublime,” added H  l  ne Samson, Curator, Notman Photographic Archives at the McCord Museum.

The exhibition is presented in partnership with the Soci  t   de Transport de Montr  al (STM) and in collaboration with our partners Garofalo, Feudi di San Gregorio, the Ritz Carlton Montreal, Groupe R  gis C  t   inc., Mois de la Photo, Les Belles Soir  es de l’Universit   de Montr  al, and Universit   de Montr  al.

### Biographical notes on the artist

Born in Naples in 1934, Mimmo Jodice is one of Italy’s preeminent photographers. Initially interested in painting and sculpture, he discovered photography in the early 1960s. After a period of experimentation, Jodice began to explore the portrait, the nude and architecture. His conceptual, avant-garde approach brought his photos to the Guggenheim Museum in New York and introduced him to such revered artists as Andy Warhol, Joseph Beuys, Janis Kounellis and Robert Rauschenberg. In 1970, he began teaching photography at the Naples Academy of Fine Arts and became particularly interested in the conditions of the city’s disadvantaged social classes. However, Jodice’s art is not documentary in nature; in fact it breathes subjectivity. “Anyone seeing my photographs sees my thoughts,” he says. Over time, Jodice grew more contemplative, exploring fantasy and timeless beauty. His photography is perhaps at its most breathtaking in his representations of ancient marble and the infinite sea, which he infuses with expression and life. The city is central to his work, with Naples the archetype for all other cities captured in his lens.

### Career highlights

Photographs by Mimmo Jodice have been exhibited in Europe and the United States and published in more than 30 albums. In 2010, the Maison europ  enne de la photographie in Paris featured a retrospective of his work, and in 2011 the Louvre handed him carte blanche to create an original exhibition, *Les Yeux du Louvre*, a study of the portrait. Italy and France have both honoured Jodice with the highest distinctions; he received the Feltrinelli Prize in 2003 and the title Chevalier des arts et des lettres in 2011. In 2006, Universit   Federico II in Naples awarded him an honorary doctorate in architecture. He last exhibited in North America at the MIT Visual Arts Center in Boston in 2001, and his works can be found in the most prestigious international collections, notably that of the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal.

### Cultural activities:

**Round table: *R  sonance, intemporalit   : les villes de Mimmo Jodice***  
October 9, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Facult   de l’am  nagement, Universit   de Montr  al.  
Free admission.

***Mimmo Jodice, 2000 (53 min)***, Original Italian version with French subtitles.

November 3, 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm. J.A. Bombardier Theatre, McCord Museum.  
Free admission.

This documentary recounts the early career of Mimmo Jodice and his connection to his birthplace and source of inspiration, Naples.



*Paris, 1993*  
Inkjet print with carbon pigments on cotton rag paper, 2012  
Credits photo: Mimmo Jodice



*Montreal, 2012*  
Inkjet print with carbon pigments on cotton rag paper, 2012  
Credits photo: Mimmo Jodice

### **Garofalo Italian Nights at the McCord Museum**

November 7, 14, 21 and 28, beginning at 5:30 pm. J.A. Bombardier Theatre, McCord Museum. Free admission.

On Wednesday evenings in November, *Garofalo* presents the Italian Nights film festival at the McCord Museum. Featured will be a selection of contemporary and classic Italian films as well as the award-winning documentary *Hands Over the City* (1963) on Naples, birthplace of Mimmo Jodice. All of the films will be preceded by a short film on the arts produced by *Garofalo Pastas*.

### **The catalogue:**

Complementing the exhibition is a beautiful catalogue with texts by author Dany Laferrrière and Hélène Samson, Curator, Notman Photographic Archives. The catalogue contains 53 black and white photographs of some of the world's greatest cities, including 10 previously unpublished photos of Montreal. The 148-page soft cover work, measuring 26.67 cm X 30.48 cm, includes 100 pages of photographs and is produced by the McCord Museum, designed by Dominique Mousseau, and distributed in Canada by Gallimard Ltd. (ISBN : 978-1-895615-30-2). Bilingual: English, French. Retail price: \$42.95.

### **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, costume 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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For more information or to order high-resolution photos, please contact:

### **Information:**

### **Source:**

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[www.mccord-museum.qc.ca](http://www.mccord-museum.qc.ca)

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