

Get inside our designers' heads!
4th Design Montréal Open House: May 1 and 2

Montréal, April 8, 2010—Helen Fotopulos, Executive Committee member responsible for Culture, Heritage, Design and the Status of Women, today unveiled the program for the fourth annual Design Montréal Open House. She was accompanied for the occasion by the event spokespersons, actress Macha Limonchik and the Creative Director and founder of the orangetango agency, Mario Mercier. A total of about 100 Montréal design agencies, projects and presentation venues will be accessible to the public at no charge on Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2.

Montréal 

Step into designers' worlds

As usual, visitors will have the opportunity to meet the winners of national and international design competitions in their work surroundings. Architects, fashion designers, graphic designers, industrial designers, interior designers, landscape architects and urban planners will show off their latest achievements using models, drawings, photos, video screenings, interactive installations and more.

“The Open House is a chance for Montrealers to get to know the professionals who are responsible for Montréal’s designation as a UNESCO City of Design and to go backstage in the world of design creation,” Ms. Fotopulos said. “This is a superb opportunity to rub shoulders with designers and to exchange ideas with visionaries who transform our everyday surroundings into works of art.”

For her part, Ms. Limonchik said: “In the work of our designers, we see the reflection of what we are today as well as hints of what we’ll become tomorrow. But above all, designing is about a passion for transforming. The raw materials, first of all, but, in the process, our perceptions as well. Our designers re-imagine our vision of the world.”

And Mr. Mercier added: “Our professions are viewed, judged and appreciated through the physical objects, images and spaces that result from our projects. This event is an invitation to visit our studios and offices and see how we work. It’s a chance to truly get to know the creative process.”

Design for all!

Visitors of all ages—from inquisitive first-timers to seasoned design aficionados—will be delighted. The event offers a diverse line-up of programming, including some activities that are brand-new this year.

Members of the public will be able to soak up the sights and sounds of the city thanks to themed walking itineraries offered as podcasts, explore the works of emerging designers, enjoy exhibitions by graduating students in the various design and architecture disciplines, and visit art and design landmarks in Montréal. In addition, a wide range of family-friendly events is planned, with entertaining and educational activities for young people aged 10 and up.

Local talents, international reputations

This year, nine talented designers will be showcased as part of the exhibition-performance *Regard 9* at the Society for Arts and Technology (SAT), Saturday, May 1, from 5 to 8 p.m. Selected by guest curator Frédéric Gauthier, founder and head of comic-book/novel publisher La Pastèque, these emerging designers share an approach to their practice that is off the beaten path, favouring creative processes that blend artisanal manufacturing techniques with intensive research into materials, their origin and their history. Several of them have had their work shown abroad. Visitors are invited to watch them create one-of-a-kind works right before their eyes. This activity will be followed by a party lasting until midnight.

Create your itinerary and use public transportation

The Design Montréal Open House organizers, in partnership with the STM and Bixi, invite everyone to take public transit, ride bicycles or walk to the participating venues in each neighbourhood. An interactive map will be available on the www.DesignMontrealOpenHouse.com website to help visitors plan itineraries based on their interests and share them with Facebook friends. And four bloggers will suggest activities and reveal their favourites.

The Design Montréal Open House is an initiative of the Ville de Montréal in collaboration with the professional design community and in partnership with the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine, pursuant to the Agreement on the Cultural Development of Montréal. The Design Montréal office was created in January 2006 by the Ville de Montréal. Its mission is to implement the municipal action plan aimed at improving design throughout the city and positioning Montréal as a UNESCO City of Design.

To view the full program schedule, choose which sites to visit and which designers to meet, visit www.DesignMontrealOpenHouse.com.

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Source: Bernard Larin
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80 DESIGN OFFICES AND AGENCIES

Architecture (12)

- ACDF* architecture
- atelier big city
- Cardin Ramirez Julien
- Jodoin Lamarre Pratte et Associés architectes + Manon Asselin architecte
- Les architectes Corriveau et Girard
- Les architectes FABG at Théâtre de Quat'Sous
- Les ateliers L. McComber
- Maxime Brault Architecte
- Menkès Shooner Dagenais Letourneux Architectes
- Natalie Dionne architecte
- _naturehumaine architecture & design
- Smith Vigeant architectes

Architecture and urban design (6)

- ABCP architecture
- Ædifica | architecture + design
- Cohlmeier Architecture Limited
- Daoust Lestage Architecture Design urbain
- Groupe Cardinal Hardy
- Lemay associés [architecture, design]

Architecture and landscape architecture (1)

- Affleck + de la Riva architectes

Landscape architecture and urban design (6)

- Direction des grands parcs et de la nature en ville, Ville de Montréal
- Groupe IBI/DAA
- NIPpaysage
- Stuart Webster Design / Daccord Webster Paysage
- Urban Soland: paysages urbains
- VLAN paysages

Architecture and graphic design (1)

- Sid Lee

Graphic design (13)

- Agence Code
- AKUFEN Atelier Créatif
- Atelier Pastille Rose
- Baillat Cardell & Fils
- Commun
- Departement / studio créatif
- Ekorce atelier créatif
- Elliot
- orangetango
- Renzo
- Thomas design / TOMA objets
- TOXA / Urbania
- Uniform

Interactive design (3)

- Bluesponge
- Dynamo
- Moment Factory

Industrial design (6)

- Aquaovo
- Michel Swift Design
- Scharly Designer Studio
- Signature design communication
- Tactix Gear Workshop
- Tak Design Industriel

Exhibit design (3)

- Atelier Louis-Charles Lasnier
- gsmprjct°
- INPHO

Interior design (5)

- c3studio
- Christian Bélanger Design / Les Archives
- GHA Design Studios
- Ruscio Studio
- Thibodeau Architecture + Design at Nespresso Café-boutique

Fashion design (13)

- Bodybag by Jude, atelier-boutique
- CLUC Couture
- Denis Gagnon
- Dinh Ba design
- ENVERS par Yves Jean Lacasse
- Harricana
- Helmer
- Katrin Leblond Design
- Marie Saint Pierre Design
- Mylène B
- Philippe Dubuc
- Valérie Dumaine
- Véronique Miljkovitch

Emerging Practices (9)

- À Hauteur d'homme – Louis-Philippe Pratte
- Bruxe – Oli Van Roost et Mer Van Roost
- Diane Bisson
- Julien Vallée
- Naked & Famous Denim – Brandon Svarc
- Philippe Malouin
- Post-vernissage – Ying Gao et Karl Latraverse
- Samare – Laurie Bedikian, Mania Bedikian, Nicolas Bellavance-Lecompte et Patrick Meirim de Barros
- SSSVLL – Guillaume Sasseville

Urban spaces (2)

- Théâtre de Quat'Sous by Les architectes FABG
- Nespresso Café-boutique by Thibodeau Architecture + Design

Exhibitions and activities (19)

- Atelier Punkt
- Audiotope (3 themed self-guided walking tours (audio- and video-guided))
- CD&I Associates
- Canadian Centre for Architecture
- Centre des textiles contemporains de Montréal (CTCM)
- Centre d'expertise sur les matières résiduelles (CEMR)
- Galerie YellowFishArt
- LABoratoire Créatif
- Maison de la culture Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
- Maison de l'architecture du Québec
- Montréal Museum of Fine Arts (2 exhibitions)
- Society for Arts and Technology
- Concordia University, Design & Computation Arts Department
- Université de Montréal, Faculty of Environmental Design
- McGill University, School of Architecture
- UQAM, École de design

PARTNERS AND ORGANIZERS

The Design Montréal Open House is an initiative of the Ville de Montréal in collaboration with the professional design community and in partnership with the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du Québec under the Agreement on the Cultural Development of Montréal, and with support from the Société de transport de Montréal and BIXI.

Producers

Ville de Montréal (Bureau Design Montréal)
Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine

Collaborators

Société de transport de Montréal
BIXI

Sponsor

Pixel Circus

Media partner

Nightlife Media

Organizing partners

- Association des architectes paysagistes du Québec (AAPQ)
- Association des designers industriels du Québec (ADIQ)
- Association professionnelle des designers d'intérieur du Québec (APDIQ)
- Bureau de la mode de Montréal
- *Canadian Architect*
- Canadian Institute of Planners
- *Canadian Interiors*
- Conférence interprofessionnelle des designers du Québec (CIDQ)
- Design Exchange
- Fonds d'études et de recherche en design intérieur de l'Est (FERDIE)
- *Infopresse (Grafika)*
- *Intérieurs*
- Les Arts et la Ville
- Ordre des architectes du Québec (OAQ)
- Ordre des urbanistes du Québec (OUQ)
- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
- Société des designers graphiques du Québec (SDGQ)

Québec and Canadian professional competitions referenced

- Les Mérites d'architecture de la Ville de Québec (Québec City architecture competition)
- 2009 *Canadian Architect* Awards of Excellence (*Canadian Architect* magazine architecture competition)
- 2009 Canadian Institute of Planners Awards
- 2009 CSLA Awards of Excellence (Canadian Society of Landscape Architects competition)
- 2009 Design Exchange Awards (national architecture, fashion design, industrial design, interior design, landscape architecture, urban design and visual communications competition)
- 2009 Grafika Awards (graphic design, exhibition design, event design and Web design competition)
- 2009 Intérieurs|Ferdie Awards (interior design and product design competition)
- 2009 OAQ Awards of Excellence (Ordre des architectes du Québec architecture competition)
- 2009 Prix Aménagement Les Arts et la Ville (interior design competition, arts and culture venues)

- 2009 RAIC Awards of Excellence (Royal Architectural Institute of Canada architecture competition)
- 12th Best of Canada Design Awards (*Canadian Interiors* magazine industrial design, interior design, architecture and landscape architecture competition)
- Fashion: As there is no local fashion design competition, participating designers are chosen by a Selection Committee created by the Ville de Montréal's Bureau de la mode. The members of this year's jury were:
 - o Sophie Banford, Senior Editor, Style and Design, *Châtelaine* magazine
 - o Denise Deslauriers, co-owner, Tristan
 - o Maryse Locat, stylist
 - o Francine Nadeau, Director, Public Affairs, École de mode du Cégep Marie-Victorin
 - o Xavier Rang, Project Manager, Ubisoft
 - o Amélie Thellen, co-owner, Unicorn
- Emerging Practices: presented by guest curator Frédéric Gauthier, co-founder of publishing house La Pastèque