

**THREE QUEBEC ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS
SELECTED AS FINALISTS IN THE ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MONTREAL MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS' FIFTH PAVILION
WHICH WILL HOUSE THE MICHAL AND RENATA HORNSTEIN COLLECTION, AMONG OTHERS,
AND BE INAUGURATED AS PART OF MONTREAL'S 375TH ANNIVERSARY**

Montreal, February 4, 2013 – Last December, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) launched an architectural competition in the presence of Maka Kotto, Quebec Minister of Culture and Communications, for the construction of its Fifth Pavilion. Following the jury's deliberation, **Les Architectes FABG**, the consortium of **Manon Asselin architecte + Jodoin Lamarre Pratte & associés architectes** and **Saucier + Perrotte Architectes** have been selected to go on to the second phase of the competition, which consists in drawing up plans for the construction of the MMFA's Fifth Pavilion, which will feature the collection of European art, from Old Masters to Modern Art, enriched by works offered by Mr. and Mrs. Hornstein. This competition was open to all architects in Quebec in accordance with the regulations governing the Ordre des architectes du Québec (OAQ) and those established by the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec.

The selection of the three architectural firms

The deadline for applications was January 25, 2013. Twenty architectural firms with a Montreal office took part in the competition. The eight-member jury, including three members of the MMFA (Brian M. Levitt, Chairman of the Board; Nathalie Bondil, Director and Chief Curator; and Bruce Mc Niven, Chairman of the Buildings, Maintenance and Security Advisory Committee) and five independent architects (Clément Demers, Thomas Fontaine, Jean Claude Marsan, Philippe Poulin and Mario Saïa, who acted as president), selected three finalists based on the evaluation of their files, without the presentation of sketches. The main selection criteria evaluated at this first stage were the candidate's design skills and the experience of his or her team and proven ability to adhere to budgets. Through this competition, the MMFA wishes to contribute to the architectural quality of Montreal, a UNESCO City of Design.

Three finalists go on to the second phase of the competition

The finalists, **Les Architectes FABG**, the consortium of **Manon Asselin architecte + Jodoin Lamarre Pratte & associés architectes** and **Saucier + Perrotte Architectes**, must now draw up plans to submit to the jury. For this second phase of the competition, the selection criteria are the following: conceptual approach; expression of the architectural option and its formalization; architectural solution to the main challenges; achievement of the goals of programming and operation; adherence to the construction budget; and measures taken to provide a basic LEED certification. After an examination of the submitted projects, the jury will make its recommendation of the winning firm to the MMFA in April 2013.

The MMFA's Fifth Pavilion

The new Pavilion of International Art will be built on Bishop Street, south of the Jean-Noël Desmarais Pavilion. The estimated gross surface area is in the order of 2,800 m² – 2,410 m² comprising four above-ground floors mainly devoted to exhibition space and a basement area of 390 m². The new pavilion will be linked to the Jean-Noël Desmarais Pavilion by a double bridge spanning the entrance to the alley. It will also feature an entrance for adult and school groups that will help generate activity on Bishop Street. The MMFA's Fifth Pavilion will be built in conformity with international standards for museum design and conservation.

Financing the Fifth Pavilion

The Government of Quebec has granted \$18.5 million to the MMFA for the construction of this new pavilion of international art to underscore the historic donation of the Hornstein Collection. It is important to remember that the MMFA's acquisitions fund is entirely private and that a collection such as this could not be purchased or assembled by any institution in Canada today.

The MMFA's plan for financing this project is an unusual one: 85% of the funding will be covered by the private sector, including the value of the Hornsteins' gift of their collection. The contribution of the Quebec government will help defray the costs of construction, while the additional operating costs of the new pavilion will be met entirely by the private sector, following the exceptional model of funding used for the Claire and Marc Bourgie Pavilion of Quebec and Canadian Art.

- 30 -

Source

Danielle Champagne
Director of Communications
The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
514-285-1600, ext. 194 – dchampagne@mbamtl.org

Information Requests

Michelle Décarry Architect
Professional competition consultant
450-922-3162, ext. 221
michelle@decaryarchitecte.ca

About the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts has one of the highest attendance rates among Canadian museums. Every year, close to 770,000 people visit its unique encyclopedic collection (free of charge) and its original temporary exhibitions, which combine artistic disciplines (fine arts, music, film, fashion and design) and feature innovative exhibition designs. It initiates, produces and circulates many of its exhibitions across Europe and North America. It is also one of Canada's leading publishers of art books in English and French, which are distributed worldwide. Over 100,000 families and school groups take part in its educational, cultural and community-oriented programmes each year. The fall of 2011 saw the opening of a fourth pavilion at the Museum – the Claire and Marc Bourgie Pavilion of Quebec and Canadian Art – and a 444-seat concert venue – Bourgie Hall – housing an outstanding collection of Tiffany stained glass windows. This expansion also brought about the reinstallation of the Museum's rich holdings in its other three pavilions, which house the World Cultures, Early and Contemporary European Art, and Decorative Arts and Design collections. Music is now an integral part of the Museum, providing another perspective on the visual arts, through musical audioguides and other innovative activities. In 2012, the new Studios Art & Education Michel de la Chenelière were inaugurated, doubling the Museum's educational facilities for schools, families and community groups. A fifth pavilion, devoted to international art, will open its doors by 2017.