

**Drop in on our best designers!  
THIRD ANNUAL DESIGN MONTRÉAL OPEN HOUSE:  
MAY 2 AND 3, 2009  
Meeting the designers who make our city**

**For immediate release**

**Montréal, April 16, 2009** – André Lavallée, Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee responsible for Urban Planning, the Transportation Plan, Heritage and Design, today unveiled the program for the third annual Design Montréal Open House. He was accompanied for the occasion by the event’s spokespersons, actress Macha Limonchik and architect Gilles Saucier. A total of 65 Montréal design agencies, projects and presentation venues will be open to the public on Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, from noon to 6 p.m.

Montréal 

Culture,  
Communications et  
Condition féminine  
Québec 

“Montréal is home to an outstanding pool of internationally renowned talent and know-how in all disciplines of design,” Mr. Lavallée declared. This activity provides a unique opportunity to get to know the creators who are forging Montréal’s reputation as a creative city—the very people, in fact, who are the foundation for Montréal’s designation as a UNESCO City of Design. The Open House is a special time to visit inspiring places and meet the men and women who are giving form to our urban landscape and defining how we experience the city—day in, day out.”

**Drop in... on where the action is, and see creativity close-up**

For the third year in a row, Montréal designers will be throwing open their doors to let you discover their latest creations. Members of the public will be able to meet creators of Montréal projects that have won national and international design competitions and contests: architects, landscape architects, interior designers, industrial designers, graphic designers, fashion designers and urban planners. They will be present in their places of work to explain their approaches, comment on their creations and answer visitors’ questions.

**Something for everyone**

This year’s event features two new activities. To raise young people’s awareness of design and its trades, some 20 participating offices and venues will be offering children aged 10 and up a variety of entertaining and enriching interactive exhibits focused on the themes that inform their work.

In addition, with an eye to broadening the event's scope to include emerging design practices, a dozen or so young designers and design collectives, selected by the Pecha Kucha Montréal team, will be opening their doors. Members of the public will also be able to visit exhibitions by graduating students in the various university programs in design and architecture.

In the words of Ms. Limonchik and Mr. Saucier, "The Open House provides a unique opportunity to come and meet the creative professionals who are shaping our city, to better understand their work, and to discover young, talented designers with a bright career ahead of them."

**Open House to partner with Canadian Centre for Architecture's (CCA) "20 Years: 20 Hours" event**

The organizers of the Design Montréal Open House are pleased to invite members of the public to the "20 Years: 20 Hours" event in celebration of the CCA's 20th anniversary, offering a rich array of programming including an all-night festival that will continue until 7 a.m. on Sunday, May 3.

The Design Montréal Open House is an initiative of the Ville de Montréal in collaboration with the professional design community and in partnership with the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du Québec, pursuant to the Agreement on the Cultural Development of Montréal. The Design Montréal office was created in January 2006 by the Ville de Montréal. Its mission is to implement the municipal action plan aimed at improving design throughout the city and positioning Montréal as a UNESCO City of Design.

To access the complete program as well as choose sites to visit and designers to meet, visit the [designmontreal.com](http://designmontreal.com) website. You can view an interactive map for more information on participating sites and offices, organized by neighbourhood, and plan your itinerary using the transportation mode of your choice—on foot, by bicycle, by bus or by métro.

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