



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate distribution

Official opening of Cinéma Moderne!

Montreal, Monday, September 17, 2018 – Cinéma Moderne, a new independent movie theatre in Montreal, is proud to announce its official opening today, Monday, September 17, 2018. 365 days a year, Cinéma Moderne will offer the public an excellent movie-going experience, with films carefully selected by the team to be shown in a living, intimate, warm space located at **5150 St. Laurent Blvd.**, in the heart of Mile End.

Origins and team

Cinéma Moderne is the result of a dream shared by two long-time passionate members of the community: **Roxanne Sayegh**, formerly the executive director of the Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM), and **Alexandre Domingue**, president and founder of the post-production and film equipment rental company Post-Moderne. When they met in 2017, an exciting new adventure started to take shape. By joining forces and pooling their expertise, Roxanne and Alexandre prepared to launch Cinéma Moderne.

“It is a real pleasure for us to see a project that has been in the works for such a long time come to fruition at last. We are delighted to offer Montrealers a new cinema, and we hope this is just the beginning of a new wave of small neighbourhood theatres in Montreal, where proximity, friendliness and quality programming are all part of the experience,” said **Roxanne Sayegh and Alexandre Domingue, co-founders of Cinéma Moderne**

Ms. Sayegh is the theatre’s executive director and artistic director, working with assistant executive director Marion Jégoux. The theatre manager is Ariane Caron Lachance, and the Café-bar manager is Laurence Plourde Dinelle.

A unique programming model, with longer runs for films

Cinéma Moderne will operate on a non-traditional scheduling model, presenting films multiple times a month for several months, giving the public a diverse selection of films to choose from every week and keeping films in the rotation longer than usual. Aside from series and special events, the majority of the films shown will be exclusives, including premieres in some cases (see appendix).

A diverse program

From popular films to more specialized fare, from restored classics to genre movies and shorts, animation, documentaries and experimental films, Cinéma Moderne will celebrate cinema in all its forms.

Weekly family screenings, kids’ activities and cultural outreach workshops will also be part of the regular program, reaching all audiences and initiating tomorrow’s viewers to the joys of cinema.

Cinéma Moderne will work closely with festivals, universities and organizations working to disseminate independent works, with the aim of offering a wide range of activities to enrich the theatre’s regular screenings.

Cinéma Moderne is also a creative space: Post-Moderne will colorize and mix numerous films. The theatre will also be available for private events.

Top-notch equipment

The 54-seat theatre is equipped with a Barco Smart Laser (4K) projector, as well as 35mm and 16mm projectors and a Dolby Atmos sound system.

The Café-bar

Cinéma Moderne's Café-bar is a welcoming space open day and night for conversation, drinks and snacks. To enhance their movie night, patrons will be allowed to bring their drinks into the theatre. Brunch will be served on weekends.

Online schedule and tickets: cinemamoderne.com

Tickets are available at a discount until the day before the screening. Seats are numbered, and advance purchase is recommended.

Acknowledgments / Partners

Cinéma Moderne thanks its institutional partners: the Secrétariat à la région métropolitaine of the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Occupation du territoire via the Fonds d'initiative et de rayonnement de la métropole, and the Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale through its Subvention salariale program. We also gratefully acknowledge the support of the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications through its Promotion du français lors d'activités culturelles 2017-2018 program as well SODEC and its Programme d'aide à la promotion et à la diffusion, volet 2,1 – Aide à la diffusion complémentaire, the Conseil des arts de Montréal and Canadian Heritage.

CINÉMA MODERNE

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APPENDIX
PROGRAMMING

Here are some of the films showing at Cinéma Moderne in **the next few weeks**:

Quebec and Canada

La grande noirceur by Maxime Giroux (special screening)*

The Green Fog by Guy Maddin

Luk'Luk'I by Wayne Wapeemukwa

Primas by Laura Bari*

What Keeps You Alive by Colin Minihan

La Zone by Syned Sindrajed*

Short film programs from the Winnipeg Film Group and La Distributrice*

Conte du Mile End and *La rivière cachée* by Jean-François Lesage*

Roadsworth : franchir la ligne by Alan Kohl*

Blade Runner 2049 by Denis Villeneuve*

International

24 frames by Abbas Kiarostami

L'amant d'un jour by Philippe Garrel

Borg vs. McEnroe by Janus Metz Pedersen

Estiu 1993 by Carla Simón

Ex Libris – The New York Public Library by Frederick Wiseman

Félicité by Alain Gomis

Never Goin' Back by Augustine Frizzell

Ryuichi Sakamoto : Coda by Stephen Nomura Schible

Le temps qui reste by Elia Suleiman*

Vertigo by Alfred Hitchcock

*with filmmakers and special guests in attendance

Special events and festivals

Cinéma Moderne will present a first guest lecture (in French) on a highly appropriate topic: **History of movie theatres in Mile End**, with Justin Bur, a member of Mémoire du Mile End and co-author of the *Dictionnaire historique du Plateau Mont-Royal*, and Roland Smith, a Montreal repertory cinema pioneer.

Cinéma Moderne will also regularly serve as a venue for Montreal festivals. From September 26 to 30, it will host the **Film POP** program presented by the POP Montreal International Music Festival. In October, the **Festival du nouveau cinéma** and the radio creation festival **Résonance** will both use the theatre.

Series

The program at Cinéma Moderne will include several special film and event series. First up is a series called **Les Petits Modernes**. Each weekend, there will be two events for families looking for quality films. The screenings and workshops will provide an opportunity to show young children the incredible diversity of images available and the joys of watching them on the big screen. In September, Cinéma Moderne's young audiences will have the chance to attend a film-engraving and praxinoscope construction workshop and to see *Cro Man* by Nick Park, animated shorts by Eva Cvijanović (*La maison du hérisson*) and Torill Kove (*Rubans*), who will be present to discuss their experiences with the audience.

Cinéma Moderne will also present an original film series, **From Mile End with Love**, in which people who live or work in Mile End will be invited to share their favourite films and showcase local artists. The first guest for this series is Patsy Van Roost, known as the Mile End Fairy, who has given the theatre an opening

gift of a superb collective work inspired by a wide range of testimonials. It has been on display on Cinéma Moderne's terrasse since August.

Established film series will also be hosted by Cinéma Moderne. For example, the **DeuXX** series, featuring films made by women, will present the comedy *Never Goin' Back* by Augustine Frizzell.

The theatre will show its first retrospective in November, showcasing the work of **Amat Escalante** (*Sangre, Los bastardos, Heli, La región salvaje*). The international award-winning Mexican filmmaker will attend the event.