



Press release for immediate distribution

Les Escales Improbables de Montréal Arts Without Borders

15th anniversary of unexpected artistic paths

Montréal, August 22, 2018 – Les Escales Improbables de Montréal (EIM) is presenting an artistic season designed to counter our furious urban pace, with creators working through their artistic spectrum to broach issues that are common to us all, namely urban noise, healthy and local nutrition, a perspective on the city, or the rapport with nature.

In 2018, the 15th anniversary season of the EIM was constructed with the participation of 100 artists and several partners promoting biodiversity, local production or urban heritage, all with a view to offer you a pause in city life and a slowdown in time.

Making the most of nature in the city

Siestes Musicales is also celebrating 15 years as an iconic event, by giving to voice a place of honour with three Montréal choirs (Les Voix Ferrées, Le Choeur du Brouhaha, Le Choeur du Plateau) that explore their repertoires for a sonorous experience specially adapted to a magnificent site by the water, in Parc Jarry. Make the most of this listening cocoon, punctuated with relaxation sessions under the trees, on mats or in hammacs. Clearly, an antidote to urban noise pollution and to the domination of noise in our daily lives.

An EIM production presented in collaboration with Programme Hors les Murs.

A new adventure enters its second year at the EIM: the **Friche au Pied-du-Courant**. Along with several cultural and community organizations, and with citizens of the borough of Ville-Marie, Les Escales Improbables contribute to sharing this incredible viewpoint of the Saint Lawrence River. Artistic installations (land and sound art), guided walks through heritage sites, workshops on nature in the city, musical and circus art interventions, as well as many other engagements all mingle on the **Friche au Pied-du-Courant**. A landscape to discover, a territory to explore.

The EIM brings its **Épicerie Musicale** to parks and public squares on 21 sites of the Island of Montréal. This creation, based on an idea by Jérôme Minière, is a performative installation that brings into question our consumption patterns in a poetic and playful manner, by establishing an original parallel between local, musical and agricultural products.

At a time when the music industry and virtual consumption reign supreme, the **Épicerie Musicale** offers a journey back to a more direct relationship with the producers. In the setting of a fruit and vegetable market, four artists offer you a taste of 16 never released original musical works using our unique listening system: the IPat. You can also buy these works along with the fruit and vegetables they have been linked to, thanks to our partner market gardeners. The **Épicerie Musicale**, the largest agri-musical market in the Saint Lawrence Valley.

Touring in the framework of the *Conseil des Arts de Montréal Touring Program*.



An artistic viewpoint on the streets and buildings of the metropolis

Montréal choreographer **Tedi Tafel** and her five dancers offer you the opportunity to explore atypical sites of the metropolis with a series of nine different dances performed at various moments of the day and in various sites of the Mile-End: a church, a park and a vacant lot... The public is invited to discover their own way of engaging with the performance, attending part of or the complete works.

Les Explorateurs consists of a series of itineraries, both historical and artistic, that run through the borough of Sainte-Marie for a stroll between the city and the river. Presented in conjunction with the Écomusée du fier monde, the itineraries are punctuated with performances by L'ensemble Quasar and Cirque Hors Piste. La République des Rêves, an artistic team comprising artists from France and Québec, will also be performing.

After Marseille, Moscow, and even Philadelphia, it's Montréal's turn to welcome the brilliant artist **Olivier Grossetête**, who has imagined for you the biggest cardboard construction ever seen in Québec! From September 10 to 16, Olivier Grossetête and his team will honour a famous Montréal monument in the framework of the project **Construisons Monumental!** This is an opportunity to build together a monumental and ephemeral reproduction of an architectural symbol... entirely of cardboard! A structure measuring 45 feet high by 90 feet long, erected without a crane or machines, nothing but the incredible collective energy of the young and less young citizens of Montréal and other places.

A co-presentation with the Partenariat du Quartier des spectacles.

Other 15th anniversary surprises will be presented in October... These will be announced on September 4, 2018.

About Les Escales Improbables de Montréal (EIM)

15 years of artistic stopovers anchored in the territory and open to the world

Les Escales Improbables de Montréal 2018 is celebrating its 15th anniversary with a season that reflects exactly what it is: atypical, eclectic, participative. Since 2004, the EIM has promoted exchanges and meetings around projects of various shapes leading us to take side roads and adopt artistic viewpoints of the metropolis in the company of creators from here and from abroad. The EIM is also 15 years of collaborations with the Montréal community, and of projects enjoying outreach throughout Québec and in several countries.

All details can be found online at: escalesimprobables.com