

**Press release**  
Exhibition  
Until September 7, 2020

***Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera  
and Mexican Modernism.  
The Jacques and  
Natasha Gelman Collection***  
*Extension of MNBAQ opening hours  
for the final days of the exhibition*

Parc des Champs-de-Bataille  
Québec (Québec) G1R 5H3  
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Québec City, Wednesday, August 26, 2020 ✕ The *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera and Mexican Modernism. The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection* exhibition is in full swing and continues to attract crowds since it opened, despite the pause that the COVID-19 pandemic imposed. To accommodate high visitor numbers and enable as many people as possible to see this major international exhibition, the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (MNBAQ) will extend its opening hours from **Wednesday, September 2 to Saturday, September 5, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.** By reserving their time-and-date-stamped tickets on the MNBAQ website (mnbaq.org), visitors can discover the works of the iconic artists Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, recognized both for their inestimable contribution to

modern and their stormy romance, and a selection of works by master Mexican painters assembled in Québec City in collaboration with one of the biggest private collections of 20th-century Mexican art.

Until September 7, 2020, the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion will take on a Mexican air and transport visitors to the incredible universe of two legendary artists who continue to shape the imaginative universe with their extraordinary destiny, more than 50 years after their deaths.

The exhibition, presented by La Capitale Insurance and Financial Services, is organized by the Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre, in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL) in Mexico. It will not only assemble works by the artist couple and their contemporaries but also numerous photographs that situate the artists in their period.

The masterpieces presented include 20 works by Frida Kahlo, including the famous *Self-Portrait with Necklace* (1933), *Self-Portrait with Braid* (1941) and *Diego on My Mind* (1943), and the celebrated *Flower Vendor* (1943) by Rivera.

This fascinating exhibition will comprise more than 150 items, including 20 works by other Mexican painters, including Carlos Orozco Romero and Juan Soriano, and 85 photographs by photographers of the period, including a superb selection of works by Manuel and Lola Álvarez Bravo, a couple who rank among the foremost Latin American photographers of the 20th century.

The MNBAQ is proud to be part of the prestigious circuit of the exhibition, which has enjoyed enormous success in all the cities in which it has been presented in recent years, notably in Bologna, Istanbul, Sydney, and Nashville.

### *The remarkable destinies of Kahlo and Rivera*

Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) was seriously injured in her youth in a bus accident and learned to paint during her convalescence. A feminist, socialist and fundamentally a nonconformist, the artist, who produced fewer than 150 paintings throughout her career, was also keenly interested in popular and aboriginal culture. Kahlo often made her own life the subject of her paintings and produced self-portraits of great emotional intensity that reflect her physical and psychological suffering.

Diego Rivera (1886-1957) lived in Europe from 1907 to 1921, where he developed a style inspired by the avant-gardists. He returned to Mexico in 1921 after the Revolution and sought to create painting that spoke to the masses. He is regarded as a major figure of Mexican muralism. He received numerous official commissions and created art that is at once original and universal combining modernist influences with Mexican cultural heritage.

Frida Kahlo married Diego Rivera in 1929. A tumultuous, passionate relationship ensued that lasted a quarter century. The MNBAQ is delighted to tell this story.

The exhibition combines art, love and revolution. It proposes a fascinating dialogue between two legendary figures of modern art and highlights the remarkable vitality of Mexico’s artistic and cultural life in the first half of the 20th century.

## Jacques and Natasha Gelman



Jacques Gelman (1909-1986) was born in St. Petersburg and settled in Mexico at the outset of World War II. He became one of the leading film producers of his time and discovered the brilliant film actor and comedian Mario Moreno, nicknamed “Cantinflas.” Natasha Zahalka (1912-1998), a native of Moravia (now the Czech Republic), met Jacques Gelman in Mexico City. They married in 1941 and began to assemble a large modern art collection.

The Gelman Collection highlights a remarkably prolific period in Mexican art at a time when the arts community was flourishing. It comprises numerous artists, thereby offering an outstanding overview of different facets of art from this period. In addition to celebrated works by Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, the exhibition presents major works by several of their contemporaries, such as María Izquierdo, David Alfaro Siqueiros and Rufino Tamayo. All these artists are well-known in Mexico and several have acquired over time great renown on the international scene.

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## Credits

The exposition *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera and Mexican Modernism. The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection* is presented by La Capitale Insurance and Financial Services, from February 13 to May 18, 2020. It is organized by the Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL) in Mexico.

*The Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec is a government corporation subsidized by the Québec government.*

Québec 



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*Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera and Mexican Modernism.*

*The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection*

*Pierre Lassonde Pavilion of the MNBAQ*

Until September 7, 2020

From Wednesday, September 2 to Saturday, September 5, 2020, from  
9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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### INFORMATION

418 643-2150 or 1 866 220-2150 / [mnbaq.org](http://mnbaq.org) / [#fridamnbaq](https://twitter.com/fridamnbaq)

Page 1 – Photos: MNBAQ, Idra Labrie

Page 2 – From top to Bottom: Photo: Frida Kahlo, *Diego on My Mind (Self-Portrait as Tehuana)*, 1943. Oil on Masonite 76 x 61 cm. The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of 20th Century Mexican Art and the Vergel Foundation // Diego Rivera, *Landscape with Cacti*, 1931. Oil on canvas, 125.5 x 150 cm. The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of 20th Century Mexican Art and the Vergel Foundation // Frida Kahlo, *The Bride Who Becomes Frightened when she Sees Life Opened*, 1943. Oil on canvas, 63 x 81.5 cm. The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of 20th Century Mexican Art and the Vergel Foundation

Page 3 –Photo: Diego Rivera, *Portrait of Natasha Gelman*, 1943. Oil on canvas, 115 x 153 cm. The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of 20th Century Mexican Art and the Vergel Foundation

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## General Information

OPENING  
HOURS OF THE  
MUSEUM COMPLEX

**Until September 7, 2020**

Monday to Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays and Fridays till 9:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 2 to Saturday, September 5, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.**

ADMISSION

Adults: 22 \$  
Seniors (65 and Over): 20 \$  
Ages 18 to 30: 12 \$  
Ages 13 to 17: 7 \$  
Families (2 adults and 3 children  
13 to 17): 48 \$  
Families (1 adult and 3 children  
13 to 17): 26 \$  
Children 12 and under: free  
Members: free  
Wednesdays from, 5 p.m. to  
9 p.m.: half-price  
Reduced rates for groups

SERVICES  
AVAILABLE

Parking, Librairie-Boutique,  
café, free Wi-Fi, Wheelchairs  
and Cloakroom

CONTACT US

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