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2 ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM



<u>Shaping</u> <u>the</u> <u>Museum</u> <u>of the</u> Future

aptured in these pages is a pivotal year for the Royal Ontario Museum. Not only did the Museum's robust attendance of 1.34 million visitors contribute to our ranking as the #1 most-visited museum in Canada and #7 in North America according to *The Art Newspaper*, but a new report by Deloitte shows the ROM, through its various activities, contributed over a quarter of a billion dollars to Ontario's economy in 2017-2018.

These are exceptional achievements, and we are immensely proud of the work that everybody at the ROM and ROM Governors has done to help realize them. However, we are not resting on our laurels. Expectations of public institutions are changing, and so too is the role of museums in civic life. People no longer want–or need–cultural institutions to tell them how to think, or what to think about. They want them to listen and in turn offer context, unbiased information, and the chance to explore new ideas. We are acutely aware of this shift. And we are using it as a springboard for transformation.

This year, we unveiled the ROM's new strategic direction—a roadmap for the future and the catalyst for our evolution as a great twenty-first-century museum. At its core is a mission to transform lives by helping people to understand the past, make sense of the present, and come together to shape a shared future.

Our vision is to be known globally for expanding the boundaries of knowledge, innovation in presenting that knowledge, and public relevance within the intersecting worlds of art, culture, and nature. This vision is already being realized with major initiatives to broaden access, enhance our in-house talent and expertise, and increase the scope and breadth of our programming.

One of the initiatives we were most proud of in 2018 was the opening of the Daphne Cockwell Gallery dedicated to First Peoples art & culture as free to the public every day the Museum is open. Initiatives such as this represent just one step on our journey. ROM programs and exhibitions continue to be bold, ambitious, and diverse, fostering discourse at home and around the world. Being Japanese Canadian: reflections on a broken world, Gods in My Home: Chinese New Year with Ancestor Portraits and Deity Prints and The Evidence Room helped ROM visitors connect past to present and understand forces and influences that have shaped our world, while #MeToo & the Arts brought forward a critical conversation about the arts, institutions, and cultural movements.

Immersive and interactive exhibitions such as Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur and Spiders: Fear & Fascination showcased groundbreaking ROM research and world-class storytelling. The success achieved with these exhibitions set the stage for upcoming ROM-originals *Bloodsuckers*: Legends to Leeches, The Cloth That Changed the World: India's Painted and Printed Cottons, and the busy slate of art, culture, and nature ahead. The driving force behind these endeavours is a world-class curatorial staff growing in impact and expertise every year. In 2018-19, the ROM announced several cutting-edge curatorial appointments, including Dr. Jean-Bernard Caron as the Richard M. Ivey Curator of Invertebrate Palaeontology-the first endowed position of its kind in Canada.

However, this brings us back to a critical question: who is all this wonderful work for? And the equally critical answer, as we evolve into an ever-more outward facing institution, is: the hundreds of thousands of people whose lives we seek to transform through our work every year. We believe this impact on communities—and the people within them—is an essential refocussing all museums must undertake. We hope you will join us as we not only help to steward history, but make it as well.

JOSH BASSECHES DIRECTOR & CEO ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

MARTHA DURDIN CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

Note: Deloitte figures account for direct, indirect, and induced contributions, including \$179M in cumulative expenditures. Data from Royal Ontario Museum: Socio-Economic Contribution Analysis (Deloitte, 2019).





Philanthropy

on

View

ur valued donors, corporate partners, and volunteers have helped shape another successful and exciting year at the ROM. The impact of philanthropy has been visible in many meaningful ways throughout the Museum–in every extraordinary exhibition, public program, accessibility, and learning initiative.

Together, we raised \$18.9 million in new gifts and pledged commitments in support of the ROM, including more than \$1 million in new legacy gift intentions from members of the Currelly Legacy Society. Our heartfelt thanks go to those who gave a gift in memory of a loved one or committed to leaving a legacy gift for the future. Your support makes possible many important initiatives, including various research, programs, exhibitions, and acquisitions.

We celebrated 20 years of remarkable support from the Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust, which has granted over \$44 million to fund important acquisitions, publications, and curatorial positions at the ROM. Trustees Gary Weddel and Lisa Saunders have been wonderful partners in realizing the incredible legacy of this gift.

With matching funds from this trust, donors recently established three new endowed curatorships, including the Richard M. Ivey Curatorship of Invertebrate Palaeontology and the Dan Mishra Curator of South Asian Art & Culture. Funding in perpetuity for these critical roles ensures a dedication to leadingedge research, education, and public outreach initiatives. Enabled by visionary lead donors Jeff Willner and Stacey Madge, the ROM has announced plans to begin development of the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life. This new gallery, set to open in 2021, will showcase one of the world's finest collections of early life fossils and offer a uniquely Canadian perspective on a global story. This exciting project was also generously supported by the Ivey Family, The Salamander Foundation, Elinor Gill Ratcliffe, and other leadership donors.

Royal Exhibitions Circle donors have made generous commitments to the ROM's dynamic exhibition program. Our thanks to Jack L. Cockwell, Gail & Bob Farquharson, Chris & Kasia Jamroz, Robert E. Pierce & Family, Stephen Smith & Diane Blake, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West, Jeff Willner & Family, and an anonymous donor. This past year, supporters of the Young Patrons Circle and Royal Patrons Circle generously donated \$2.6 million.

We were delighted to celebrate the opening of *Treasures of a Desert Kingdom: The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India* with our ROM Ball fundraising gala in March, raising more than \$536,000 net in support of the Museum.

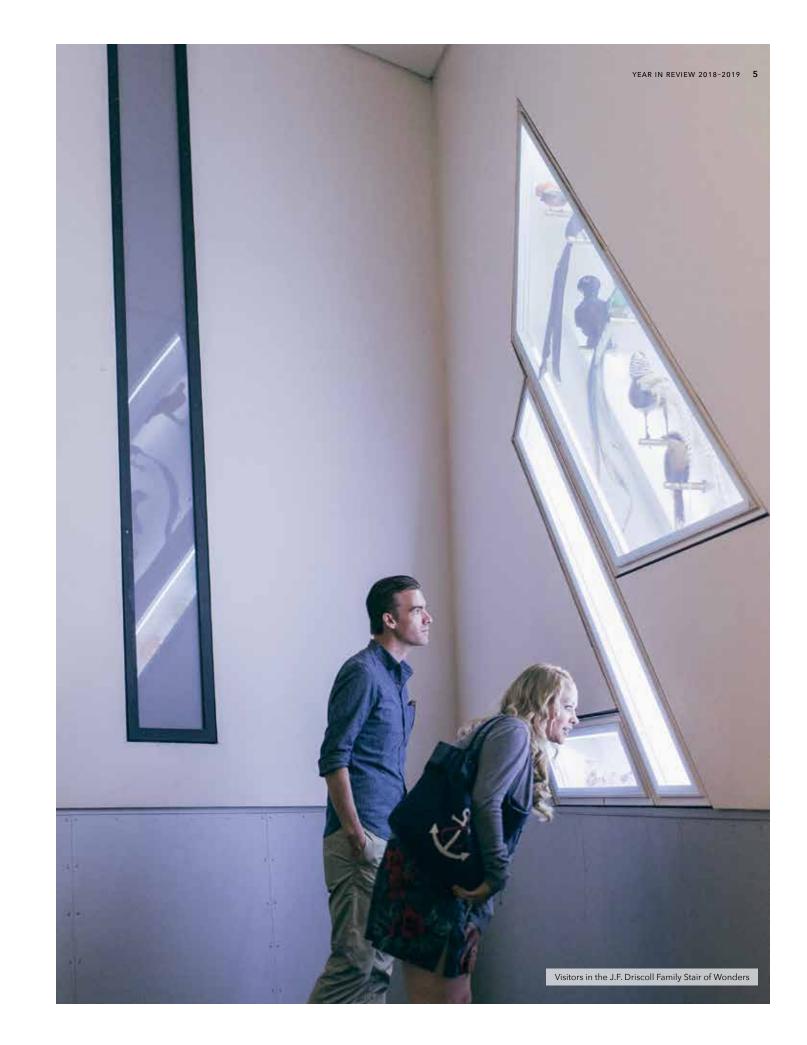
The ROM is truly a place for everyone and has the power to transform lives with extraordinary experiences. Our deep appreciation goes to TD Bank Group and The Bennett Family Foundation for enabling thousands of people from all walks of life to enjoy free admission and extended hours through our 3rd Monday Nights Free program.

We are also exceedingly grateful to all the members of our Board of Governors, who offer their time, generosity, and commitment as volunteer leaders, and who greatly contribute to the vibrancy and success of the ROM. They are part of a large community of donors, patrons, sponsors, and volunteers who make the ROM one of the world's truly great museums. Thank you.

We hope you enjoy the many stories of your philanthropy featured throughout this publication. They are just a snapshot of the many ways you help to inspire, delight, and transform lives every day.

SUSAN HORVATH PRESIDENT & CEO ROM GOVERNORS

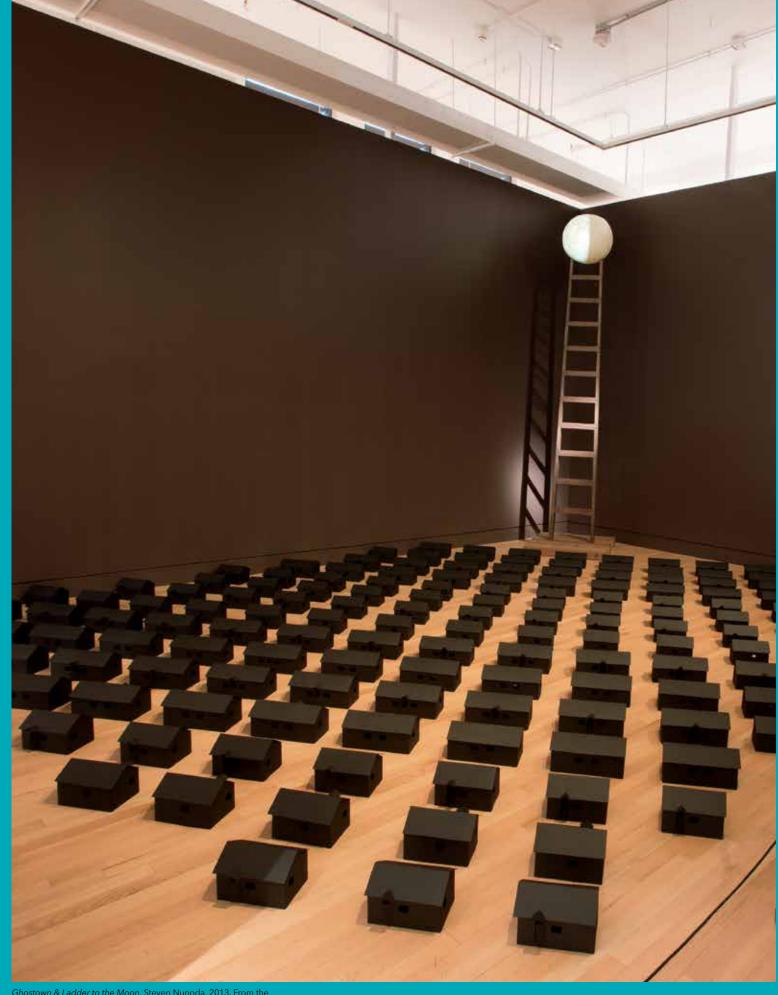
ROBERT E. PIERCE CHAIR ROM BOARD OF GOVERNORS





2018-19: The Year at a Glance

The ROM was the highest-attended museum in Canada and ranked among the top 10 art museums in North America.



Ghostown & Ladder to the Moon, Steven Nunoda, 2013. From the exhibition Being Japanese Canadian: reflections on a broken world

1.34 MILLION+

Number of visitors to the ROM

13 MILLION+

Objects and specimens in our collection

100,536 School visits

107,615

Hours given to the ROM by our 1,300 volunteers

\$5 MILLION

Funds raised for the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life

127,000 ROM Members

3.9 MILLION Visitors to the ROM website

100,000+ Free admission tickets distributed through ROMCAN partnerships

400+ Art and culture objects added to the collection

414,492 Social media followers



Compelling Mix of Original and Touring Exhibitions

The ROM's robust slate of exhibitions in 2018-2019 included Treasures of a Desert Kingdom: The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India, Spiders: Fear & Fascination, and Iris van Herpen: Transforming Fashion, major offerings presented at the Museum as part of their international tours. In addition, ROM-original exhibitions Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur, Gods in My Home: Chinese New Year with Ancestor Portraits and Deity Prints, and the new permanent Toy Soldiers installation highlighted curatorial scholarship and the Museum's diverse collections.

The ROM-original installations *Being Japanese Canadian: reflections on a broken world* and *#MeToo & the Arts* showed the Museum boldly delving into topical subjects and histories, reaffirming its role as a place where visitors can engage in conversations on critical issues past and present. The Museum also shared its research and collections with institutions across the country via travelling exhibitions.





Treasures of a Desert Kingdom: The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India

This exhibition showcased nearly four centuries of artistic creation from the kingdom of Marwar-Jodhpur in the northwestern state of Rajasthan. Exquisite paintings, jewellery, textiles, and decorative arts told compelling stories of conquest, kingship, strategic alliances, the role of women, and courtly life. The ROM was one of only three international venues (and the only Canadian museum) to host this major travelling exhibition.



Being Japanese Canadian: reflections on a broken world

Featuring compelling works by eight contemporary Japanese Canadian artists, this installation offered personal perspectives on the exile, dispossession, and internment of Japanese Canadians during the 1940s. Interspersed throughout the Sigmund Samuel Gallery of Canada, these artworks prompted visitors to reflect on the long-lasting ramifications of this historical Canadian injustice, and what it means to be Canadian today.



Gods in My Home: **Chinese New Year with Ancestor Portraits and Deity Prints**

This exhibition focused on the unexplored connection between ancestral paintings and traditional popular prints in the context of Chinese Lunar New Year. Ancestral portraits, paper gods, and ceramicsnearly all from the ROM's collectionsfurther revealed a Chinese view of reverence and belief that these objects were capable of blessing and protecting the prosperity of family lines.



Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur

Seventy-six million years ago, a six-metre-long, 2.5-ton, planteating, armour-covered ankylosaur roamed the Earth. Zuul is one of the most complete skeletons of its kind ever found. The exhibition immersed visitors in Zuul's story, with his impressive skull, body block, and tail club serving as linking centrepieces. Audiences learned about his discovery in 2014, his life in the lush Cretaceous period, and current palaeontological research.

Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018

The world-renowned Wildlife natural world.

Garfield Weston Exhibition Hall, Level B2, Michael Lee-Chin Crystal March 9-September 2, 2019

ROM Curator: Deepali Dewan, Dan Mishra Curator of South Asian Art & Culture

Lead Exhibition Partner: Dan Mishra

Media Partners: CTV, Toronto Star Government Partner: Ontario Cultural

Attractions Fund

Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farguharson, Chris & Kasia Jamroz, Robert E. Pierce & Family, Stephen Smith & Diane Blake, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West, Jeff Willner & Family, Anonymous

The exhibition was organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston with the collaboration of the Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Jodhpur, India.

Sigmund Samuel Gallery of Canada, Level 1, Weston Family Wing February 2-August 5, 2019

ROM Curators: Arlene Gehmacher, Heather Read (Rebanks Postdoctoral Fellow)

Guest Curators: Bryce Kanbara, Katherine Yamashita

Exhibit Patron: Sigmund Samuel Gallery of Canada Fund

Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farguharson, Chris & Kasia Jamroz, Robert E. Pierce & Family, Stephen Smith & Diane Blake, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West, Jeff Willner & Family, Anonymous

Research for the exhibition was conducted with support from the Landscapes of Injustice project and the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (Toronto).

Patricia Harris Gallery of Textiles & Costume, Level 4, Michael Lee-Chin Crystal January 26, 2019-January 5, 2020

ROM Curators: Wen-chien Cheng, Louise Hawley Stone Chair of East Asian Art and Yanwen Jiang, J.S. Lee Memorial Fellow, 2017-18

Exhibit Patron: E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farquharson, Chris & Kasia Jamroz, Robert E. Pierce & Family, Stephen Smith & Diane Blake, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West Jeff Willner & Family, Anonymous

Roloff Beny Gallery, Level 4 December 15, 2018-May 20, 2019

ROM Curators: David Evans, James & Louise Temerty Endowed Chair, Vertebrate Palaeontology and Victoria Arbour (NSERC Postdoctoral Fellow)

Presenting Sponsor: Sinking Ship Entertainment Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farguharson, Chris & Kasia Jamroz, Robert E. Pierce & Family,

Stephen Smith & Diane Blake, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West, Jeff Willner & Family, Anonymous

Centre Block, Level 3 December 1, 2018-March 31, 2019 ROM Curator: Sebastian Kvist, Associate Curator, Invertebrates Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farquharson, Chris & Kasia Jamroz, Robert E. Pierce & Family, Stephen Smith & Diane Blake, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West, Jeff Willner & Family, Anonymous

Wildlife Photographer of the Year was developed and produced by the Natural History Museum, London



Photographer of the Year exhibition returned to the ROM for its sixth year. One hundred new photographs from around the world revealed striking wildlife, breathtaking landscapes, and the remarkable beauty of the



Modernism on the Ganges: **Raghubir Singh Photographs**

One of India's most visionary and celebrated pioneers of colour photography, Raghubir Singh (1942-1999) was a prolific photographer whose creative style revealed the dramatic palette of India's streets, places, and peoples through a distinct lens. Tracing the full trajectory of his career from the late 1960s to his last unpublished projects of the late 1990s, this exhibition showcased iconic depictions of Indian life and culture in vivid colour.

Centre Block, Level 3 July 21-October 21, 2018 ROM Curator: Deepali Dewan, Dan Mishra Curator of South Asian Art & Culture

The exhibition was organized by The Metropolitan Museum of Art with the cooperation of Succession Raahubir Sinah



#MeToo & the Arts

Museums today struggle with a course of action when artists represented in their galleries are accused of sexual harassment, or when artworks in their collections are viewed as problematic. Prompted by the ROM's presentation of Modernism on the Ganges: Raghubir Singh Photographs and an allegation of sexual misconduct made against the deceased artist, #MeToo & the Arts encouraged a larger conversation about how museums and the public engage with art within the context of the #MeToo and Time's Up movements.



Spiders: Fear & Fascination

This exhibition featured over 200 live and preserved spider specimens, including some of the world's deadliest. Interactive and AR experiences allowed visitors to become better acquainted with hunting, burrowing, and weaving arachnids. The ROM added specimens native to Canada and created content that explored the cultural impact of spiders. A spider-silk cape and display of Spider-Man comics revealed the influence of spiders on human creativity and imagination.



Iris van Herpen: Transforming **Fashion & Philip Beesley:** Transforming Space

This installation of two complementary exhibitions explored the endless possibilities of interweaving art, nature, design, and technology. Iris van Herpen: Transforming Fashion presented work by this avant-garde Dutch designer whose provocative collections fuse style with science. Philip Beesley: Transforming Space showcased a "living" sculpture that breathed, undulated, and shifted in response to visitors' movements. The large-scale, immersive installation merged chemistry, AI, and soundscapes into a visually stunning environment.



Here We Are Here: **Black Canadian Contemporary Art**

What is the Black Canadian presence and history in our country? This exhibition explored this question through the multidisciplinary works of nine contemporary Canadian artists. It also examined complexities of art, race, and national historical identity, and challenged audiences to think about preconceived notions of Black culture and what constitutes Blackness in Canada.



Christian Dior

Celebrating the House of Christian Dior's 70th anniversary, this exhibition revealed how and why Christian Dior's iconic lines, luxury textiles, and exquisite embroideries changed western fashion and culture. Drawn from the ROM's permanent collection and augmented with loans of accessories, Christian Dior featured more than 100 objects, including 38 designs from daytime and evening wear to grand occasions. Surpassing attendance targets with 127,908 visitors, this ROM original exhibition's popularity was testament to Christian Dior's appeal and allure to the present day.

Thorsell Spirit House, Level 1, Michael Lee-Chin Crystal July 21-October 21, 2018 ROM Curator: Deepali Dewan, Dan Mishra Curator of South Asian Art & Culture

Garfield Weston Exhibition Hall, Level B2, Michael Lee-Chin Crystal June 16, 2018-January 6, 2019 ROM Curator: Doug Currie, Vice President, Natural History and Senior Curator, Entomology

Media Partners: Toronto Star, CTV Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farguharson,

Chris & Kasia Jamroz, Robert E. Pierce & Family, Stephen Smith & Diane Blake, James & Louise emerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West, Jeff Willner & Family, Anonymous

The exhibition was developed by the Australian Museum and toured by Flying Fish.

Roloff Beny Gallery & Patricia Harris Gallery of Textiles & Costume Level 4 Michael Lee-Chin Crystal June 2-October 8, 2018

ROM Curator: Alexandra Palmer, Nora E. Vaughan Fashion Costume Senior Curato

Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farquharson, Chris & Kasia Jamroz, Robert E. Pierce & Family, Stephen Smith & Diane Blake, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West, Jeff Willner & Family, Anonymous

Iris van Herpen: Transforming Fashion was co-organized by the High Museum of Art, Atlanta and the Groninger Museum, the Netherlands. The exhibition was curated by Sarah Schleuning of the High Museum of Art. and Mark Wilson and Sue-an van der Zijpp of the Groninge Museum. Philip Beesley: Transforming Space was created by Philip Beesley and the Living Architecture Systems Group.

Centre Block, Level 3 January 27-April 22, 2018 ROM Co-Curator: Dr. Silvia Forni Guest Co-Curators: Dominique Fontaine and Dr. Julie Crooks

Presenting Sponsor: TD Bank Exhibit Patron: Hal Jackman Foundation Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farquharson, Robert E. Pierce & Family, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West, Jeff Willner & Family, Anonymous

Patricia Harris Gallery of Textiles & Costume, Level 4 November 25, 2017-April 8, 2018 Curator: Dr Alexandra Palmer Presenting Sponsor: Holt Renfrew Exhibit Patron: ROM Friends of Textiles & Costume and Burnham Brett Endowment Fund Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail & Bob Farquharson, Robert E. Pierce & Family, James & Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham & Julia West





VIKINGS: The Exhibition

Seen by close to 208,000 visitors, VIKINGS: The Exhibition offered a fresh new perspective on the Viking Age. Coming from the Swedish History Museum, it featured hundreds of objects (many rarely seen outside of Scandinavia), interactives, and immersive experiences that provided an extraordinary window into the lifestyle, religion, and daily lives of these legendary explorers, artisans, and crafts people. A section on the Viking footprint in Canada was incorporated in the ROM installation. adding to its popularity with Canadian visitors.

Garfield Weston Exhibition Hall Michael Lee-Chin Crystal, Level B2 November 4, 2017-April 2, 2018 ROM Curator: Dr. Craig Cipolla

Presenting Sponsor: Raymond James Ltd. Supporting Sponsor: Volvo

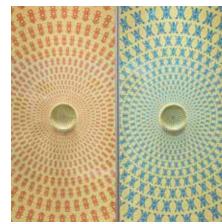
Royal Exhibitions Circle: Gail and Bob Farquharson, James and Louise Temerty, Richard Wernham and Julia West

The exhibition was a joint venture between and produced by The Swedish History Museum in Sweden and MuseumsPartner in Austria



The Evidence Room

The Evidence Room examined the chilling role architecture played in constructing the Auschwitz concentration camp. It featured a reconstruction of key objects central to the work of Dr. Robert Jan van Pelt, whose careful analysis of the architecture of Auschwitz established in a landmark court case that it was purposefully designed as a death camp. Organized by the University of Waterloo School of Architecture, *The Evidence Room* was created for the 15th International Architecture Exhibition of the 2016 Venice Biennale.



Designing Asian Design

Opening in stages where prototypes were used to gather input from visitors, this experimental exhibition presented Asian art in unusual and provocative ways. Presented over two years, it drew connections between traditional and contemporary art and design from Asia and allowed ROM visitors to appreciate the ROM's East Asian collections in a new way.



Toy Soldiers

In 1991, during his tenure as Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Honourable Henry N. R. Jackman donated his historic collection of 5,000 toy soldiers to the ROM. This new installation presents 2,500 pieces from his set. As playthings of the past, toy soldiers allowed children to gain awareness of people and places around the world, while also reinforcing messages of nationhood during the period between the two world wars.

Travelling Exhibitions



International Partnerships: Trade Mission to China

Josh Basseches, ROM Director & CEO, and Chen Shen, Vice President, Art & Culture, joined The Honourable Mélanie Joly, then Minister of Canadian Heritage, on a trade mission to China in April 2018. It was Canada's first creative industries trade mission. Consequently, the ROM signed two important partnerships: a collaboration with the Xuzhou Museum toward exchanges, training, and gallery development; and an agreement with the China National Silk Museum for exchanges in exhibitions, collections, research, and publications. Pieces from the Egyptian collection were on view at Xuzhou Museum in June 2019 and the ROM's *Christian Dior* exhibition opened at the China National Silk Museum in fall 2019.

European Special Exhibitions Gallery, Samuel European Galleries, Level 3 June 25, 2017-September 3, 2018 **Guest Curators:** Anne Bordeleau, Donald McKay, Robert Jan van Pelt

Lead Patrons: Rob & Penny Richards, The Gerald Schwartz & Heather Reisman Foundation

Supporting Patron: Larry & Judy Tanenbaum Family Exhibition Patron: The Jay and Barbara Hennick Family Foundation Herman Herzog Levy Gallery, Level 1 October 14, 2017-September 30, 2019 **Curator:** Chen Shen Outside of the East Entrance to CIBC Discovery Gallery, Level 2 Opened January 1, 2019

Here We Are Here: Black Canadian Contemporary Art

This multidisciplinary ROM-original exhibition studies Black Canadian presence in Canada through the work of eight contemporary artists. It appeared at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (May 12-September 16, 2018), then went on view at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia (June 1-October 27, 2019).

Christian Dior

Following its tremendous success at the ROM, the Museum's *Christian Dior* exhibition embarked on an international tour. It appeared at Calgary's Glenbow Museum (February 3-June 2, 2019), where it was the most attended exhibition in the Glenbow's recent history, followed by the China National Silk Museum (September 20, 2019-January 5, 2020), and it will next be seen at Montreal's McCord Museum (summer 2020).



Chinese National Silm Museum









Treasures of a Desert Kingdom: The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India

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ROM Objects on Loan Locally and Globally

The strength of the ROM's collection is respected and recognized on a global scale. Standing at the intersection of art, culture, and nature, the Museum is a resource to institutions and scholars worldwide and, as such, objects from the collections are requested as loans by prestigious museums across Canada and the globe.

Getty Museum

Los Angeles, CA, United States

A sculpture from the Egyptian collection believed to represent Cleopatra VII was on loan for the exhibition *Egypt-Greece-Rome: The Classical World in Context*. The ROM was among a list of top international lenders including The British Museum, Vatican City, Musée du Louvre, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Metropolitan Museum of Art

New York City, NY, United States

The Aldobrandini Tazza with a figure of the Roman Emperor Otho from the European collection was on loan for the exhibition *The Silver Caesars: A Renaissance Mystery.* It then travelled to the Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire.

The "Grand habit" or court robe with train, said to belong to Marie-Antoinette of France, and petticoat attributed to the dressmaker Marie-Jean "Rose" Bertin (1714-1813) from the textile collection were on loan for the exhibition *Visitors to Versailles*, 1682-1789.

Block Museum of Art

Evanston, IL, United States Nine Egyptian textiles from the textile collection were on loan for the exhibition Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time: Art, Culture and Exchange Across Medieval Saharan Africa.

National Gallery of Canada Ottawa, ON, Canada

Fourteen silver drawings and one painting from the Canadian collection were on loan to the National Gallery of Canada for the exhibition *Laurent Amiot: Canadian Master Silversmith.*

Additional loans across Canada included ROM objects travelling to the Korean Cultural Centre in Ottawa, Museum Pointe-à-Callière, the MacKenzie Art Gallery, the Aga Khan Museum, the Gardiner Museum, the Ryerson Imaging Centre, and the Toronto Reference Library.



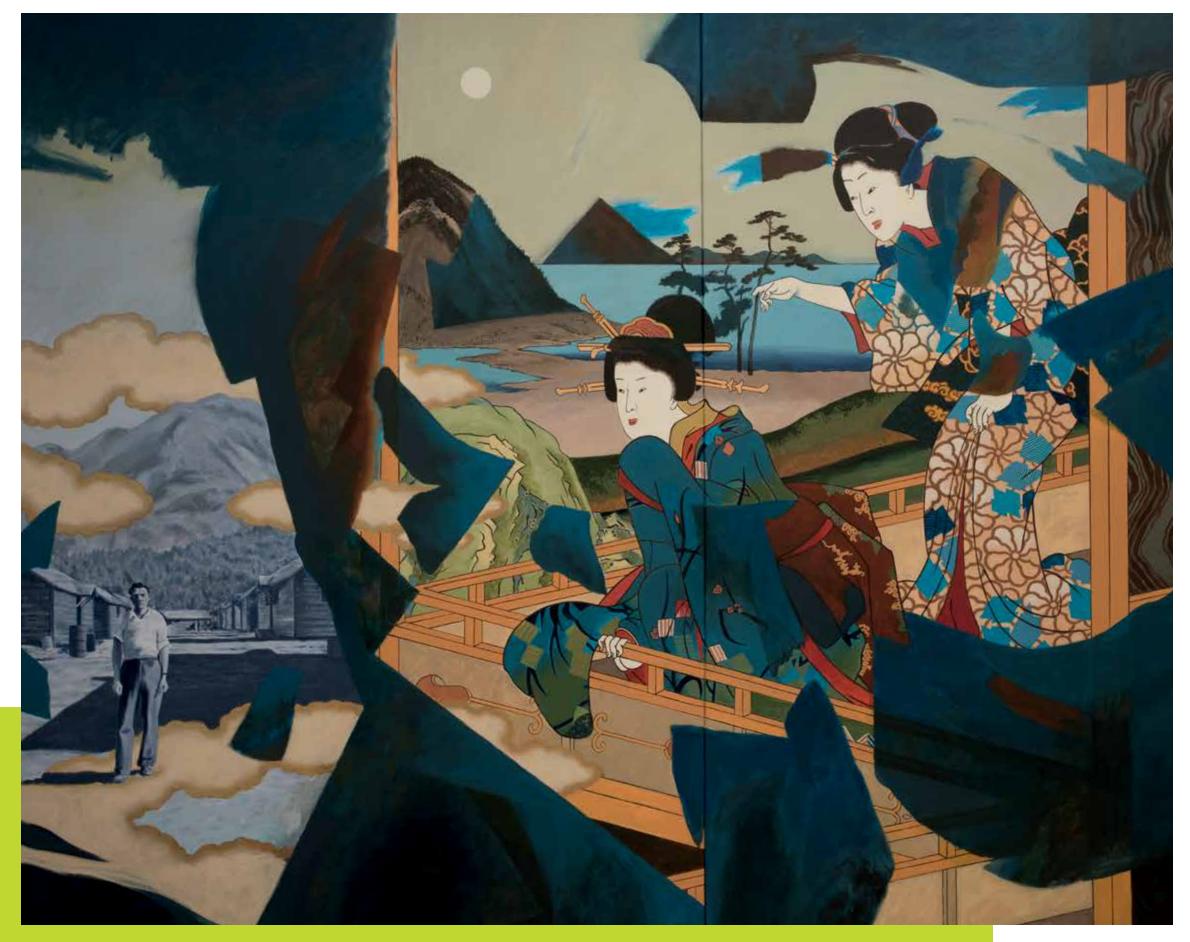
Expanding the Collections

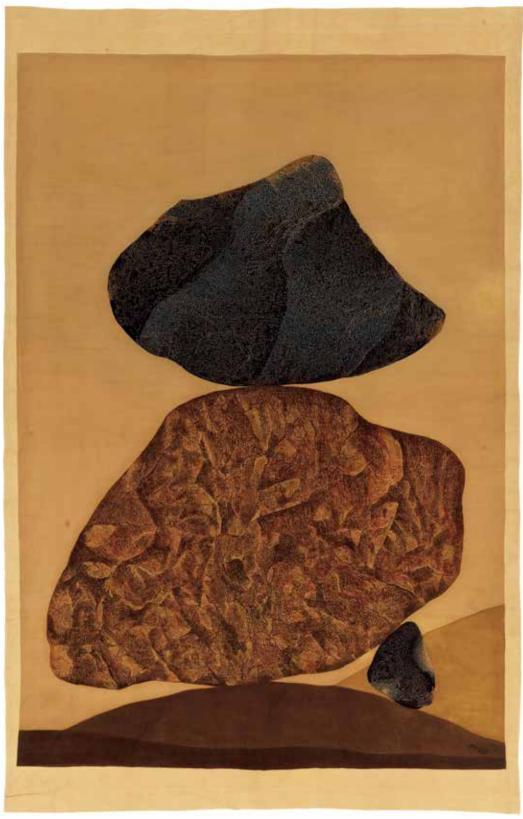
With the generous support of the Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust, the ROM acquired significant art and culture objects that continue to enhance the Museum's collections.

Interior Revisited

by Norman Takeuchi 2012-2017, acrylic on canvas, 121.9 cm x 182.9 cm, framed

Takeuchi's art examines identity through the lens of experience of the internment of Japanese Canadian citizens in the 1940s. This acquisition diversifies the Canadian collection and speaks to relevant cyclical and contemporary topics. It addresses issues of dual identities.









"Prosthor" (Stone)

by Ajit Kumar Das, 2015

Das is recognized as one of the finest artists of the contemporary chintz tradition. The largest and most complex work in his *Stone* series, this hand-painted cotton tableaux with natural dyes explores esoteric themes in a modern vocabulary. It will be featured in the upcoming exhibition *The Cloth that Changed the World* and its accompanying publication.

Cloudscape

by Xiaojing Yan Twenty-four pieces of paper and natural reed, produced between 2009-2011, various dimensions.

In 2018, Chinese Canadian artist Xiaojing Yan installed *Cloudscape* as a loan in the ROM's *Designing Asian Design* exhibition. It is constructed from reed and paper forms that float and soar through space, referring to traditional Chinese landscape painting, where natural forms are reinterpreted through the lens of culture. War Exploit Robe

War Exploit Robe (Jeffrey Robe): Animal Hide Wearing Robe

213 cm x 173 cm, painted c. 1870 by a Crow man, and bearing a pictographic record of war exploits. Decorated with a beadwork strip and triangular emblem.

During the 19th century, war exploits were the most important subject of pictorial painting among the Indigenous peoples of the Great Plains. This robe significantly bridges two key phases of Crow art and bears witness to the transition that occurred around 1870 when reservation life began for the Crow people.



Suite of 26 gem apatites

341 carats (total weight); Worldwide localities

Apatite refers to a group of phosphate minerals found in many areas of the world. It is one of the few minerals that forms in bio-microsystems (for example, in our bones and teeth) and is distributed in all rock types. Large, well-formed, and transparent crystals are very rare, making this suite of apatites unique. And, in the long ROM tradition of acquiring geographically significant gemstones, the importance of the known locality in these gemstones will be key to understanding formation and for geo-fingerprinting.

Christian Dior Haute Couture Two-Piece Evening Dress

This silk velvet and silk faille dinner dress called "Duchesse" is in the "Ciseaux" line from the Milieu du siècle collection, Autumn-Winter 1949-1950, Paris, France, and fills a gap in the ROM's 1947-1957 Christian Dior collection.



Fayum Mummy Portrait

Fayum Mummy Portrait of a Woman

Encaustic technique on wood, from the Fayum region of Roman Egypt, c. second century.

Found in cemeteries in the Fayum and other parts of Egypt, what are collectively known as Fayum mummy portraits represent some of the earliest known, best-preserved, and most finely painted portraits in the history of art, and they are an unmatched source of information on ancient traditions. This acquisition received support from the Mona Campbell Endowment Fund.



"Bob's Clan" by Zohra Opoku, 2017

Screen print on cotton, thread, wool, 139 cm x 186 cm.

This work is from the seminal series Unravelled Threads by Zohra Opoku, an internationally renowned Ghanaian artist. The rising star has a growing number of international exhibitions and presence in important institutional collections.

Sea scorpion (eurypterid) fossils

Eurypterids are large predatory marine arthropods that represent iconic fossils from the Silurian period. The two eurypterid specimens are the best specimens of the species currently known anywhere. The approximately 22-inch-long specimen from the Ridgemount Quarry (Acutiramus cumingsii) is by far the best-preserved specimen from the Bertie Formation of Ontario. This complete specimen showcases extraordinary preservation of eyes, including preservation of lenses, which also makes this acquisition particularly scientifically significant.



Meteorite NWA 11119

Middle Silurian period of Ontario (~443 million years old); Guelph and Bertie Formations

Meteorite NWA 11119

Formed approximately 4.5 billion years ago; 14 grams

Meteorites originate from asteroids, our moon and from at least one planet, Mars. They allow us to understand the formation of the solar system and all the rocky bodies it contains as well as giving us insights into the possible origins of organisms. Studying them allows us to place our planet and the life it holds into a wider context, i.e. the formation of this system of planets we call home. The NWA 11119 is one of the most important meteorites yet discovered. It challenges what we have believed about the geological processes which formed asteroids and planets in the early solar system.

Leading-Edge Research

The Museum's reputation as a leader in research and groundbreaking scholarship continues to grow. With each year, the ROM is strengthening its curatorial capacity and enhancing access to and stewardship of its collections. This has been demonstrated through key additions to the Museum's collections in Natural History and Art & Culture, new publications of findings, curators presenting at conferences worldwide, and global fieldwork research.



Field Research

The strength of the ROM's research is respected and recognized on an international scale. In 2018-2019, the Museum's curatorial staff travelled across six continents to conduct field studies in art, culture, and nature.

Sarah Fee

Senior Curator of Fashion & Textiles Port Louis, Mauritius | June 2018 The National Archives of Mauritius is considered the most important repository of archival material related to Madagascar. The Natural History Museum in Mauritius has never been explored for Madagascar-related material, although it promises to hold some of the earliest objects. Fee's research supports upcoming publications on the precocious and radical dress reforms of Radama.

Burton Lim

Assistant Curator, Mammalogy Guyana, Peru, and Ecuador | June 2018

Lim conducted fieldwork in Guyana for an annual biodiversity monitoring project in the rainforest ecosystem at Iwokrama Forest, establishing baseline data related to potential climate change in tropical environments. The team captured 317 bats representing 33 species, and will compare data to previous numbers. Lim also conducted a bat-species survey in Grenada in February.

Ontario, Canada | June 2018

Staff from the ROM participated in the Ontario BioBlitz at Claremont Nature Centre. Lim, along with ROM Mammalogy technician Jacqueline Miller, captured 52 small mammals representing six species, and recorded the echolocation calls of bats. They prepared a representative collection of 14 specimens to document their

diversity in the area. This will form a reference database for future comparison and help track ecosystem changes.

Ecuador | November 2018 and March 2019 Lim participated in a biodiversity monitoring survey at Yasuni National Park in Ecuador. Bats, rodents, and opossums were collected to document the diversity of rare and evasive small mammals. The data will be used to compare species diversity and relative abundance over time, and will be incorporated into broader studies on the biodiversity, evolution, and biogeography of South America.

Justin Jennings

Curator, New World Archaeology Arequipa, Peru | July 2018

The purpose of Jenning's research was to survey ancient trails associated with the broader transportation network connected to the archaeological site at Quilcapampa, where the ROM recently completed excavations. The work benefited previous research and was supported by Peru's Ministry of Culture in its efforts to qualify a nearby site for UNESCO World Heritage status.

Kimberly Tait

Teck Endowed Chair of Mineralogy Richland, Washington, USA | July 2018

Tait, Postdoctoral Fellow Lee White, and Ph.D. student Tanya Kizovski traveled to the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Washington, to apply analytical tools to Martian meteorites to resolve the presence, abundance, and composition of extraterrestrial water, ground-truthing the potential for life on other planets.

Perth, Australia | August 2018

Travelling to the only geoscience atom probe in the world, Tait collected data on baddeleyite (zircon oxides) to look at the chemical composition and geological age of a sample in a eucrite meteorite from the ROM's collection.

Portsmouth, United Kingdom | August 2018 Tait, White, and Kizovski traveled to the University of Portsmouth to use the Variable Pressure Zeiss Scanning Electron Microscope with an Electron Backscatter Diffraction detector to study Martian meteorites from the ROM's collection.

Craig Cipolla

Associate Curator, North American Archaeology Uncasville, Connecticut, USA | August 2018

Cipolla led an ongoing archaeological field school on the Mohegan Reservation archaeological sites that are central to his research, while teaching Indigenous students the basics of archaeological method and theory. The workshop was collaborative and brought together students and staff of diverse backgrounds to collect archaeological data on colonial history in the region.

1/ 5/ JEAN-BERNARD CARON

2/ **CRAIG CIPOLLA** USA

3/ SANTIAGO CLARAMUNT Peru

4/ **CHRIS DARLING**

Canada

DAVID EVANS USA Canada

6/ **SARAH FEE** Mauritius India

SILVIA FORNI Ghana

Trinidad and Tobago

7/



8/

KRZYSZTOF GRZYMSKI Poland

9/

JUSTIN JENNINGS Peru

10/

BURTON LIM Guyana Peru Ecuador

11/ JEAN-MARC MONCALVO Canada

12/ **ALEXANDRA PALMER** Greece India

13/ **FAHMIDA SULEMAN** Oman

14/ **KIMBERLY TAIT** USA Australia UK









Top left: Printing alum in Dhamadka, India. Top right: tk Bottom left: Silvia Forni in Labadi, Ghana. Bottom right: Dr. Jean-Bernard Caron (centre), his PhD student Joseph Moysiuk (right), and private fossil collector Wayne Davey (left) exploring fossiliferous Silurian outcrops at the Ridgemount Quarry near Fort Erie, Ontario



Children playing around Serge Attukwei Clottey's installation, Labadi, Ghana, August 2018

Silvia Forni

Senior Curator, African Arts and Cultures Accra, Ghana | August 2018

For five years, Forni has explored contemporary creativity, focusing on Asafo arts and the art scenes of Ghana's centres. This trip expanded and deepened the research questions developed in investigating the role of the artist as social commentator. Forni explored the function of art as catalyst for socially engaged and political conversations in spaces removed from market strictures.

Santiago Claramunt

Associate Curator, Ornithology Peru | summer 2018

Claramunt traveled to Peru to collect specimens for his research on avian flight performance and dispersal. Over three years he has collected 142 specimens of 55 species. In Uruguay he collected specimens of ovenbirds for his research on the systematics and evolution of the species. He surveyed, photographed, and sampled birds, taking approximately 500 photos of birds and habitats.

David Evans

James and Louise Temerty Endowed Chair of Vertebrate Palaeontology Hell Creek, Montana, USA and Southern Alberta, Canada | summer 2018

Evans led ROM vertebrate paleontologists on two fieldwork projects. First was the start of a five-year project around Hell Creek, Montana, to learn more about dinosaur extinction and grow the ROM's collection. A *Triceratops* skull and several microvertebrate sites were found. The team continued searching for fossils with the Southern Alberta Dinosaur Project, excavating a rare alligator skeleton.

Jean-Marc Moncalvo

Senior Curator of Mycology Greater Toronto Area, Canada | summer 2018

Moncalvo undertook fieldwork in forested areas of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) throughout the summer, observing mushrooms' seasonality and ecology, and collecting specimens of interest for ongoing research activities.

Jean-Bernard Caron

Richard M. Ivey Curator of Invertebrate Palaeontology Ridgemount Quarry and Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada October 2018

Caron, Maryam Akrami, and Ph.D. student Joseph Moysiuk visited Ontario's Ridgemount Quarry and a private fossil collector near Fort Erie on October 26, 2018, resulting in the ROM receiving the donation of a collection of Silurian-age invertebrate fossils. Some will be displayed in the ROM's future Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life.

Krzysztof Grzymski

Senior Curator, Egypt & Nubia Warsaw and Poznan, Poland | October 2018

The goal of Grzymski's trip was to research and study material from the Letti Basin Project carried out in collaboration with colleagues from ROM partner institutions including the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Poznan Archaeological Museum.

Alexandra Palmer

Nora E. Vaughan Fashion Costume Senior Curator and Chair of the Veronika Gervers Research Fellowship in Textiles & Costume Athens, Greece | November 2018

Palmer interviewed family and associated colleagues of American artist and philosopher Raymond Duncan as part of an ongoing project to research archives and record oral histories related to Duncan's life in Greece.

Sarah Fee and Alexandra Palmer

Gujarat, Rajasthan, and New Delhi, India, December 2018

Fee and Palmer undertook this trip for forthcoming ROM exhibition *The Cloth that Changed the World*. Along with textiles professor Eiluned Edwards, Fee interviewed and collected works from cotton printers reviving natural dyes and older patterns as well as contemporary designers using blockprinted cloth. They also worked with filmmaker Indraneel Lahiri to capture master craftsmen making chintz.

Chris Darling

Senior Curator of Entomology Trinidad and Tobago | March 2019

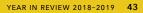
Darling and ROM Entomology Technician Brad Hubley conducted fieldwork to collect specimens for an ongoing taxonomic revision of the parasitic wasp of the *Perilampus platigaster* species group, and to enhance the entomology research collection. A new family of gall-forming wasps was added to the ROM's collection.

Fahmida Suleman

Curator of Islamic Art & Culture Muscat and Salalah, Oman | March 2019

Suleman conducted research at the British Museum and the National Museum of the Sultanate of Oman, focusing on the unique tradition of female silversmithing in southern Oman. She, along with colleagues, recorded field interviews and documented stories about the work and the current situation in Oman.





New Discoveries

The Annual ROM Research Colloquium provides an opportunity for ROM researchers to share updates on their work and projects with ROM colleagues and members of the public. The 2019 Colloquium featured 21 speakers from the ROM's Natural History and Art & Culture departments, as well as postdoctoral fellows. Topics ranged from the origins of chintz in India to research in the ROM's Library and Archives, Ontario's historic fur trade, blue whale genomes, and new fossil discoveries in Marble Canyon.



Following the Colloquium was the Annual Vaughan Lecture, in which Craig Cipolla (Curator of North

American Archaeology) presented his recent research in New England and the Great Lakes, addressing archaeology's role in contemporary society. The Vaughan Lecture Fund was established in 1994 with a generous gift from the Estate of Nora E. Vaughan to continue the ROM's tradition of a staff member sharing their latest research with the public.

Student recording a nineteenth-century site at the Mohegan archaeological field school



Top left: Hudson Strait kayak equipped for hunting. Top right: Satyr Tragopans are normally found in the Himalayas, but the band on the leg indicates this bird came from a pheasant breeder closer to home. Bottom left: A collection of old and new silver necklaces, bracelets and head ornaments with coral beads and gilded decoration collected and made by Tuful Ramadan, one of the last practising female silversmiths of Dhofar, southern Oman. Bottom right: Student on a field course in Peru identifying a bat



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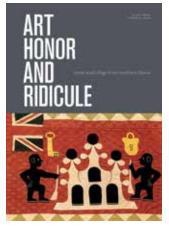
Skull room

ROM Scholarship in Print

The ROM produces a wide range of publications related to the Museum, its collections, exhibitions, and scholarly research. Focusing on the intersecting worlds of art, culture, and nature, the ROM creates publications that share knowledge, inspire learning on timely and relevant topics, and encourage a greater understanding of the world around us.

The Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust generously supports the Museum's renowned publishing program.





Art, Honor, and Ridicule: Fante Asafo Flags from Southern Ghana By Silvia Forni and Doran H. Ross

This landmark publication was awarded the R. L. Shep Ethnic Textiles Book Award in 2017 for making outstanding scholarly contributions to a rich tradition of textile creativity in Africa, known mainly for its iconographic imagery linked to oral knowledge and its bold design executed in vivid colors. Based on decades of research, this work identifies and recognizes the individual artists and workshops who design and make the flags, the sensibilities and long history that inform their making and innovations to the present day, as well as the flags' deep cultural meanings for wider communities.



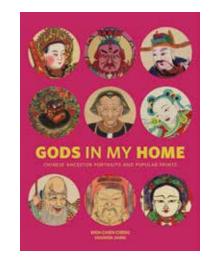
ROM Publications 2018-2019

CHRISTIAN DIOR History & Modernity | 1947-1957.

Christian Dior: History and Modernity, 1947-1957

Alexandra Palmer (October 2018)

Arguably the most famous fashion designer of the 20th century, Christian Dior's feminine fashions were desired, worn, and emulated by women around the world. This publication explores how Dior's dramatic creations-the cuts, textiles and embroideries-stimulated the entire Paris haute couture industry after the devastation of the Second World War. Christian Dior weds extensive research with close examination of designs, making it an essential read for those interested in fashion, art, culture, and history.



Gods in My Home: **Chinese Ancestor Portraits** and Popular Prints

Wen-chien Cheng and Yanwen Jiang (January 2019)

Gods in My Home examines the previously unexplored connection between ancestral paintings and traditional popular prints in the context of Chinese Lunar New Year. It studies the artworks through the lens of their unique status as images used for domestic worship of popular gods and ancestors in households during the late imperial and early Republic periods. This book is the first to provide insights into how these images reflect a view of the domestic, material, and spiritual life of Chinese society.

ZUUL

Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur

Victoria Arbour and David Evans (December 2018)

Palaeontologists Arbour and Evans take readers from Montana's Havre Badlands-and the discovery of a new dinosaur species-to the dinosaur's new home at the ROM. Christened Zuul crurivastator after the iconic monster from *Ghostbusters*, this ankyloaur had a gnarly head, bony spikes, and a deadly, sledgehammerlike tail. The authors share the latest research on this dinosaur and how Zuul adapted to survive in the twilight years of the Age of Dinosaurs.

External Publications by ROM Curators

RELEVANCE AND APPLICATION OF HERITAGE IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY EDITED BY PEI-LIN YU, CHEN SHEN AND GEORGE'S SMITH

Powerful Places in the Ancient Andes

Relevance and Application of Heritage in Contemporary Society

Pei-Lin Yu, Chen Shen, and George S. Smith, eds. Routledge (July 2018)

In the contemporary world, unprecedented global events are challenging our ability to protect and enhance cultural heritage for future generations. This book examines innovative and flexible approaches to cultural-heritage protection.



Powerful Places in the Ancient Andes

Justin Jennings and Edward Swenson, eds. University of New Mexico Press (November 2018)

Andean peoples recognize places in terms of the power they emanate and the identities they materialize and reproduce. This book argues that a careful consideration of Andean conceptions of powerful places is critical not only to understanding Andean political and religious history but to rethinking sociological theories on landscapes more generally. The contributors evaluate ethnographic and ethnohistoric analogies against the material record to illuminate the ways landscapes were experienced and politicized over the last 3,000 years.



ROM magazine

The ROM publishes three magazines per year. Each issue features an engaging, in-depth look into the Museum's exhibitions, research, and collections. Highlighting world-leading scholarship, new initiatives, and recent acquisitions, *ROM* magazine brings to life some of the Museum's most exciting and fascinating stories.

Community Connections

The ROM seeks to be a place of connection for our diverse community. To achieve this goal, the Museum establishes and supports collaborative relationships with particular groups and organizations. A majority of these partners represent communities that historically have experienced barriers to, or have had difficulty in connecting with, the Museum. Through these collaborations the Museum is creating opportunties for communities to engage with the ROM on their own terms in ways that create authentic and meaningful connections.



Enabling Access

The ROM is committed to providing inclusive museum experiences for all our visitors. Access to our collections and information resources is one of our primary and defining responsibilities.

Online Descriptive Audio Tours

Select exhibitions feature descriptive audio tours that enhance the traditional audio tour experience with descriptions of highlighted objects. These tours may be streamed from a personal device or downloaded in advance of a visit.

Sensory-Friendly Guide for Visitors

Prepared in collaboration with Autism Ontario, the ROM has prepared an online guide with tips and sensory notes for visitors.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreted Events

The ROM offers ASL interpretation for lectures and tours upon request, and offers ASL-interpreted Museum Highlights Tours to the public.

nnnnnn i **Promoting Health** and Well-being

Research throughout the world is demonstrating the positive impact cultural institutions can have on the health and well-being of people and their communities. The ROM continues to act as a leader, and innovator, in the development of programs that contribute to well-being.

Social Prescription Program

The ROM Social Prescription pilot program launched in December 2018. This initiative will allow healthcare, social service, and community service professionals affiliated with ROMCAN partners to prescribe clients a visit to the ROM as a way to improve their mental health and overall well-being. Five-thousand ROM Social Prescription passes were made available to 53 ROMCAN partners for the program's pilot year.

Tours for Visitors with Dementia

The ROM works with the Alzheimer Society of Toronto to provide tours for visitors experiencing dementia use facilitated discussions to foster socialization, mental alertness, and experiences of reminisce.

Welcoming **New Audiences**

The ROM Community Access Network (ROMCAN) is the Museum's commitment to removing barriers to access by working alongside community partner organizations. In 2018, ROMCAN celebrated its 10th anniversary and enabled 71,051 free visits for individuals who otherwise would not be able to access the museum. The program expanded from 78 to 112 partners within the fiscal year and added a 10th community of focus: persons with lived experiences of mental health and/or addictions.

Throughout the year, the Museum hosted eight ROM In My Backyard (RIMBY) community events, bringing Museum experiences to ROMCAN partners in their own spaces. These

experiences featured hands-on engagement with Museum objects and conversations with participants about the objects as well as how these artifacts resonate with them personally.

The ROM also delivered two 10-week sessions of ROM Trailblazers in four St. Alban's Boys and Girls Club locations in neighbourhood-improvement areas across the city. Over 165 children aged six to 12 engaged in this afterschool program that featured activities such as creating slime to learn about non-Newtonian fluids and exploring the dinosaur food chain through fossils and casts of their teeth.

The ROM offers free general admission to Indigenous peoples, including First Nations, Inuit and Métis. Indigenous visitors may avail of this offer at the admissions desk. Non-profit organizations serving ROMCAN communities may apply for a one-time donation of ROMCAN



tickets to visit the Museum. As well, persons with a valid adult Toronto Public Library card may borrow a Museum + Arts Pass (MAP) to the ROM at 50 library branches across Toronto.

The Institute for Canadian Citizenship's Canoo program provides new Canadian citizens (18+) with free admission to the ROM during their first year of citizenship. Meanwhile, full-time students attending college or university in Canada receive free general admission every Tuesday.

Attendants supporting persons with disabilities receive free admission to the ROM to the level of admission purchased by the person they are supporting. Persons with disabilities may request an attendant ticket or present an Access 2 Entertainment card at the admissions desk to avail of this policy.

ROMCAN and its programs are generously supported by The Bennet Family Foundation, The Cheng Family, Peter Gilgan Foundation, Patrick and Barbara Keenan Foundation, and The MacMillan Family Foundation.

Creating Space for New Voices

ROM Youth Cabinet

Launched with the support and guidance of the ROM Indigenous Advisory Circle, the ROM Youth Cabinet sees a group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth aged 16 to 21 create engaging and relevant online and onsite experiences for their peers. Meanwhile, the Uncover/ Recover project, developed with OCAD University's Indigenous Visual Culture program, enabled students to access curatorial collections and create multimedia experiences that reinterpret people's understandings of and relationships with ancestral objects.





Hack the ROM

The ROM's Indigenous digital learning program Hack the ROM engages Indigenous students from grades four through 10 and their peers throughout Northern and Southern Ontario. The five-month program builds students' digital literacy skills to design and develop video games and digital media inspired by the Indigenous ancestral objects in the ROM's collection. Classes engage with ROM staff and resources multiple times via onsite visits (Greater Toronto Area classes) or online visits (Northern and rural southern Ontario classes). Hack the ROM connects to multiple strands of the Ontario curriculum and global competencies, and responds to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action. Generously supported by The Slaight Family Foundation.





Access to First Peoples Art and Culture

In April 2018 the ROM's Daphne Cockwell Gallery dedicated to First Peoples art & culture opened free of charge to the public. The move is part of the Museum's broader effort to foster greater appreciation of the Indigenous collections stewarded by the ROM, and to support the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action report. It is also another step aimed at increasing public access to the Museum.

Indigenous Knowledge Resource Teachers from the ROM Learning Department are in the Gallery every Tuesday to Friday engaging visitors with their knowledge and perspectives on the ancestral objects. This is one of several integrated Indigenous education initiatives that centre First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples, past and present, through object and inquirybased learning that is participatory, impactful, and innovative.



Programming That Inspires

From stimulating discussions with thought leaders to exciting, activity-based experiences, the ROM's selection of programming gives visitors a chance to experience the Museum and its exhibitions in a new light, delivering compelling content for key attendance periods and throughout the year.





ROM Speaks Lectures

ROM Speaks presents engaging and thought-provoking topics all year long, featuring compelling voices addressing various fascinating subjects. The past year saw 6,000 attendees for ROM Speaks events, which included receptions and exclusive access to special exhibitions.

ROM Speaks attracted sell-out crowds to discussions related to exhibitions including Spiders: Fear & Fascination, Wildlife Photographer of the Year, and Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur. Guest speakers included Spider-Man comics writer Chip Zdarsky and illustrator Adam Kubert, who traced the history of the character in popular culture; acclaimed National Geographic photojournalist Brian Skerry; and palaeontologists Tom Holtz and Victoria Arbour.

Friday Night Live

Launched in 2012, Friday Night Live (FNL) has become a unique Toronto social destination. Each week, thousands of millennials take over the Museum to enjoy curated, cutting-edge ROM content, eclectic eats, drinks, top DJs, live bands, and the opportunity to explore ROM galleries.

The seventh full year of FNL saw 21 events hosted, attracting more than 53,000 visitors. The spring season ended with "Arachnophile," celebrating the launch of the blockbuster exhibition *Spiders: Fear* & *Fascination*. Other notable themes included "Superheroes," "DinoNite," "Love," "Holi," "Colour ROM Proud," "Fashionology," "The 6ix," and "Indigenous Now."

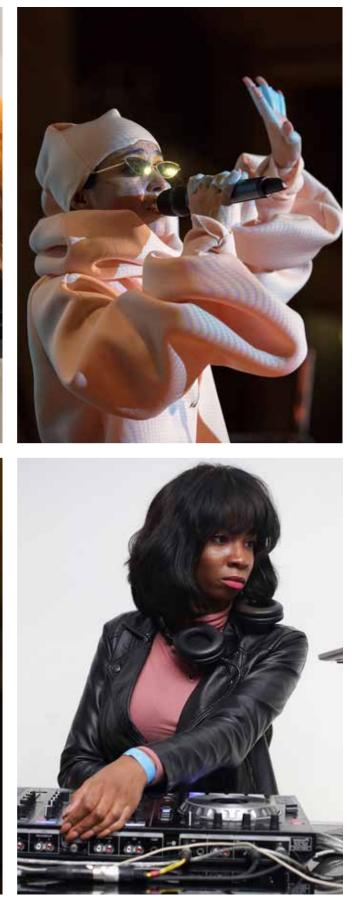
Supporting Sponsor: Asahi Super Dry

ROM Daytime + ROM Connects

ROM Daytime features daytime lectures by ROM experts who share groundbreaking research and advances in art, culture, and nature. They are free with Museum admission. ROM Connects offers exciting lectures and captivating documentaries at no cost, making ROM content available to all. Highlights included the talks Christian Dior: Fashion in Publications, Real Fake: The Story of a Zapotec Urn, The Royal Arts of Jodhpur: From Palace to Toronto, and the 2018 Veronika Gervers Memorial Lecture A Revolution in the Bedroom: How Indian Dyed Cottons Transformed Europe's Interiors in the 17th and 18th Centuries.





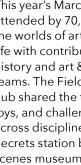


ROM for the Holidays

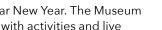
For 12 days over the holidays, the ROM proved to be a perfect seasonal gathering place for family and friends, welcoming more than 89,000 visitors. Special exhibitions and related programming included Spiders: Fear & Fascination, Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur, and Wildlife Photographer of the Year. Visitors were able to enjoy interactive dance, live animals with Toronto shelter Hands on Exotics, and sensational spider craft-making sessions.

Family Day Long Weekend

During the Family Day long weekend (February 16-18, 2019), 18,313 visitors came to the ROM to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year. The Museum was buzzing with activities and live performances to ring in the Year of the Pig. Programming included Chinese artists Peng Yang and Yanwen Jiang, Chinese arts and crafts, lion dances, and tea tasting. Families also had the opportunity to visit the exhibition Gods in My Home: Chinese New Year with Ancestor Portraits and Deity Prints.



March Break





This year's March Break activities, attended by 70,700 visitors, brought the worlds of art, culture, and nature to life with contributions from the natural history and art & culture curatorial teams. The Field Camp ROM activity hub shared the techniques, tools, joys, and challenges of life in the field across disciplines, while the Museum Secrets station brought behind-thescenes museum experiences to ROM visitors, and Museum staff read their favourite stories during ROM Storytime. Interactive experiences for all ages were provided by ROM Travelling Exhibitions and partnerships with the Department of Museum Volunteers, ROM Friends groups, and Parks Canada.

ROM U

ROM U, the Museum's one-day workshops led by ROM experts and offering fascinating lectures, hands-on activities, gallery tours, and lunch, exceeded expectations. Due to overwhelming demand, multiple sessions were added for the Fossil Prep Workshop, The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire: Why Does it Matter Today?, All Under Heaven: Imperial China in the Ming and Qing Dynasties, and The Viking Age Revisited.



ANNUAL EVA HOLTBY LECTURE ON CONTEMPORARY CULTURE: JESSE WENTE

This lecture brings powerful voices to the ROM to discuss provocative and engaging contemporary ideas. In November 2018, broadcaster and cultural critic Jesse Wente (Ojibwe from Toronto, member of the Serpent River First Nation), Director of Canada's Indigenous Screen Office, prognosticated about the relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples circa 2067.

The Annual Eva Holtby Lecture on Contemporary Culture is generously supported by the Holtby and Schury families.

Learning at the ROM

The ROM is one of Ontario's largest cross-curricular educators. Learning at the ROM encompasses educational experiences onsite, online, and through community outreach. The breadth and scale of learning inspired by the ROM's research and collections include School Visits, Travelling Programs, and the Hands-on Galleries.





School Visits

School buses full of eager students arrive daily at the ROM. This year, 100,536 Ontario students and teachers were encouraged to inquire and think critically about the world around them through guided tours, hands-on labs, maker activities, and online resources linked to the Ontario curriculum. Ensuring the ROM is accessible to students from marginalized communities, the School Visits Bursary Program provided free or discounted experiential learning opportunities led by ROM educators to 26,400 students.

This program is generously supported by Ada Slaight, the Bennett Family Foundation, Dan Mishra, Canada Life, KPMG, Linamar Corporation, Mandarin Charitable Foundation, Nordstrom, and the Weinberg Family Foundation.

Hands-On Galleries

The Patrick and Barbara Keenan Family Gallery of Hands-on Biodiversity and CIBC Discovery Gallery are the Museum's most visited galleries. They highlight collections from all Museum departments to explore understanding of art, culture, and nature. Over 200 volunteers and learning staff engaged with 270,594 and 198,359 visitors at the respective galleries through multisensory, hands-on experiences with authentic objects, specimens, and live animals.

Indigenous Learning Programs

Indigenous education has been a strategic priority of the Learning Department for over five years with the development and delivery of relevant educational programming that responds directly to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. During this time, several integrated Indigenous education initiatives have been implemented with the guidance of the Indigenous Advisory Circle, which includes an elder, knowledge carriers, educators, artists, and youth representing a variety of nations and education stakeholders.

ROMKids

ROMKids programs attracted more than 32,000 attendees. Thirty-five instructors, 50 counselors, and 200 volunteers contributed to Summer Club, Holiday Camp, March Break Camp, Saturday Club (generously supported by the Philip and Berthe Morton Foundation), and ROMKids Junior. More than 50% of Summer Club staff were campers as kids, continuing a ROM cycle. Over 10 weeks, 23 instructors and 52 counselors ran 134 groups, making it the largest-ever Summer Club. Campers from the ROM Revealed group learned how exhibitions are planned, then had the opportunity to research and showcase their own exhibition.

Travelling Education Programs

The ROM achieved its provincial mandate through its Travelling Education Programs, this year engaging 194,603 students across the province and the country. Offerings include EduKits-portable cases containing original and reproduced objects with a teacher's guide and student activity booklets linked to the Ontario curriculum. Travelling Planetariums are inflatable domes that provide an immersive experience through a digital projection of the galaxy and beyond. EduKits engaged 68,394 students, while Planetariums engaged 11,867 people in schools, libraries, museums, and community centres across the province. Through its Travelling Exhibitions, the ROM shares its collections and research across Ontario and with audiences in British Columbia, Quebec, and Nova Scotia, this year reaching 114,342 people.

The Travelling Planetariums are generously supported by the Burt Family Foundation.



Members and

Volunteers

Members

The ROM hit a record of 38,467 Member households and more than 127,000 individual Members in 2018-19. Members enjoyed an unparalleled slate of exhibitions and unlimited access to galleries, special previews, and exclusive member programming. Members participated in over 75 exclusive Member Experience Tours ranging from ROM Ghost Stories to the Evolution of Adornment, Clothing & Fashion as well as 13 exchange weekends with local cultural institutions. In addition to Canada and the United States, the ROM boasts Members from 46 countries, including Argentina, Australia, Belize, Guatemala, and Turkey. The ROM has 866 Member households that have been Members for 30 years or more.

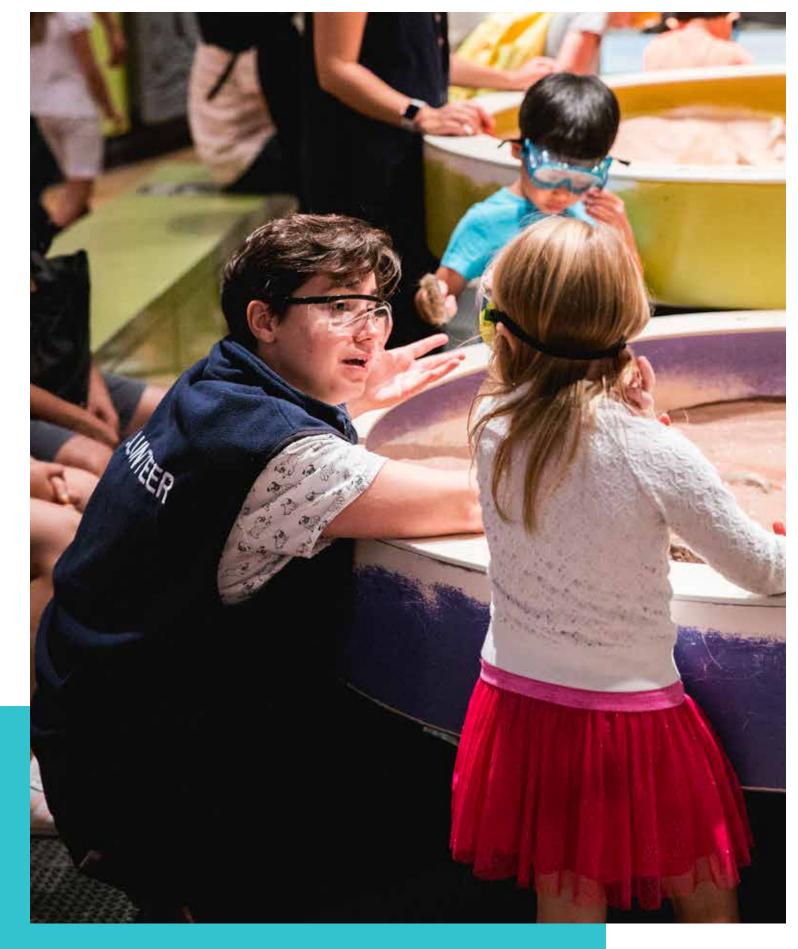
Volunteers

The Department of Museum Volunteers (DMV) offers a wide range of services that support the ROM. The volunteers engage visitors and assist in planning their visits. They provide guided tours and offer an interpretive and interactive experience with objects in Museum galleries. In 2018-19, the DMV's 539 active volunteers provided 40,000 hours of service to the ROM and its visitors, including 2,964 tours in English and French.

The DMV supports the Museum by reaching out to various communities such as hospitals, Ronald McDonald House, retirement homes and community centres to promote the ROM's collections and special exhibitions with museum-themed activities and crafts for a hands-on experience. The department also helps raise funds for the Museum by developing day trips with historic, architectural, cultural, or museum themes to places in Toronto and the greater GTA; coordinates group tours for ROM members to global destinations focusing on culture and natural history; organizes historical and architectural tours encompassing unique aspects of Toronto's neighborhoods; and enriches the visitor experience with educational and cultural programs as well as fundraising in support of the ROM's acquisitions and research.

In addition to the DMV, the ROM was supported by 758 volunteers in the Hands-On galleries and other departments across the Museum. The volunteers contributed their time, abilities, and enthusiasm, helping curatorial, donor relations, membership, and programming efforts for more than 67,615 hours. In total, 1,297 volunteers gave

107,615 hours to the ROM.



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Digital Readiness

The ROM's Digital Strategy encompasses three highlevel goals: ensuring digital readiness; empowering access, experience, and engagement; and evaluation and iteration.

Increased eMuseum Engagement

The ROM's robust online community is anchored by its website (rom.on.ca), which experienced almost four million sessions and more than \$2.6 million in online ticket sales. Nearly 50 percent of users visited the website to plan an in-person visit. Visits to eMuseum, the ROM's online collection portal (collections.rom.on.ca/ collections/14320/emuseum-home), grew to over 41,000 sessions, with almost 814,000 page views-a 180 percent increase over last year. Highquality, user-friendly digital images and content related to more than 36,000 objects are currently online, where visitors spend on average more than 5.5 minutes exploring the expanding online collection of art, culture, and natural history objects.

Online Collections Upgrades

Key initiatives include the completion of a unified collections management system (using Gallery Systems' TMS Collections) that will serve as the authoritative source for information on the ROM's collection of over 13 million objects and specimens.

Also in the works is the implementation of a new digital asset management system that will similarly organize and consolidate the Museum's digital content–including images, audio, and video–in a single system of record.

Meanwhile, collections digitization and online publication continues. Since December 2017, a digitization project team has photographed more than 7,800 objects. As of May 2019, more than 36,000 objects with images have been published to eMuseum.

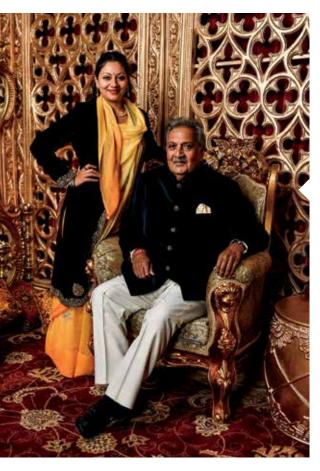


Philanthropy

ROM Governors

Established in 1992, the office of the ROM Governors is responsible for all philanthropic activities in support of the Museum's priorities. It serves and supports the ROM's diverse community, cultivating long-term relationships of value to both the Museum and its many gracious donors. The independent board of the ROM Governors leads the wide range of philanthropic activities that support our programs, research, collections, galleries, and exhibitions.





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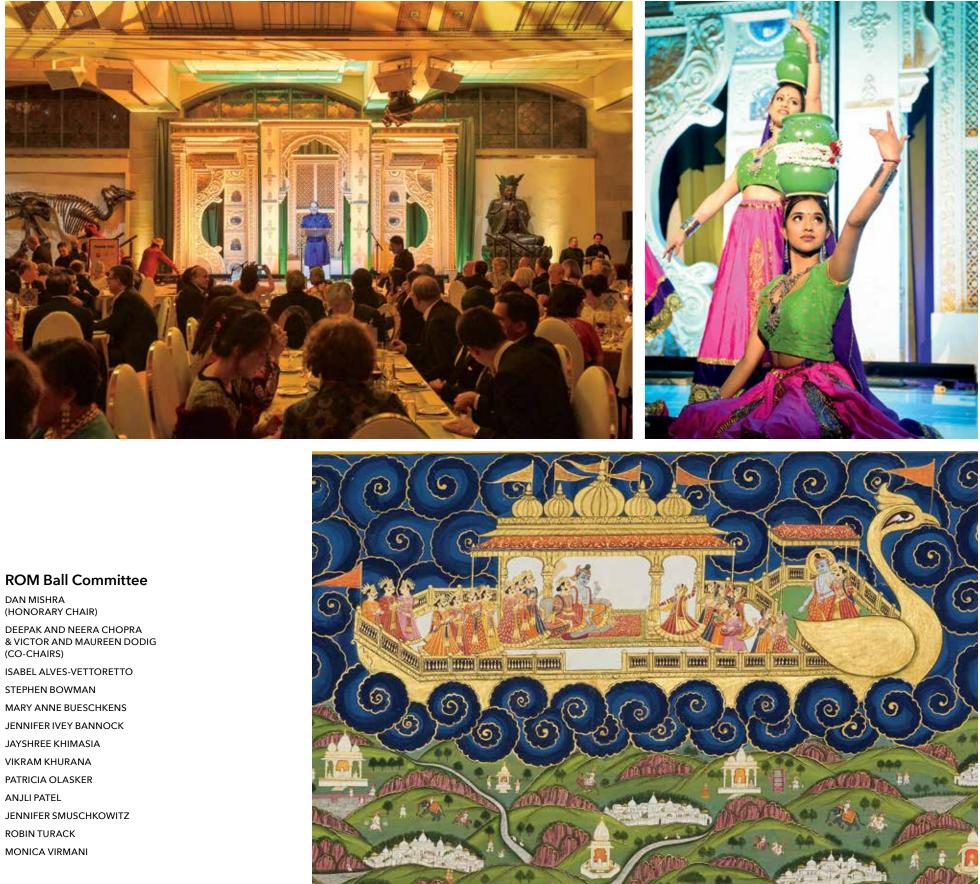
ICON PALETTERA

A Red-Carpet Affair

More than 500 guests attended the ROM Ball, one of Ontario's preeminent cultural charity galas, on March 6, 2019. This spectacular biennial fundraising affair featured a stunning cocktail reception followed by dinner in the majestic Samuel Hall & Currelly Gallery, live performances, and an exclusive preview of Treasures of a Desert Kingdom: The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India with Lead Exhibition Patron Dan Mishra.

The ROM was honoured to host government officials including His Excellency Vikas Swarup, High Commissioner of India to Canada; the Honourable Michael A. Tibollo, Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport; The Honourable Senator Dr. Asha Seth; The Honourable Senator Ratna Omidvar; His Excellency Dinesh Bhatia, Consul General of India in Toronto; and guests of honour His Highness Maharaja Gaj Singh II of Marwar-Jodhpur and his daughter Baijilal Shivranjani Rajye of Marwar-Jodhpur.

ROM Ball supporters collectively and generously raised \$536K net. All proceeds from this incredible evening of culture and glamour support the Museum's highest priorities, which include building and sharing global collections, creating knowledge, inspiring learning, encouraging gathering, and sparking exchange within the intersecting worlds of art, culture, and nature.





Supporters Fully Fund Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life

The ROM family celebrated the final leadership gift to establish the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life on November 14, 2018. A landmark \$5 million commitment from philanthropists Jeff Willner and Stacey Madge will create a new palaeontology gallery dedicated to life before dinosaurs. The new 10,000-square-foot permanent gallery will explore the beginnings of life on Earth nearly 4 billion years ago to the dawn of dinosaurs and mammals 200 million years ago.

"I'm very pleased to join other leadership donors and the ROM in telling the story of life on Earth through this exciting new gallery-the first of its kind in North America," said Willner. "This is a story for all people, told from a uniquely Canadian perspective, which will help us understand not only our past, but also the world we'll live in tomorrow."

The ROM is grateful to all supporters of this project, which has garnered community funding from over 100 donors, with gifts ranging from \$10 to \$5 million. "This new gallery will invite the public to become time travellers and discover where we all come from," said Dr. Jean-Bernard Caron, Richard M. Ivey Curator of Invertebrate Palaeontology, who will oversee gallery development. "Every part of the Earth's story–our shared history–is written in the rocks of Canada, a legacy we can now share with curious kids and future generations."



The Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life has received generous support from additional leadership donors including Richard M. Ivey & Family, The Salamander Foundation, Elinor Gill Ratcliffe, The Dorothy Strelsin Foundation, The Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust, and Albert and Barbara Milstein & The Polk Family Funds. The ROM also gratefully acknowledges its vital 40-year partnership with Parks Canada and the support of the Madeleine A. Fritz Palaeontology Funds.

"Every part of the Earth's story-our shared history-is written in the rocks of Canada, a legacy we can now share with curious kids and future generations."

–Dr. Jean Bernard Caron





The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell



A Night to Celebrate Philanthropy

A signature annual event, the ROM Celebration Dinner on May 15, 2019, celebrated philanthropy at the Museum. This special evening honoured our many supporters and volunteers who enable extraordinary exhibitions, research, acquisitions, learning, accessibility, and public programming.

The ROM was delighted to welcome the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario; the Honourable Michael A. Tibollo, Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport; and the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board of Ontario. They delivered powerful speeches about the ROM's relevance and impact in Toronto and beyond.

Robert E. Pierce and Danuta Buczynski were each presented the Lieutenant Governor's Distinguished Service Award– the highest honour bestowed on a ROM volunteer. Canada Life and Teck Resources were honoured with the Distinguished Corporation Award, and the Donor of Merit Award was presented to The Salamander Foundation and to Jeff Willner and Stacey Madge, recognizing their remarkable support of the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life.

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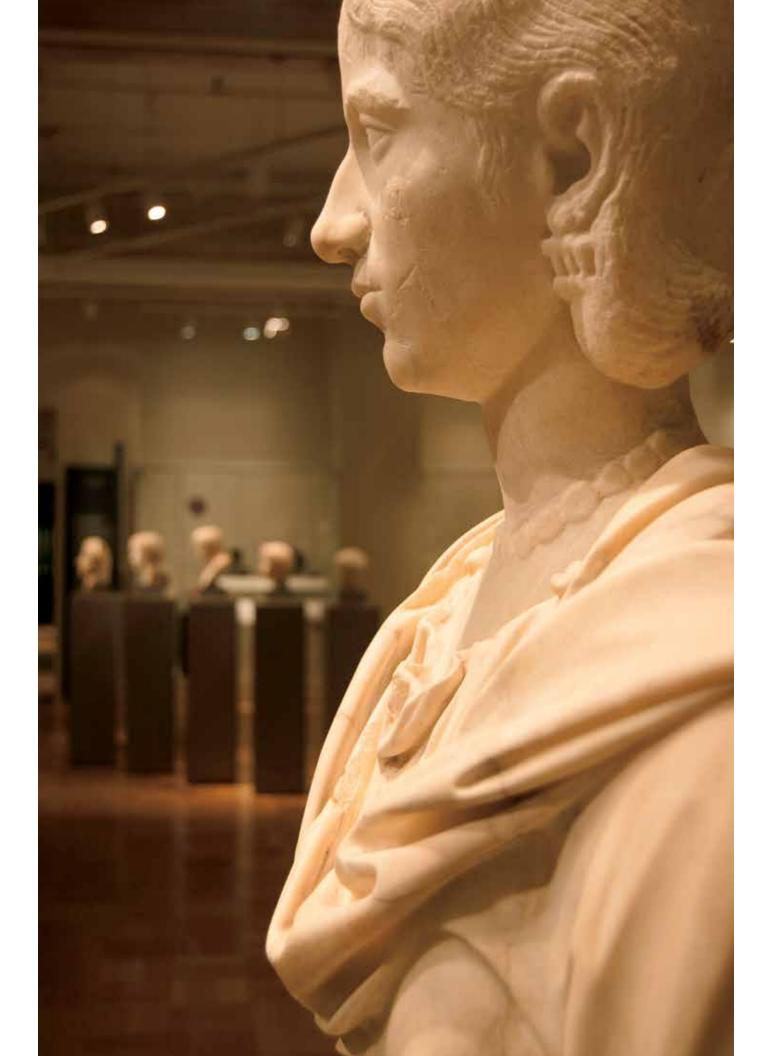
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Robert E. Pierce,

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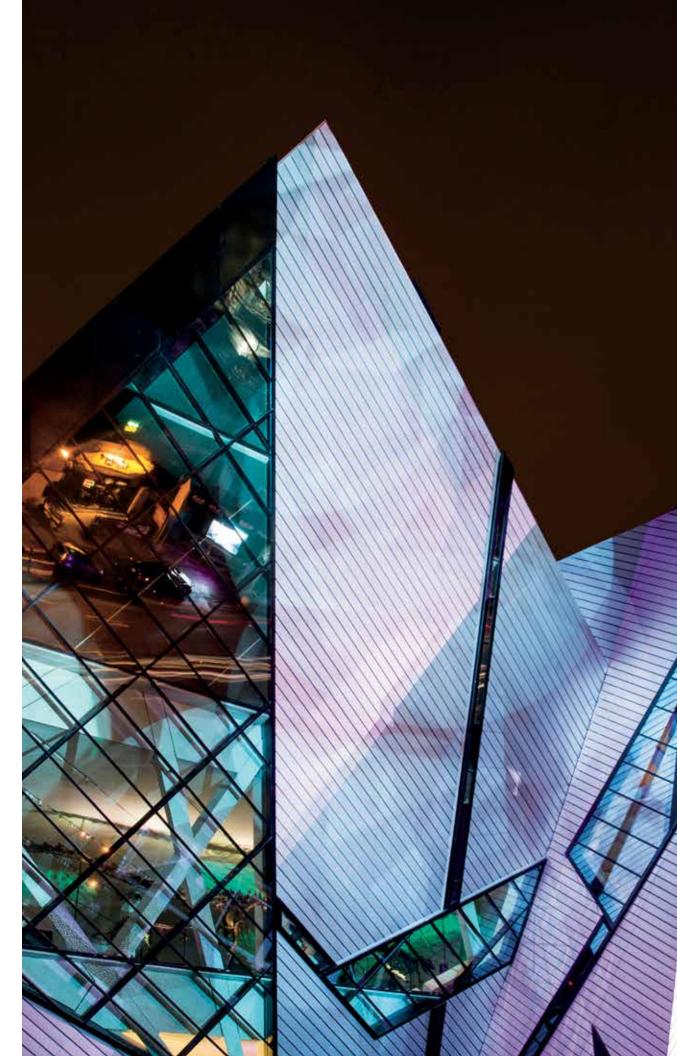
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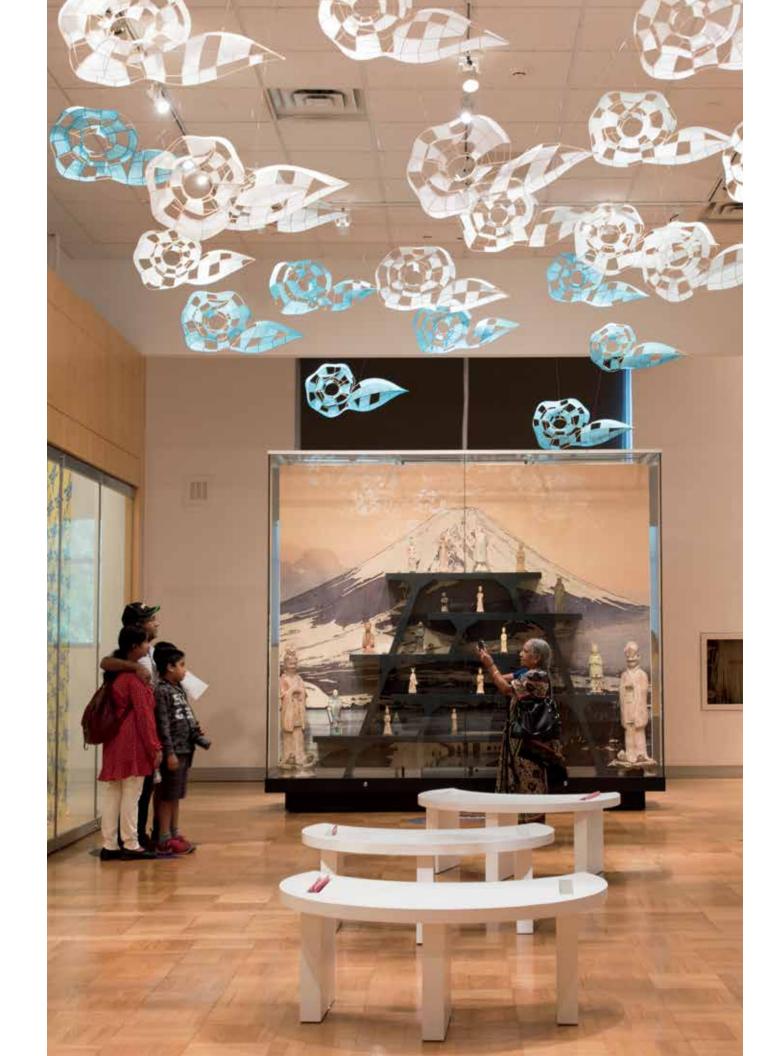
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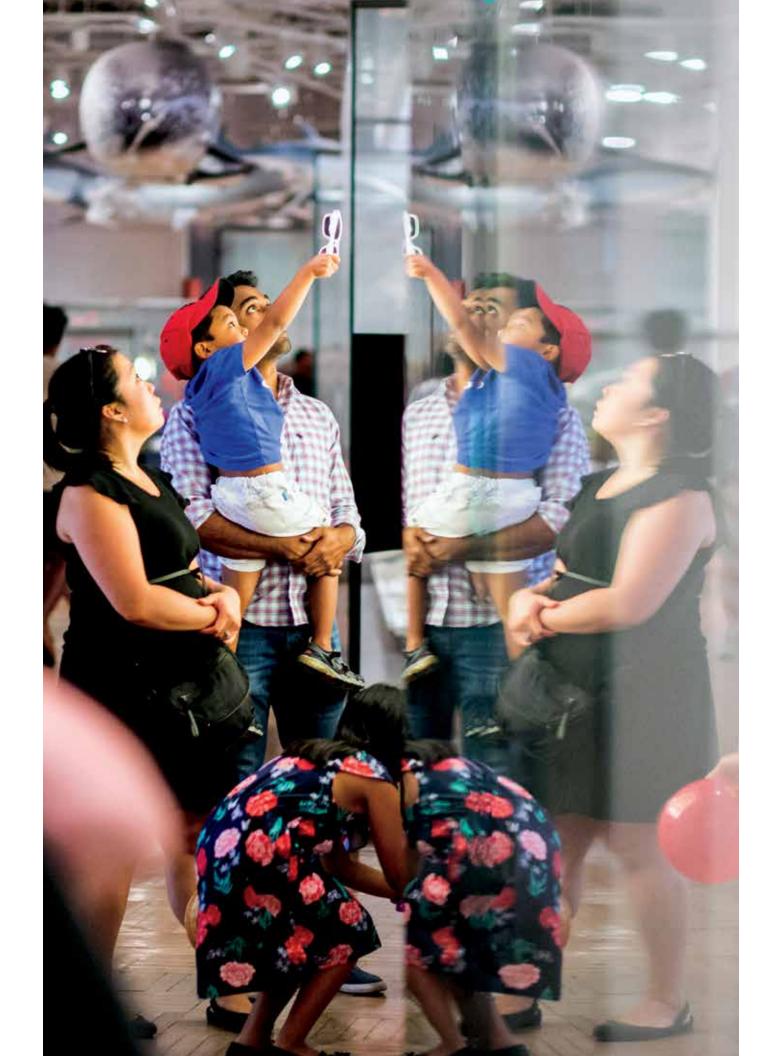
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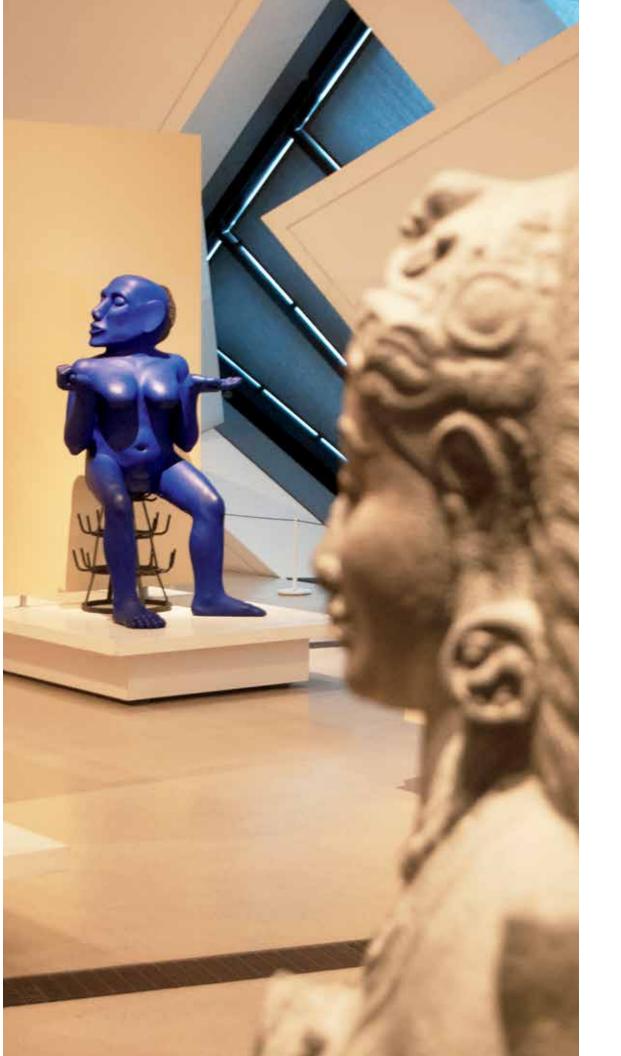
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