

The MNBAQ GALA: Québec City's most prestigious philanthropic event

Shohei Shigematsu, Olivier Dufour and the Université Laval School of Architecture: at the service of art

Parc des Champs-de-Bataille
Québec (Québec) G1R 5H3

418 643-2150
1 866 220-2150

mnbaq.org

Press Contact

Linda Tremblay
Media Relations Officer

418 644-6460, ext. 5532
linda.tremblay@mnbaq.org



Québec City, Tuesday, September 12th, 2017 ✕ Would you like to experience a true celebration of the beauty of the visual arts in a spectacular setting? Or participate in 2018's most glamorous event? If so, Saturday, May 5th, 2018 is a date to remember! The Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (MNBAQ) will be hosting the very first MNBAQ GALA, presented by Desjardins. The role of honorary chairman for the event has been entrusted to Guy Cormier, president and CEO of the Desjardins Group.



Musée national
des beaux-arts
du Québec

Québec 

The Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec is a
state corporation funded by the Gouvernement du Québec.

exhibition, also presented by Desjardins at the MNBAQ. It promises to be a unique evening where art, philanthropy and architecture will come together. Thanks to the exceptional collaboration of the renowned architect behind the Pierre Lassonde pavilion, Shohei Shigematsu, who is also a partner and director of the New York branch of the Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA), the 2018 gala will mark the history of philanthropy in Québec City. Known for his great sensitivity and imagination, Shigematsu will recreate the ambiance of New York City’s glamorous gala evenings by coordinating the scenography for this biennial benefit event, creating a look for the space in collaboration with the students of the Université Laval School of Architecture, supervised by Samuel Bernier-Lavigne.

Olivier Dufour, president of Dufour Maison de Création, will provide the artistic direction for this large-scale celebration. Dufour is known the world over as an architect who generates emotions and crafts spectacular settings. With his unique way of combining performing arts and technology, this Québec City artist is sure to astonish participants. Thanks to these masters of their craft, the MNBAQ GALA will be a prestigious, world-class benefit event: a must for 2018.

“As philanthropy played a major role in creating the Pierre Lassonde pavilion, an architectural work of international calibre, the Foundation is proud to henceforth add an event of the same measure to its list of achievements,” states Annie Talbot, president and executive director of the MNBAQ’s Foundation. “Partners and participants in the MNBAQ GALA will be collaborating in a funding initiative that is key to the museum’s future. The organizing committee, composed of individuals from the business communities of Québec City, Montréal and New York, will ensure the successful production of this event that marks a milestone in the history of the MNBAQ’s Foundation.”

Architect Shohei Shigematsu returns to Quebec’s capital

Who could be better placed than Shohei Shigematsu to reimagine the spaces of the Pierre Lassonde pavilion, the world-class building that was inaugurated in 2016 and designed by Shigematsu himself? The MNBAQ GALA will give the architect the opportunity to revisit his work and create temporary architectural installations in the beautiful spaces that he designed, spaces that have brought great pride to Quebec. In line with his recent participation in the Metropolitan Museum of Art’s Costume



Institute Benefit (or Met Gala), a prestigious and extremely sought-after fundraising event in New York City, Shigematsu will bring a touch of magic to the evening.

The Université Laval School of Architecture joins in the adventure

Under the supervision of assistant professor Samuel Bernier-Lavigne, a group of students from the Université Laval School of Architecture, partner of the MNBAQ GALA, will participate in the development of these architectural installations along with the New York architect. The transformation of the premises, highlighting the distinct spaces conceived by Shigematsu, is sure to impress. “After following with great interest the building of the Pierre Lassonde pavilion, our school of architecture felt compelled to become part of the MNBAQ GALA. Our architecture students are truly privileged to collaborate with a visionary architect like Shohei Shigematsu,” states Samuel Bernier-Lavigne. For the Musée and the Foundation, it is essential to involve the next generation of Quebec architects in this impressive installation. Moreover, on October 31st, 2017, the participating students, along with Samuel Bernier-Lavigne, will visit OMA’s New York office with Shohei Shigematsu. While there, they will share the progress of their MNBAQ GALA projects and draw inspiration from the American city’s iconic locations.

Olivier Dufour and his magic touch

For his part, Olivier Dufour will be in charge of artistic direction for this philanthropic event. Inspired by the work of the architects, he will be a key actor in the creation of an original aesthetic signature for the gala, giving participants a rich and surprising experience. This prolific creator has designed and produced more than 200 works presented in Quebec and abroad (Switzerland, France, Egypt and Brazil). He has a particular attachment to his native city, Québec City, which remains the focal point for his world-renowned creations.

-30-

Shohei Shigematsu, Olivier Dufour and Annie Talbot are available for phone interviews. To make an appointment, please communicate with Linda Tremblay at 418-644-6460, ext. 5532.

— B
M —
N —
— Q



MNBAQ GALA

Saturday, May 5th, 2018

Tickets to the MNBAQ GALA, priced at \$1000, will be on sale starting October 16th, 2017.

INFORMATION:

**Project manager: Marie-Kristine Gasse /
marie-kristine.gasse@fmnbaq.org / 418 682-2228 ext. 7221**

Page 2 – Photo: Shohei Shigematsu © Courtesy OMA, by Bruce Damonte

Page 3 – Photo: Olivier Dufour © Courtesy Olivier Dufour

About...

The MNBAQ

Located in the heart of the National Battlefields Park, one of the world's most prestigious urban parks, the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec is a unique museum complex bringing together art, architecture and nature. The museum's vast collection, comprised of over 38,000 works created since the 17th century, is showcased throughout four distinct pavilions. Paintings, sculptures, drawings, photographs, and prints are shown in various exhibitions in the historic art pavilion, while works from major artists Jean Paul Lemieux, Alfred Pellan, Fernand Leduc and Jean-Paul Riopelle adorn the modern art pavilion. The Pierre Lassonde pavilion, inaugurated in June 2016, highlights the collection of contemporary Quebec art from 1960 onward including Inuit art, decorative art and design. The central pavilion, with its glass pyramid, links the four pavilions together and offers a discovery area for children.
mnbaq.org

The MNBAQ's Foundation

The MNBAQ's Foundation headed a major fundraising campaign dedicated in large part to the construction of the Pierre Lassonde pavilion. Its mission is to contribute to the museum's development by enriching its collections, diversifying the exhibitions offered and increasing accessibility to its program of educational and cultural activities. fmnbaq.org