

Visual arts: DHC/ART's Imagine Brazil heats up the fall season



The idea that Brazil is so diverse and magical that its identity can only be imagined is behind DHC/ART's exhibition *Imagine Brazil*, which opens Nov. 7.

Imagine Brazil is three exhibitions in one. There is contemporary art by young Brazilian artists chosen by a team of four international curators, work by established artists who were chosen by the younger artists and an exhibition of artists' books.

I imagine a colourful, vibrant exhibition darkened a bit by the political and economic

realities of a country with many challenges.

Imagine Brazil opens Nov. 7 and continues to March 13 at DHC/ART, 451 and 465 St-Jean St. in Old Montreal. Lunch hour visits with a DHC/ART educator take place Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, starting Nov. 11. More info: dhc-art.org

7 p.m., Nov. 7: Brazilian artists and international curators discuss the Imagine Brazil exhibition at the Phi Centre, 407 St-Pierre St. in Old Montreal.

Nov. 28: Guided tour of Imagine Brazil with curator Cheryl Sim at DHC/ART, 465 St-Jean St. Reservation required.



Linda Covit's sculpture called Havre is one of the pieces of public art at the Glen site of the McGill

University Health Centre. Asbed.com

A walking tour of the public art installed in and around the new Glen site of the McGill University Health Centre is a pleasant way to see how the hospital has spent the one per cent of its construction budget that Quebec mandates be devoted to art.

Many of the 11 artworks are outside, but some are inside. All are in publicly accessible locations.

Linda Covit's Havre, at 13 metres tall and 16 metres wide, fits into the curve of the row of hospital buildings at the centre of a small park. Covit described the challenge as designing a sculpture big enough to hold its own, but kept to a human scale.

"The round form was softer and more welcoming," she said. Three openings allow visitors to "to walk into a sheltering space."

The shadows created by the sun shining through the metal struts move with the sun, and at night, lighting designer Jean Laurin's sequence of blue and green lights evoke an underwater scene, Covit said. "Laurin made this very poetic with soft lighting. Most lighting people do too much."



Nicolas Baier's work is called Lustre (hemoglobin). See it at the Glen site of the McGill University Health Centre. Courtesy Nicolas Baier

The largest indoor piece is in the atrium of the Research Institute. Nicolas Baier's Lustre uses 4,500 stainless-steel spheres to create a 3-D reproduction of human hemoglobin that Baier sees as both figurative – it depicts the molecular structure of blood – and abstract because it reflects the goals of researchers to gain knowledge and to heal.

Download the walking tour at muhc.ca/muhc-heritage.



Marc Garneau's Clé des songs (2014), part of the exhibition called Marc Garneau: Trajectory, Selected Works 1985-2015, at 1700 La Poste. Courtesy Guy L'Heureux

Marc Garneau's art uses abstract forms to evoke environments, using canvas and wood supports as sites for experimentation with paints and carpentry tools. A selection of Garneau's paintings of the past 30 years show very well in the light-filled galleries of 1700 La Poste, with its high ceilings and large windows.

Marc Garneau: Trajectory, Selected Works 1985-2015 continues to Dec. 20 at 1700 La Poste, 1700 Notre Dame St. W. More info: 1700laposte.com.

The Guido Molinari Foundation is another heritage building restored as an art gallery

that is a work of art in its own right. Molinari, who died in 2004, turned a former bank into his studio, where the foundation now shows work by Molinari, his contemporaries, as well as current artists who work with abstract forms.

The current exhibition shows some of Molinari's large, austere paintings in single colours that reveal their complexities only slowly. The paintings evoke a period when artists were progressing toward a spiritual purity.

Guido Molinari: Quantifiers – painting 1978-97 and prints 1991-92 continues to Jan. 17 at the Guido Molinari Foundation, 3290 Ste-Catherine St. E. More info: fondationguidomolinari.org.



An image from Vittorio's 1973 book, *Un jour on Crescent Street*, part of the exhibition *Montreal Through the Eyes of Vittorio*. Courtesy Vittorio

Vittorio (Fiorucci), the illustrator, photographer and poster designer who created the Just for Laughs festival's green mascot, is the subject of an exhibition at the McCord Museum.

Curator Marc Choko noted how Vittorio's designs reflected his knowledge of the avant-garde art of the 1950s and '60s, including Molinari's.



Vittorio's 1964 poster for Italian Film Week. Collection of Judith Adams

Vittorio said of himself: "I'm a poster designer, not a painter, and deep down I'm a comedian. What's really great is if a poster of mine can get a guy to think as well as laugh."

Nov. 11 – The McCord will show *Artist in Montreal*, an NFB documentary on the city's

artistic community of the 1950s and 1960s, followed by a conversation about the leading figures and ideas of the period.

Montreal Through the Eyes of Vittorio continues to April 10 at the McCord Museum, 690 Sherbrooke St. W. More info: mccord-museum.qc.ca.



Khosro Berahmandi's Temple de cristal, a 2015 work. Part of the exhibition L'oeil du puits at Meki Galerie d'art. Courtesy Michel Dubreuil

Khosro Berahmandi creates forms that evoke the stylized figures of Haida art but fills them with the fine detail of the Persian art heritage of his native Iran.

Berahmandi, who has been in Canada since 1982, employs blacks, reds, coppers and

golds in his fanciful compositions, now on display at the Mekić Galerie.

Khosro Berahmandi: The Eye of the Well continues to Dec. 8 at Mekić Galerie d'art et librairie, 4438 de la Roche St. More info: mekic.ca.



A 1926 oil on canvas by Adrien Hébert (1890-1967). It depicts Ste- Catherine St. Christine Guest / MMFA

Several of the artists in the Beaver Hall Group exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts are represented in a Nov. 26 sale in Toronto by the Heffel Fine Art Auction House.

Gallery Heffel will preview works by artists including Adrien Hébert, Edwin Holgate, A. Y. Jackson, John Johnstone and Robert Pilot. The preview also includes Quebec artists including Marc-Aurèle Suzor-Coté and James Wilson Morrice, plus Emily Carr and members of the Group of Seven.

A preview of Heffel's Auction of Fine Canadian Art and Post-war & Contemporary Art takes place Nov. 12 to Nov. 14 at Galerie Heffel, 1840 Sherbrooke St. W. More info: heffel.com.

Roy Meuwissen has created a solemn memorial at the Darling Foundry to the 43

Mexican students who went missing in 2014 while traveling on a bus to a protest demonstration.

Meuwissen inscribes their names in the typeface used for the 1968 Summer Olympics, when an unknown number of students were killed in Mexico City during a protest against police violence.

Roy Meuwissen's LAT. 17°33'13"N LONG. 99°24'37"W continues until Nov. 29 at Darling Foundry, 745 Ottawa St. More info: fonderiedarling.org.

By popular demand, Elena Lee has reopened her gallery of glass art in a new space on the first floor of the Lachine Canal Complex, where she is showing some very striking works made with various glassmaking techniques.

"I'm doing it for my artists and my clients," she said.

Highlights of the Best in Glass across Canada continues to Nov. 14 at Galerie Elena Lee, in its new location in Suite 127 in the Lachine Canal Complex, 4710 St-Ambroise St. More info: galerieelenalee.com.

John.o.pohl@gmail.com