

## Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal 2005

Montreal, 24 August 2005 – **The 9<sup>th</sup> presentation of Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal will be held from 8 September to 10 October 2005.**

Under the theme *Image & Imagination*, the 2005 festival illuminates a neglected area of photographic experience: the life of the photograph in the spectator's mind. 29 solo and group exhibitions of contemporary photographic art – 60 artists from Australia, Canada, France, Haiti, the United Kingdom, and the United States – will be presented in museums, galleries, artist-run centres, university galleries, and cultural centres throughout Montreal.

Developed by this year's Artistic Director Martha Langford, the festival is divided into three sections: *Sightlines into the Imagination*; *Mirroring Ourselves, Recasting Otherness*; and *Pictures as a Way of Shutting our Eyes*.

*Sightlines into the Imagination* throws open the windows of perception. The relationship between sight and the other senses is strengthened by works of art that involve the whole body. *Mirroring Ourselves, Recasting Otherness* challenges social and spatial boundaries. Spectators are prompted to consider their roles in imagining the past, present, and future of the planet. *Pictures as a Way of Shutting our Eyes* enters the realm of the invisible, encountering ghosts and other haunting phenomena. The participation of the spectator is paramount, for these are pictures that will never materialize without the viewer's imagination.

Complementing the exhibitions are a bevy of activities being organized by the festival and its partners: festival launch party on September 8<sup>th</sup>, openings with many artists in attendance from September 8 to 14, artists' talks, curators' tours, and a two-day conference open to the public on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. In addition, the evening of Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, has been dedicated to honouring the important contributions of women artists to this year's festival.

The official program will be distributed prior to the beginning of the event, and will be available for download on our Website shortly: [www.moisdelaphoto.com](http://www.moisdelaphoto.com).

The 336-page book *Image & Imagination* is richly illustrated with 125 reproductions in full colour, and is on sale in English and French in several of the exhibition sites, in bookstores, or through McGill-Queen's University Press.

**Dates:** 8 September – 10 October 2005  
**Official Opening:** A week of festivities with the artists – 8-14 September  
8 September – Many exhibitions open to the public from 5:00 to 8:30pm.  
Shuttle buses linking the sites, leaving Galerie de l'UQAM and Leonard & Bina Ellen Gallery at Concordia University starting at 5:45pm. From 9:00pm, party with DJ at Le Bain Mathieu: 2915 Ontario East, Montreal, H2K 1X7.  
**Cost:** Most exhibitions and all events are free of charge.  
**Access:** All sites are served by public transit and most are wheelchair-accessible.  
**Website:** [www.moisdelaphoto.com](http://www.moisdelaphoto.com)  
**Registration for the conference:** [info@moisdelaphoto.com](mailto:info@moisdelaphoto.com)  
**To order the publication:** [www.mqup.mcgill.ca/i&i\\_e](http://www.mqup.mcgill.ca/i&i_e)

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