FACT SHEET
BUILDING MONTRÉAL

Romain Guilbault

1663
FONDATION DE MONTRÉAL
FOUNDING OF MONTRÉAL

Caroline Bergeron

MONTRÉAL MILESTONES

The *Building Montréal* exhibition summarizes Montréal's history through the lives of its inhabitants. A chronological approach has been taken to guide visitors through pivotal moments in Montréal's history. With the help of photos, videos, illustrations, and artefacts, visitors can trace the history of the First Peoples, of Montréal under the French and then British regimes, of the pre-industrial period, and of the modern city and Francophone metropolis we know today. The exhibition takes us all the way to 2030, where five Montréal personalities of various backgrounds tell us about their vision of the city's future.

They are:
· **Christine Zachary Deom,** former Chief of the Mohawk Council
· **Matthieu Dugal,** Radio-Canada host specializing in technology
· **Florence Junca Adenot,** Associate Professor in the Department of Urban and Tourism Studies at UQAM
· **Valérie Beaulieu,** General Director of Culture Montréal
· **Dammon Matthews,** Climate Scientist and Professor at Concordia University

To humanize the discourse and give it a lighter and more entertaining approach, the chronology also includes some fun facts and historical and cultural anecdotes to go along with each period or significant event.

Of note is a massive impressionist video featuring a map of the island of Montréal, showing the evolution of its inhabitants' settlement patterns to the present day.

THE GALLERY OF MONTREALERS

The Gallery of Montrealers is made up of over **1,000 photos** of Montrealers from all walks of life taken over the last few decades. To ensure that this dynamic mosaic represents a wide variety of Montrealers of all backgrounds and various origins, Pointe-à-Callière called on the community, its visitors, its members, and all Montrealers to send in photos from their families' or friends' archives. People dear to them and significant moments in their personal histories have thereby been given a second life at the Museum. The Gallery of Montrealers offers a different, more intimate, look at daily life in Montréal down through the years.

To further reconnect Montrealers to their ancestors—and to the men and women who dreamt up and built our city of today—two interactive terminals allow visitors to trace their roots and pinpoint their ancestors' arrival in Montréal. The terminals include **22,000 family names** that were registered in Montréal between 1620 and 1937, from various genealogy societies.

Visitors can search their lineage, see the evolution of their surname over time, look up **well-known people** that share their name, and find **dates of birth, baptism, and marriage**. They can even get a summary of the information found that can be forwarded by email, perhaps helping them further trace their family tree.

Caroline Bergeron

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS OF THE FIRST MARKETPLACE

To showcase the archaeological remains of the first marketplace, Pointe-à-Callière called on GSM Project to create a luminous and remarkably unique experience. Illuminated strings in various shapes and colours are used together with video screens to evoke the evolution of this site with a fragmented history. The lighting effects and narration provide a better understanding of the site's multiple uses and its importance in the history of the city. The presentation of various artefacts found during archaeological digs on the site further enhances its authenticity and reminds us of the people who lived here over time.

Some of the artefacts presented from various periods include:
· projectile points and various tools found around an indigenous campfire dating to the 1400s
· animal bones, jars, and pots from the marketplace era (1676-1836)
· objects that once belonged to soldiers stationed in the guardhouse, from where they monitored the entrance to the city (1685-1695)
· objects from the Würtele Inn (1802-1838)
· shoes, illustrating the first paved street (1786)
· jars, tools, and office items from the Bagg Warehouse (1814-1841)
· examples of products available at the King's Store (1700-1765)

The five models embedded in the soil beneath glass panels have been completely refurbished, providing a glimpse of how the marketplace evolved at various points in time. These full-scale replicas—built using an artisanal approach by a multidisciplinary team made up of architects, artists, and carpenters—take us on a journey through time to the exact spot where:
· First Nations would meet in 1350
· a small city arose in New France, the very spot where the Great Peace was signed in 1701
· a fortified city stood in 1736
· a market town developed in 1802
· Montréal became Canada's metropolis in 1872

GSM Project

VIRTUAL HISTORICAL CHARACTERS

Three historical figures—Élisabeth Bégon, her friend Mater (Marie-Catherine Legardeur de Repentigny), and the Marquis de La Galissonnière—appear amid the remains, near what once was Élisabeth's father's store. The scene takes place on May 28, 1749, as the marquis is getting ready to leave for Québec City. Shifting their attention to approaching museum visitors, the trio interrupt their discussion to address the museum goers directly. Visitors can then engage in a conversation with the three characters, in English or in French, asking questions on such subjects as their families, politics, education, their view of the world, or anything of interest about life in that era.

This installation provides a dynamic window and unique foray into the daily life of real inhabitants of New France in the 18th century, and a perfect opportunity for visitors to satisfy their curiosity!

Technological and Technical Aspects
· The installation, which is dynamic in nature, makes use of the most recent developments in vocal recognition, artificial intelligence, and real-time 3D animation.
· The new virtual characters are built using an **ambient computing** paradigm, which relies on the voice as a mode of interaction.
· The original framework developed for this project is able to match any visitor questions with the best available answers in the database, which includes over **600 replies, pre-recorded** by the actors in-studio.
· A **custom-made platform** had to be created, as nothing of the kind existed to meet the project's requirements in terms of Natural-language understanding (NLU) and interpretation (semantic links).
· **175 cameras** placed around the capture zone were required to digitize the actors using the XANGLE camera server, which keeps the cameras perfectly synchronized, producing very high-resolution photogrammetry.

EXHIBITION PRODUCTION TEAM

Executive Director
Francine Lelièvre

Director, Exhibitions and Technology Development
Anne Élisabeth Thibault

MONTRÉAL MILESTONES

Project Manager
Ève Dumais

Concept and Production
TKNL

Sets
Acmé Décors
Carrier Communications

Graphics
Langevin Turcotte Graphistes

Lighting
Light Factor
Martin Pion

Scientific Advisors
Paul-André Linteau
Stéphanie Béreau
Christian Gates St-Pierre
Dany Fougères
Mario Robert

Research
Paul-Gaston L'Anglais
Émilie Guilbeault-Cayer
Philippe Michon
Léon Robichaud
Sylvain Rivard
Myriam Wojcik

Interviewer
Pierre Séguin

Interviewees
Christine Zachary Deom, former Chief of the Mohawk Council
Matthieu Dugal, Radio-Canada host specializing in technology
Florence Junca Adenot, Associate Professor in the Department of Urban and Tourism Studies at UQAM
Valérie Beaulieu, General Director of Culture Montréal
Dammon Matthews, Climate Scientist and Professor at Concordia University

Object Restoration
Atelier Ducharme

Bases
Cartgo, museum services

Linguistic Revision
Parabole inc.

Translation
Tradshift - Lisa Cecchini
Les traductions Terry Knowles

THE GALLERY OF MONTREALERS

Project Manager
Ève Dumais

Concept and Production
TKNL

Genealogical Sources
Alex Dworkin Canadian Jewish Archives – Archives Department
Fédération québécoise des sociétés de généalogie
Genealogy Quebec
Infrastructure intégrée des microdonnées historiques de la population québécoise (IMPQ)
Drouin Genealogical Institute
Programme de recherche en démographie historique – The Research Program in Historical Demography (PRDH)
Projet BALSAC (Université du Québec à Chicoutimi)
Quebec Family History Society (QFHS)
Société de généalogie Canadienne Française (SGCF)

Institutional Participants – Portrait Gallery
Centre international de documentation et d'information haïtienne, caribéenne et afro-canadienne
Little Italy Community Centre – Casa d'Italia Montréal
Alex Dworkin Canadian Jewish Archives
Soeurs missionnaires de l'immaculée-conception – Archives Department
Missionaries of Africa – White Fathers – Archives Department
St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Parish Montreal – Archives Department
Jewish Public Library – Archives Department
Wanda-Stachiewicz Polish Library – Archives Department

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS OF THE MARKETPLACE

Models

Project Manager
Brigitte Lacroix

Concept and Production
Maquette.ca

Scientific Committee
Jean Bélisle
Christian Gates St-Pierre
Alan Stewart

Copywriting
Julie Chaumont

Translation
Tradshift - Lisa Cecchini

Technical Support
Espace Montage

Artefact Display Cases

Project Managers
Élisabeth Monast-Moreau / Brigitte Lacroix

Concept and Design
Groupe D.E.S

Graphics
Nathalie D'Amours

Construction
ACMÉ Décors
CYB Plastiques
Robocut Studio

Copywriting
Parabole inc.

Scientific Advisor
Claire St-Germain

Translation
Tradshift
Les traductions Terry Knowles

Lighting
LightFactor

Object Restoration
Atelier Ville-Marie

Bases
Cartgo, services muséographiques

VIRTUAL HISTORICAL CHARACTERS

Project Managers
Brigitte Lacroix / Élisabeth Monast-Moreau

General Concept, Production, Direction, Scriptwriting, Dialogue, Configuration
Luc Courchesne

Assistant – Direction, Scriptwriting, Experience Design, Software Architecture, Programming, 3D Modelling, Animation
Ganesh Baron Aloir

Software Architecture, Programming, Sound Design
Marc Lavallée

Historical Research and Scientific Validation
Mathieu Trépanier
Sylvie Dufresne

Semantic Links (ontology, taxonomy, keywords…)
Magali Lachapelle
Clémentine Villerey

Narration
Marie Dufour
Simon Boulerice

English Translation
Lisa Cecchini

Amy Butcher Translations
ABC Charlene Poirier

Actors
Marc Béland (Marquis de la Galissonnière)
Marie Michaud (Mater)
Paule Ducharme (Élisabeth Bégon)

Vocal Coach
Luc Chandonnet (French)
Julia Lenardon (English)
Nancy Helms (English)

Sound Recording
Studio De Vizu
Carl Prévost

3D Capture and Modelling
Studio XANGLE
Éric Paquet
Christian Dion (Technical Director – Capture)
Kerim Yildiz (3D Artist)
Edith Cardinal (Production Assistant)

Costumes
Louis Jobin and the Grand Costumier team

Makeup
Florence Cornet

Hairstyling
Denis Parent

Thank you to the Society for Arts and Technology

The Museum thanks its entire staff for its invaluable support in producing the multimedia show.

POINTE-À-CALLIÈRE
Montréal Archaeology and History Complex
pacmuseum.qc.ca

Pointe-à-Callière is subsidized by the City of Montréal.

Montréal