

Centre Marius Barbeau

COMMUNIQUÉ

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

MASKS, PETTICOATS AND SPELLS

An exhibition of the ethno-cultural heritage of Montreal, presented at Montreal City Hall from August 1st – 22nd, 2012.

Montreal, July 17, 2012 – Mr. Jimmy Di Genova, founding director of the Centre Marius-Barbeau (CMB), is pleased to announce the opening of the exhibition *Masks, Petticoats and Spells*, an event highlighting the 35 years of the Centre Marius-Barbeau. The exhibition, located in the Hall of Honour of Montreal's City Hall, presents significant pieces from the Centre's collection and explores the contributions of various cultural communities to Montreal's heritage.

“This exhibit, organised with the financial support of Tourism Montreal and the Foundation of Greater Montreal, explores the diverse cultural communities as expressed through dance and folklore. The oral tradition of folklore embodies the traditional values of cultures and peoples. A witness to the rites of passage, births, weddings, funerals, etc., it also reveals the spiritual practices of everyday life. Other traditions celebrate rural customs. Finally, urban folklore expresses the popular culture of city life.” declared Mr. Di Genova.

Masks, Petticoats and Spells focuses upon the photographs, costumes, accessories and artefacts of the CMB's collection, including objects from the personal archives of Jimmy Di Genova from his time as director of the Sortilèges and objects left by Michel Cartier of the Feux-Follets. Montreal's cultural communities and organizations, working in the field of folk dance and intangible heritage, have also lent their support and contribution. The exhibition invites visitors to enter the world of the performing arts, to see the richness and diversity of Montreal.

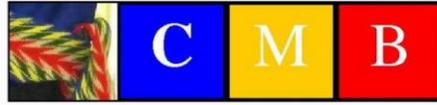
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Additional information:

Title of the exhibition: Masks, Petticoats and Spells

**MASQUES,
COTILLONS ET
ENVOÛTEMENT**



Centre Marius Barbeau

Description: An exhibition of the ethno-cultural heritage of Montreal that explores diverse cultural communities as expressed through dance and folklore through a focus upon photographs, costumes, accessories and artefacts.

Dates: August 1st – 22nd, 2012

Place: Hall of Honour, Montreal City Hall, 275 Notre-Dame Street East

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am – 5:00pm
Saturday, 10:00am to 4:00pm
Sunday, closed

Entry fee: Free

Represented

Communities: Chinese, Scottish, Italian, Mexican, Portuguese, Romanian, and Ukrainian



Photograph:

About the Marius-Barbeau Centre

The Centre specializes in the area of immaterial culture. Its mission is to preserve, promote and encourage recognition, conservation, passing on and spreading of Quebec folk arts and traditions including those of the First Nations and ethnic communities.

The Centre has more than 10,000 documents in its archives, including:

- 3000 books and journals on folk art and traditions
- numerous costumes, masks and accessories
- a collection of artefacts
- 7000 slides and photographs
- 1300 recordings of folk music, a quarter of which are devoted to Quebecois folk music (including the Tournesol collection). In addition there are numerous audio and audio-visual recordings
- 3000 international and French-Canadian dance notations
- archives of the national folklore ensembles of **Les Feux-Follets** and **Les Sortilèges**.

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