

PHOTO: NAT GORRY



A Practical Guide for Teachers [2011-2012]

REGULAR ACTIVITIES OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF THE MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL

[ART WORKSHOPS]

The museum's art workshops are designed to offer visitors of all ages an opportunity to enhance their aesthetic experience by trying out various media, techniques and materials related to a particular theme or concept found in a work or exhibition. Their aim is to develop participants' desire and ability to create, by encouraging artistic expression.

In addition, with their hands-on approach, the workshops help demystify the creative process and make contemporary art more accessible. They are one hour long and are open to all students, from preschool (minimum age four) to university level.

[INTERACTIVE TOURS]

The museum offers interactive tours allowing visitors to discover its Permanent Collection and temporary exhibitions. Through personal observation of works of art, the tours help students develop their eye for the art object. They are conducted in an atmosphere conducive to discussion and open to questions, and provide an opportunity for discovery, learning and greater awareness about contemporary art.

The chosen route and pedagogical approach vary with the exhibition program, but are always tailored to the tour group's grade level, from preschool through to university. The minimum age required is four. Tours last about one hour.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY-LEVEL GROUPS MAY ALSO RESERVE TOURS OF 90 MINUTES.

[WORKSHOP/TOUR COMBINATION]

The workshop/tour combination is the ideal way to make the most of a visit to the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal. By personally observing works of art and then engaging in a creative activity, students combine both "seeing" and "doing." The activity arouses students' curiosity about contemporary art practices and, at the same time, fosters their own creativity through the discovery and observation of original works.

Education Staff

The tours and workshops are led by educators who are graduates in art, art history, arts education or museum studies and have received further training from the Education Department to give them a dynamic, interactive approach to contemporary art.

[1]

HOW DO I RESERVE?

It's best to reserve by e-mail: www.macm.org/teachers

You can also reserve by calling 514 847-6253, Tuesday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We recommend that you reserve at the start of the school year for the workshop/tour combination, and two weeks in advance for interactive tours.

Please supply the following information:

- name, address and telephone number of the school
- name and telephone number of the contact person
- number of students and grade level
- desired language for the activity
- desired dates
- any special needs of the group
- any preference in terms of exhibition or theme for the tour
- for college and university-level groups, the length of tour (1 hour or 90 minutes)

[2]

WHEN CAN I RESERVE?

You can reserve starting Tuesday, August 30, 2011. Since our activities are in great demand, we suggest that you reserve as early as possible. First come, first served!

[3]

WHAT TIMES ARE AVAILABLE?

For art workshops (1 hour in length)

Tuesday through Friday at 9, 9:30, 10:30 and 11 a.m., and 12:30, 1 and 2 p.m.

Reservations required.

For guided tours (1 hour or 90 minutes in length)

Tuesday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Reservations required.

For the workshop/tour combination

Tuesday through Friday:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Block A: 9 to 11 a.m. | (available for 1 class) |
| Block B: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. | (available for 1 or 2 classes, lunch from 11:30 to 12) |
| Block C: 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. | (available for 1 or 2 classes, lunch from 12 to 12:30) |
| Block D: 1 to 3 p.m. | (available for 1 or 2 classes) |

[4]

WILL I BE SENT A CONFIRMATION OF MY RESERVATION?

After you reserve, you will receive an invoice which is also your confirmation. We ask you to check it carefully, and notify us at least 7 days before your activity if any changes need to be made.

[5]

HOW MUCH DO THE REGULAR ACTIVITIES COST?

For preschool, elementary and secondary school groups

Number of students	Workshop or tour	Workshop/tour combination
0-10	\$30	\$50
11-20	\$60	\$100
21-30	\$90	\$150
31-40	\$120	\$200
41-50	\$150	\$250
51-60	\$180	\$300

For college and university groups

Tour	Workshop/tour combination
1 hour: \$6 per student	
90 minutes: \$8 per student	\$8 per student

Method of payment

We will send you an invoice in advance for the activity you have reserved.

THE INVOICE IS PAYABLE IN FULL AT THE MUSEUM TICKET COUNTER WHEN YOU ARRIVE FOR YOUR TOUR.

Please make your cheque payable to **Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal** and write the name of your school or organization on it, as well as the contract number shown in the top right corner of your invoice.

[6]

WHAT IS YOUR CANCELLATION POLICY?

You must notify us of any cancellation or change in reservation at least 7 days in advance by calling 514 847 6253. No changes will be accepted less than 7 days before the activity. An amount of 50% of the total payable for the activity, to a maximum of \$50, will be charged for each reservation cancelled less than 7 days before the activity.

[7]

HOW MANY STUDENTS CAN I BRING?

For art workshops

30 students maximum (20 for preschoolers)

For interactive tours

10 to 60 students (may vary depending on the availability of the exhibition galleries)

For the workshop/tour combination

30 students maximum for activity block A

60 students maximum for activity blocks B, C and D

[8]

ARE THE ACTIVITIES APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES?

For some exhibitions, we can accommodate small groups of blind or visually impaired children for a tactile exploration of the works, followed by a workshop. We ask you to reserve 4 weeks in advance.

Our exhibition galleries and art workshops are all wheelchair-accessible. Kindly specify any special needs when making your reservation.

[9]

IS THERE A ROOM AVAILABLE FOR THE STUDENTS AT LUNCH TIME?

Groups reserving for the workshop/tour combination from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. have the use of a lunchroom from 12 to 12:30 p.m. We can also accommodate groups booked in for 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., but the students must vacate the room by 12. Please specify when reserving if you plan to stay at the museum for lunch.

[10]

HOW MANY ADULTS MUST ACCOMPANY THE GROUP?

We require a ratio of:

1 adult to 8 preschool-age children

1 adult to 10 elementary school children

The teachers and other adults accompanying the group are there to help ensure that the activities run smoothly and that the rules are obeyed. They are also responsible for the students at lunchtime.

[11]

HOW DO WE GET TO THE MUSEUM?

You can come by metro (get off at Place-des-Arts), or by bus (line 15, 129, 80 or 55).

School buses may drop off students on Jeanne-Mance Street, along the west side of the museum.

Please note that there is no parking on this street.

[12]

WHERE AND WHEN DO WE GO IN?

Come to the main entrance, at 185 Sainte-Catherine Street West (corner Jeanne-Mance), or enter through the door connected to Place-des-Arts metro.

Please arrive 10 minutes before your scheduled activity. A late arrival will mean shortening the activity time.

Before 11 a.m. (when the museum officially opens), the doors can only be opened 15 minutes before the activity is scheduled to begin.

[13]

WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE FOR THE ACTIVITIES?

On your arrival, you will be greeted by Education Department staff.

Next, you will leave your coats in the lockers provided. Backpacks are not allowed in the exhibition galleries because of the risk of accidentally damaging the works. Bags containing valuables may be checked at the museum cloakroom. You will have a chance to visit the restrooms and drinking fountains.

For copyright reasons, photography and filming are not permitted in the exhibition galleries. They are allowed in the workshops, however.

After a brief introduction, covering the nature of the museum and the schedule for the day, the group will begin its activity.

Please note that, for interactive tours, the class will be divided into two groups to promote more lively, personal discussions between educator and students.

Five to seven works will be explored on the tour. Through dialogue with the educator, the students will improve their observational skills, learn to identify the basic elements in each work, be introduced to new terms and draw connections between details they have seen, in order to enhance their understanding of the work. They will have a chance to express their opinions, share their impressions and let their imaginations roam.

Then, in the invention-friendly surroundings of the workshops, the students will give free rein to their imaginations by creating their own artworks inspired by a piece on display at the museum, while trying out different techniques, media and materials. At the end of the activity, the whole class will join in cleaning up the materials used.

[14]

HOW DO I PREPARE MY STUDENTS FOR THEIR VISIT TO THE MUSEUM?

You can come by the museum to pick up a copy of the *Magazine of the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal* and the current calendar of exhibitions, and you can explore the museum's website at www.macm.org.

As well, you can ask your students the following questions:

- What is a collection?
- Do any of you have a collection?
- What is a museum?
- What is special about an art museum?
- What does “contemporary” mean?
- What kind of objects can you see in a museum of contemporary art?
- Who works in a museum? What do these people do?

Finally, it is very important to go over the rules that must be followed at the museum:

- Look only with your eyes, not with your hands, because your skin is covered with a thin film of oil that leaves fingerprints. Over time, this film will soil and damage the works of art.
- Speak softly. Please show respect for other groups and visitors in the exhibition galleries.
- Walk slowly. This will give you time to see more, and will help prevent accidents.

The rules will be reviewed when you arrive at the museum.

[15]

IT'S NOT DRY YET!

The media used in the workshop might have not finished drying when you leave the museum. In that case, you can pick up your works from Tuesday to Friday between 2 and 4:30 p.m. and on Sunday afternoons between 1 and 5 p.m., from workshop “1” at the museum. Otherwise, we can send them to you by messenger, at a cost of \$10 per class. A new invoice will be issued in this amount.

[ART WORKSHOPS]

2011–2012 SEASON

SEPTEMBER 9 TO 30, 2011

Pillars of Strength

What do Egyptian figures, Montréal buildings and Place des Arts have in common? In his work entitled *Comme si le temps... de la rue*, Pierre Granche skilfully combines a variety of subjects, objects and symbols. In the activity *Pillars of Strength*, participants will be asked to create a collage made up of visual elements borrowed from Egyptian culture, urban design, Montréal architecture and botany.

OCTOBER 7 TO NOVEMBER 25, 2011

Walls Awash

Inspired by an installation on view in the exhibition *The Work Ahead of Us. The 2011 Québec Triennial*, we will paint a huge mural in India ink and wash: the workshop walls will be filled with a vast array of lines, graphics and forms evoking an immense, phantasmagorical landscape. Be prepared for fun, discovery and experimentation. Bring your camera so you can document your participation in this mega-project!

DECEMBER 2, 2011 TO JANUARY 27, 2012

Folds of Watercolour

More amazement is in store in this watercolour painting activity that ties in with a group of works presented in the exhibition *The Work Ahead of Us. The 2011 Québec Triennial*.

FEBRUARY 3 TO MARCH 2, 2012

Bric-à-Blass

Works by Valérie Blass will guide us as we create extraordinary images, with hybrid, oddly disturbing forms, out of all kinds of materials.

MARCH 9 TO APRIL 6, 2012

Abstraction in Action: Borduas

After observing Paul-Émile Borduas's 1945 work titled *Palette d'artiste surréaliste ou 3.45*, on display in the exhibition *A Matter of Abstraction*, you will use a brush to paint abstract images made up of a tangle of expressively coloured forms.

APRIL 13 TO MAY 18, 2012

Abstraction in Action: Riopelle

Taking inspiration from Jean-Paul Riopelle's *Landing*, 1958, presented in the exhibition *A Matter of Abstraction*, participants will wield spatulas as they paint abstract images through spontaneous gestures and dazzling colours.

MAY 25 TO JUNE 29, 2012

Animals Uncaged

The works in the exhibition *Zoo* will provide the inspiration for a bestiary created, in relief, out of fantastical and fanciful animals in two and three dimensions.

[EXHIBITIONS]

2011–2012 SEASON

SEPTEMBER 9 TO 30, 2011

A tour focusing on the links between art and architecture inside and outside the Musée

Focusing on the relationship between art and architecture, this tour highlights works both inside and outside of the museum. Whether permanently incorporated into the architecture or displayed on temporary exhibition, all these works have a special connection to their surroundings, and it is from this standpoint that they are discussed.

OCTOBER 7 TO NOVEMBER 25, 2011

The Work Ahead of Us. The 2011 Québec Triennial * (first part)

NOVEMBER 29, 2011 TO JANUARY 27, 2012

The Work Ahead of Us. The 2011 Québec Triennial (second part)

This triennial exhibition, now in its second edition, is the largest event devoted to Québec contemporary art. It occupies the entirety of the Musée's exhibition space and involves over forty artists. With the Triennial the MACM bears witness to the vitality of contemporary Québec creation and proposes new points of view on the present. Given the breadth of the exhibition, two different guided tours will be offered.

* Exhibitions shown in **bold** are all connected with a corresponding art workshop.

FEBRUARY 3 TO APRIL 20, 2012

Ghada Amer

Born in Cairo, Egypt, in 1963 and now resident in New York, Ghada Amer is famous for her pictorial works, to which she adds embroidery that imitates the drip technique of gestural abstraction. By mingling these drawings with images of a sexual nature taken from pornographic magazines, the artist challenges the primary function of this iconography and explores questions relating to the depiction of women.

Given the explicitly sexual nature of this exhibition, tours will be limited to groups of college and university-level students.

Wangechi Mutu

This exhibition presents the masterly installation *Moth Girls* (2010) comprising a hundred or so ceramic figurines, part-human, part-animal. In this work of great expressive energy, the Kenyan-born artist Wangechi Mutu grapples with the relationships between living beings, humans and the power of nature. The show also includes drawings and collages touching on the same important themes.

Valérie Blass

To make her sculptures, Montréal artist Valérie Blass salvages, recycles, assembles and cobbles together her materials. Exploring the zones between the human, the animal and the inanimate object, she presents us with hybrid but strangely familiar shapes operating on the margin between abstraction and figuration. The exhibition brings together some ten recent works and several earlier pieces that enable us to put the main themes of her practice into context.

FROM MARCH 8, 2012

A Matter of Abstraction

This historical theme-based exhibition comprises about a hundred works from the Musée's collection that illustrate the numerous ramifications of the visual arts linked to the expression of abstraction in the output of Québec artists. Covering the period from 1939 to the present day, the exhibition enables visitors to follow the quest for abstraction from Paul-Émile Borduas and the Automatists via the Plasticiens to the new generations of the School of Montréal.

MAY 25 TO AUGUST 31, 2012

Zoo

This exhibition brings together some fifteen works by Québec, Canadian and international artists to illustrate the special interest in animals we see in contemporary art. The evidence of the study and depiction of the animal world apparent in these artworks gives food for thought, calling into question the relationship between human beings and nature, a relationship affected by unprecedented ecological catastrophes.

** Exhibitions shown in **bold** are all connected with a corresponding art workshop.*