



QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES MONTRÉAL

Press release / For immediate release

A culturally stimulating summer at Place Émilie-Gamelin and Place de la Paix in the Quartier des spectacles!

Montreal, July 12 2011 – The Quartier des spectacles is proud to contribute to the ongoing renewal of Place Émilie-Gamelin and Place de la Paix with a whole summer’s worth of fun, eclectic summer activities.

“To help us come up with ideas for our summer programming, we used two of the principles we already follow for the development of the Quartier des spectacles. First, collaboration : our diverse range of partners lets us offer a whole host of participatory activities that emphasize encounters, both between creators and the public, and between the different people that use spaces. Second, we wanted to adapt the activities to the specific character of each of our sites, not adapt the sites to the activities. What will make this a success is that incredible intersection of a strong effort from our partners on the one hand, and the insatiable curiosity of the Montreal public on the other” declared the Honourable Charles Lapointe, chair of the Quartier des spectacles Partnership board.

“During the summer of 2010, Ville-Marie borough adopted an action plan to allow more of our citizens to enjoy downtown public spaces. You can already see the results. Today, working with the Quartier des spectacles Partnership, we’re very excited to take a further step and bring even more activity to Place Émilie-Gamelin and Place de la Paix” announced Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay.

Ice cream, fun and games at Place Émilie-Gamelin

Place Émilie-Gamelin, at the corner of Berri and Sainte-Catherine streets, is *the* place to refresh yourself this summer. First you have to try the ice cream (made in Quebec!) at the Comptoir, a shipping container recycled into an ice-cream kiosk by the team of Steel Space and managed by Resto Plateau. Ice cream in hand, you can enjoy the all-new pool, painted by NIP paysage in collaboration with Andraos & Mongiat, or check out the new photo exhibition mounted by Mouvement Art Public (MAP).

More adventurous types can wrinkle their brows every day between 12 noon and 7 PM with giant chess and tangram games. Not to mention a series of cultural events like pétanque, movies in the park, youth literature activities, slam-poetry performances, the Faubourg Saint-Laurent public market every Friday, or the artistic performances of the robot Jackson Bollock.

So many festivals are flying their flag in the neighbourhood right now. Such as MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE, currently presenting a whole range of surprising activities until July 24, followed by Divers/Cité and the Montreal Pride Celebrations.

We certainly can't forget to note that Ville-Marie borough has reactivated the fountain that is an integral part of the imposing Melvin Charney sculpture at Place Émilie-Gamelin. It completes the urban environment and accentuates the bold, unique architecture of this public square, officially opened in 1992 as part of Montreal's 350th anniversary celebrations.

Movies at Place de la Paix

In collaboration with the Society for Arts and Technology (the SAT) and several festivals, Place de la Paix on Saint-Laurent boulevard between Sainte-Catherine Street and René-Lévesque boulevard is, since the beginning of July, a new drive-in movie theatre – without the driving. Kicked off with Fantasia à la belle étoile, the series of free shows go on with Prends ça court!, the Montreal World Short Film Series, presenting a selection of its best short films. Up next is Ciné-Métal of Heavy MTL, with the documentary *Metal: A Headbanger's Journey*, then it's the all-new Ciné-Osheaga with *White Stripes : Under great white northern lights* and *KARKWA: Les Cendres de verre*, the Rencontres internationales du Documentaire de Montréal (RIDM) with a special showing of *El Bulli – Cooking In Progress*, followed by Festival SPASM with a selection of its favourite short films. The Computer Animation Festival 2011, part of the ACM SIGGRAPH Montréal conference, will take over the screen to wrap up the series. Bring along your own folding chairs and blankets!

And that's not all. Between the end of August and October 1, the Marché St-Laurent will rise again, thanks to the efforts of the Quartier des spectacles, the SAT's Foodlab and Ville-Marie borough. Neighbourhood residents can stock up on fresh local food from Thursday to Saturday during the open-air market at Place de la Paix. A series of activities will emphasize different cooking practices and the idea of terroir.

From east to west, from the Place des Festivals to Place de la Paix to Place Émilie-Gamelin, summer is happening in the Quartier des spectacles!

For all the informations, visit : <http://www.quartierdesspectacles.com/en/>

About the Quartier des spectacles

Indoors or outdoors, the Quartier des spectacle is always the best place to enjoy the city and its many cultural activities. Whether before or after a show at one of the 80 performance venues, or during a stroll to enjoy the fountains at the Place des Festivals or the architectural illuminations of the Luminous Pathway, there's always things to see and do! www.quartierdesspectacles.com

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