



## QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES MONTRÉAL

Press release | For immediate distribution

### **On May 17, Quartier des Spectacles celebrates Montreal's birthday!**

**Montreal, May 11 2012** – Fête de Montréal, a celebration of the anniversary of the city's founding, is coming back to Quartier des Spectacles. Come out on May 17 to enjoy the return of summer with the many artists who will give spontaneous performances throughout the day.

On the program: 250 artistes, 40 venues and six full hours of performances, for a total of 750 multidisciplinary artistic presentations in three time slots: 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. Have lunch outside, or come after work and let yourself be entertained! Throughout Quartier des Spectacles, you'll find unique performances, activities organized for the occasion and even a few surprises.

Musicians who will perform include Chloé Lacasse, Martin Léon, Catherine Major, the Montreal Gospel Choir and Fanfare Pourpour, as well as Yann Perreau, who will give an unforgettable performance on his grand piano on the Place des Arts esplanade.

There will also be theatre, with a huge variety of spontaneous performances, starting with readings of the (worst) autobiographies of Quebec stars, courtesy of Cabaret Bio dégradable. More theatre: Vis Motrix and its puppet theatre, along with poets Queen Ka and Claude Beausoleil. Les Nomadurbains, Théâtre du Nouveau Monde and Théâtre Jean Duceppe will each bring something unique to the Quartier's public spaces.

A nominee for the year's best new talent at the recent Oliviers comedy awards, the absurdist duo Sèxe Illégal will perform outdoors, while La plus petite scène du monde – a cabaret marathon on a 4 ft. x 4 ft. stage – will also give passers-by plenty of laughs.

Circus arts will also be on display, with acrobatic and aerial performances by troupes such as Paragym's Parkour (free running), Cerceau Atlantis and the Blue Mushroom Sirkus Psyshows, a collective boasting an old-fashioned sword swallower, strongman and bed of nails. In addition, the megastructures on Place des Festivals will be the site of trapeze and aerial silk performances by Duo Nokomi, Anouk Vallée-Charest and Guillaume Blais.

In addition, Fête de Montréal will provide an opportunity to see street performances by dancers from the École supérieure de ballet du Québec and the companies Danse Carpe Diem and Cas Public.

Last but not least, for the entire day of festivities Quartier des Spectacles will present several playful modern installations, from an edible cotton candy field on the Parterre (Cueillir un nuage) to an improvised large-format painting created live by the RGB collective in Place des Festivals (Le Cube).

That's just the beginning! The party continues throughout the warm months as outdoor activities and festivals return to Quartier des Spectacles, helping our city build its reputation as a world class cultural destination.

From Place Émilie-Gamelin to Place des Festivals, come out and be delighted by a day of lively celebrations in the heart of Quartier des Spectacles, on May 17 starting at 7:30 a.m.

## ABOUT QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES

For more than a century, Quartier des Spectacles has been Montreal's cultural heart. Today, it is also a hub of economic, urban and cultural development, with many assets that are helping establish Montreal as a leading cultural metropolis. A vibrant creative zone, open to artistic diversity and cultural cross-pollination, the Quartier has something for everyone, from digital-arts aficionados to fans of world music. Every month of the year and every hour of the day, Montrealers and visitors converge on its 80 venues, 40 festivals and seven squares and public spaces. Part of a unique urban fabric, the boldly illuminated Quartier des Spectacles is an essential destination for anyone looking for a thrilling cultural experience.

For more information, visit [www.quartierdesspectacles.com/fetedemontreal](http://www.quartierdesspectacles.com/fetedemontreal).

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Source:

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