

## Press Release

A new exhibition  
from November 30, 2017 to October 14, 2018

# D'entrée de jeu

*or artist José Luis Torres'*  
*whimsical sculptures*

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

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**Québec City, Wednesday, November 29, 2017** ✶ The Family Gallery at the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (MNBAQ) has had a makeover. Artist José Luis Torres, a master of structure-sculpture, has reinvented the space. The MNBAQ is especially proud to present this new work imagined by the Argentine-born artist, who has lived in Québec since 2003 and is truly a specialist of *in situ* sculptural installations. **From November 30, 2017 to October 14, 2018**, visitors young and old alike can enjoy *D'entrée de jeu* in the MNBAQ's central pavilion and forget grey, cold winter days by taking advantage of this stimulating environment.

If we only had three words to define Torres' creations, colour, humour and interaction immediately come to mind. The *D'entrée de jeu* exhibition will surprise visitors with its explosion of bright, attractive colours and its iconoclastic use of recycled materials will make them smile. An interactive experience based on a stroll through the very heart of the creation will allow visitors to see, touch, experience and reinvent.

## *Recycled objects serve art*

Aside from imagining a stimulating, lively, vibrant space, José Luis Torres seeks to express diversity through his creations. Moreover, the materials that the artist uses, collected here and there over time, are truly multiform. From his Ali Baba's cave, he has drawn nearly 100 everyday recycled objects to enliven the space. Kayaks, wheelbarrows, buoys, bins, sprinklers, cones and doors, to name but a few, will be a source of discovery and wonder. However, they also propose a second focus and spur visitors to question our relationship to objects and, indeed, how we consume them.

The immersive exhibition with a multitude of coloured accents enables children to observe, create, perform and have fun. With its yellow, green and blue walls strewn with optical illusions to create imbalance and 3D effects, children and their parents can enjoy a unique ambiance that has everything to please, stimulate and delight.

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## ***D'entrée de jeu, comprises three stages***

### *An archipelago of shapes*

Five wheeled modules like a giant jigsaw puzzle with infinite possibilities are available to participants. Painted orange, all of the components that make up the modules sometimes form an archipelago of shapes or sometimes an inspiring creative worksite. Handling and creation are the keywords to broach this section of the Family Gallery.

### *The fugue, colourful objects fall*

Brilliant, surprising sculptures made from multiform, multicoloured recycled objects, de Torres' works in the public space truly stand out. *D'entrée de jeu* proposes *The fugue*, a magnificent assemblage of odds and ends, as a cascade of objects in balance that even overflows outside the Family Gallery. The exhibition has everything to impress, amuse and touch visitors, offer them escape and make them reflect.



## *The reinvented cabin*

In another area of the exhibition, children can cross several bridges that take them to a dream cabin with soft cushions and captivating books. They can observe and multiply perspectives, including that overlooking the work in the heart of the Pellan Garden, and, lastly, invent treasure hunts or secret places in the reinvented cabin. Several recycled doors in elegant colours and other everyday objects make up this playful, stimulating space.



-30-

## **José Luis Torres in a nutshell**

José Luis Torres was born in Argentina. He holds a bachelor's degree in visual arts, a master's degree in sculpture and has training in architecture and the integration of the arts into architecture. He has lived and worked in Québec since 2003.

His works have been presented at numerous solo and group exhibitions, at public events, and during artist residencies in Canada, Argentina, the United States, Mexico and Europe.

In his work, he seeks to stimulate the relationship that is established between the host facility, the work and the individual who interacts with it. His practice, which focuses above all on sculpture, is essentially motivated by diversions of meanings and simple gestures centred on modest objects and materials drawn from our familiar environments.

In most instances, his work is elaborated while he is moving about and travelling, not in his workshop, which he perceives instead as a container in which is concentrated the entire array of things that he collects.

Installation strategies figure prominently in his creative process. The spontaneous, incomplete, open configuration of his creations in the form of *in situ* installations and ephemeral initiatives frequently allude to architecture. Through his constructions, interdisciplinarity is apparent in the combination of sculptural notions and architectural concepts.



The spectator is invited to look, explore and physically experience the work since it is on a human scale. The purpose of his viral, invasive constructions is not form but the action of giving shape to a use or a situation. The dialogue, established between the site and the work, directly influences the configuration of his constructions, sometimes without a drawing or a plan, the choice of materials and their proportion.

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## Related events

### *Special family day / D'entrée de jeu*

Family Gallery / Central pavilion of the MNBAQ

Sunday, December 3, 2017

10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Free of charge



10 a.m. / Opening to the public of the Family Gallery

10:15 a.m. / Words of welcome from Marie-Hélène Audet, Mediation Coordination, and artist José Luis Torres

10:30 a.m. to 12 noon – *A reinvented cabin*, creation workshop (free of charge), at which children will be invited to produce a small cabin inspired by the universe of José Luis Torres, in which they will display a sculpture made of recycled objects.

### Other events during the day at the MNBAQ:

11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. – *Christmas cards*, a holiday season workshop for the family (\$4 per person)

1 p.m. – The musical zoo of the Orchestre symphonique de Québec (free of charge)

2 p.m. – Christmas concert of the Orchestre symphonique de Québec (free of charge)

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### *D'entrée de jeu*

Family Gallery / Central pavilion of the MNBAQ

The exhibition opens on November 30, 2017

Free of charge

Photos MNBAQ, Idra Labrie

Partenaire de  
la programmation



## Renseignements généraux

HEURES  
D'OUVERTURE DU  
COMPLEXE MUSÉAL

**Jusqu'au 31 mai 2018**

Du mardi au dimanche,  
de 10 h à 17 h

Les mercredis, jusqu'à 21 h

Fermé les lundis (sauf le 1<sup>er</sup> janvier  
2018)

Fermé le 25 décembre

*Important : Actualisation du pavillon Gérard-Morisset pour la troisième phase du redéploiement des collections. Réouverture en 2018.*

DROITS  
D'ENTRÉE

Adultes : **20 \$**  
Aînés (65 ans et plus) : **18 \$**  
18 à 30 ans : **11 \$**  
13 à 17 ans : **6 \$**  
Forfait famille (2 adultes et 3  
enfants de 13 à 17 ans) : **44 \$**  
Forfait famille (1 adulte et 3  
enfants de 13 à 17 ans) : **22 \$**  
12 ans et moins : **gratuit**  
Membres : **gratuit**  
Les mercredis, les jeudis et les  
vendredis de 17 h à 21 h : **demi-tarif**  
Prix réduit pour les groupes

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Une excellente façon de rester au  
courant des nouvelles, des événe-  
ments et des activités du Musée!