

FALL 2012

**THE RIGHT FIT**

Alan Shepard, Concordia's  
new president

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE  
**Concordia**

UNLOCKING COLOUR CODES > TAG IS IT > NOTABLE ANNIVERSARIES

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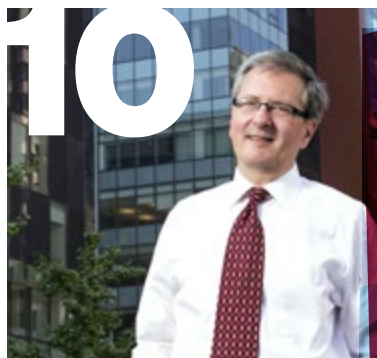
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## IN IT FOR CONCORDIA

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**Cover:** Alan Shepard, Concordia's new president

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## SETTING AN EXAMPLE: GIVING BACK IN MANY WAYS



"When I decided to apply to university in 1979, Concordia was my first choice. I immediately enjoyed the atmosphere and admired the incredible fellowship among students. After I graduated in 1983, I was fortunate to land a position with Concordia Libraries. I soon got involved as a volunteer to give something back to my university.

When I was a student I received loans and bursaries that played a crucial role in allowing me to complete my education. So it was natural for me to participate from the start in the Shuffle ([concordia.ca/shuffle](http://concordia.ca/shuffle)), the annual walkathon that has raised more than \$1 million for student scholarships and bursaries since 1990.

Last year I joined the Shuffle Advisory Committee. In addition, I'm chair of the annual Library Christmas Auction, whose proceeds go to Concordia's areas of need, such as the Student Emergency Food Fund, as well as to Montreal community charities, mostly women's shelters.

I also donate to the Library Staff in Support of Students Bursary, generously established in 2007 by Libraries staff members to help returning Concordia students.

*"I'm proud to play my part."*

This year I was touched and honoured to be chosen as the first recipient of the Freda Otchere Staff Award.

Concordia economics associate professor Dan Otchere established the award in the name of his late wife, Freda, to acknowledge the commitment and professionalism of Concordia Libraries employees. I look forward to celebrating the accomplishments of the next recipient.

The idea of giving back to the community is inherent in the Concordia's history — and there are many opportunities for staff, alumni and others to do so. I'm proud to play my part."

Faye D. Corbin, BA 83  
Assistant, Government Information Services  
Concordia University Libraries

Join Faye in giving back to Concordia by visiting [concordia.ca/alumni-giving](http://concordia.ca/alumni-giving).





## Hit refresh

Like most of the rest of the world, my wife Mona and I caught the London Olympics' opening ceremony earlier this summer.

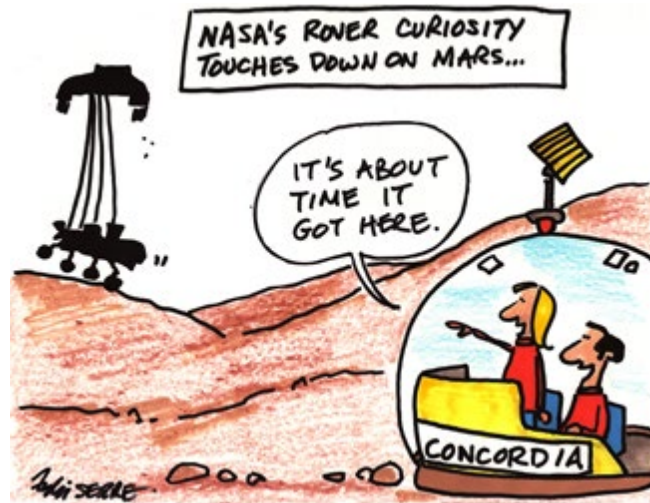
When Paul McCartney ripped into "Hey Jude," Mona turned to me and asked, "Doesn't he get tired of playing the same thing over and over?" After all, Sir Paul's probably pleaded with Jude thousands of times not to carry the world upon his shoulders.

I responded that the former Beatle is a professional; playing and singing is what he does for a (very lucrative) living. If he didn't like it — or if he wasn't good at it — he'd be doing something else. Nonetheless, McCartney also surely finds ways to slightly vary each delivery so it remains fresh for both him and his audience.

Most of us aren't in vocations that require continually repeating the same task. Still, whether you're an accountant performing annual audits, a teacher covering the same topics year after year, a civil engineer drafting bridge plans or in countless other professions, a certain amount of repetition is unavoidable. So all of us gain from regularly re-visiting, re-thinking and upgrading what we do.

It may not be smart to reinvent the wheel, but you can still try to build a better mouse trap.

Universities like Concordia also constantly must find ways to update their model. Soon after his arrival in August, Concordia's new president, Alan Shepard, told me, "There was a time when we educated a tiny elite for a set of



jobs which were already preordained. Now we educate a huge swath of people, and the well-being of Montreal, Quebec, Canada — the world — all depend upon having universities like Concordia graduate people who are ready for the 21st century" (see "In it for Concordia" on page 10).

That responsibility pushes administrators, professors and the rest who support Concordia's mission to not just change but to remain in advance of the curve. Shepard's vision, experience and enthusiasm clearly have prepared him to lead the way.

One of the primary roles of universities is to be research hubs. That means our professors, graduate students and other investigators are striving to discover original solutions and approaches to old — and often new — challenges and mysteries.

That's truer than ever at Concordia. For instance, on pages 36-37 we report that the Faculty of Arts and Science

recently launched research centres that will take an updated slant on mental and physical health and sense perception, find the best uses of microscopes and examine two of the world's oldest cultures at the Centre for Iranian Studies and the Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies.

As well, while game playing is innate in humans, technology-based video, internet and other such contests are fairly recent inventions. Members of Concordia's

cross-disciplinary Research Centre in Technoculture, Arts and Games are providing insight and dispelling stereotypes about these games and their participants (see "TAG along!" on page 14).

Even those of us not involved directly in research need to find ways to stay current. Fortunately, this summer in the Advancement and Alumni Relations office we had the pleasure to work with two interns, David Adelman and Athena Tacet (you can read their bylines throughout the issue and the *Accent* e-newsletter at [concordia.ca/alumni.accent](http://concordia.ca/alumni.accent)). Their youthful energy is evident in their output — and it was infectious for the rest of us.

In our working life, it's important to occasionally hit the refresh button. That will help take a sad (or any) song and make it better. ■

CLARIFICATION:  
IN THE SUMMER 2012 EDITOR'S VOICE, THE LATE FR.  
MARC GERVAIS'S DEPARTMENT WAS INCORRECTLY  
IDENTIFIED. HE WAS A LONG-TIME PROFESSOR IN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES.

## RESEARCHERS HELP DEVELOP FIRST BRAIN MAP OF LOVE AND DESIRE

Thanks to modern science, we know that love lives in the brain, not in the heart. But *where* in the brain is it — and is it in the same place as sexual desire? A recent international study published in the *Journal of Sexual Medicine* is the first to draw an exact map of these intimately linked feelings.

“No one has ever put these two together to see the patterns of activation,” says Jim Pfaus, professor of psychology at Concordia, member of the Center for Studies in Behavioral Neurobiology and a co-author of the study. “We didn’t know what to expect — the two could have ended up being completely separate. It turns out that love and desire activate specific but related areas in the brain.”

Along with colleagues in the United States and Switzerland, Pfaus analyzed the results from 20 separate studies that examined brain activity while subjects engaged in tasks such as viewing erotic pictures or looking at photographs of their significant others.

The scientists found that two brain structures in particular, the insula and

the striatum, are responsible for tracking the progression from sexual desire to love. The insula is a portion of the cerebral cortex folded deep within an area

between the temporal lobe and the frontal lobe, while the striatum is located nearby, inside the forebrain.

Love and sexual desire activate different areas of the striatum. The area activated by sexual desire is usually activated by things that are inherently pleasurable, such as sex or food. The area activated by love is involved in the process of conditioning by which things paired with reward or pleasure are given inherent value. That is, as feelings of sexual desire develop into love, they are processed in a different place in the striatum.

Somewhat surprisingly, this area of the striatum is also the part of the brain that is associated with drug addiction. Pfaus explains there is good reason for this. “Love is actually a habit that is formed from sexual desire as desire is rewarded. It works the same way in the brain as when people become addicted to drugs.” ■




— Luciana Gravotta



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## \$70,000 RAISED IN MEMORY OF JUN LIN

Concordia representatives met members of Jun Lin's family in July to inform them that more than \$70,000 has been raised in his name. Concordia established the Jun Lin Family Fund on June 8 to provide financial assistance for the immediate needs of the Lin family, as well as the Jun Lin Award to benefit Chinese students studying at the university.

In May, Lin Jun, a 33-year-old Concordia student from Wuhan, Hubei, China, was murdered allegedly by Luka Rocco Magnotta.

The Concordia Chinese Student Association and Concordia

Advancement and Alumni Relations worked to establish the fund and award in response to the outpouring of offers to assist the Lin family.



JUN LIN

Over the past months, as hundreds of individuals expressed their support in various ways, Jun Lin's family expressed their feelings through an open statement: "We are very grateful and moved by the kindness and sympathy for us. It is our wish to take this opportunity to turn a devastating situation into something positive."

Donations to both the Jun Lin Family Fund and the Jun Lin Award can still be made online at [concordia.ca/jun-lin](http://concordia.ca/jun-lin). ■

## Concordia

*Concordia University Magazine* welcomes readers' comments. Letters should include the writer's full name, address, school(s), degree(s) and year(s) of graduation for alumni. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. No letter will be published without the full name of the correspondent.

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—Jennifer Pinsky, BComm 2004, Concordia University, Institute for Co-operative Education  
Human Resources Manager, Medisca Pharmaceutique Inc.

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## CONCORDIA DISCIPLINES AMONG GLOBAL TOP 200

Six of Concordia's disciplines have been ranked among the top 200 worldwide by the British publication *QS World University Rankings*. From accounting to English literature, sociology to civil engineering, Concordia has what it takes to make the grade on an international scale.

Published annually since 2004, the *QS World University Rankings* is the most trusted university ranking in the world. Its list gives future students an immediate understanding of which universities perform best in 29 different subjects.

Each university ranking is grouped under one of five umbrella faculties: Arts and Humanities, Engineering and Technology, Life Sciences and Medicine, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences and Management.

While the first 50 universities are ranked sequentially, those that fall between 51 and 200 are grouped into three categories. Concordia has six disciplines in this latter half, which rank as follows:

- accounting and finance (101-150)
- communications/media studies (101-150)
- civil engineering (151-200)
- education (151-200)
- English language and literature (151-200)
- sociology (151-200)


These rankings are based on factors including academic reputation, a survey of employers and citations per faculty.

With thousands of universities worldwide, the *QS World University Rankings*

place Concordia within a select group. What's more, the results represent an encouraging step forward for the university, which placed four disciplines in the top 200 last year (English language and literature; modern languages, accounting and finance and civil engineering). ■

—Cléa Desjardins





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## WEIGHT LOSS TODAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY

Statistics show that almost one in four Canadians is obese. A deadly trend that has been on the rise for the last 30 years, obesity is associated with diabetes, heart disease and cancer. But is the obesity epidemic putting more pressure on an already strained Canadian health care system?

James McIntosh, a professor in Concordia's Department of Economics, is the first to look at the impact of obesity on the number of doctor visits nationwide. According to the results he presented at the 2012 Canadian Economics Association conference, obese individuals visit the doctor more frequently than regular smokers who are at a healthy weight.

"The fact that obesity is more serious than smoking helps people understand the gravity of the problem because they already have some kind of intuitive

understanding of how bad smoking is," says McIntosh.

To calculate what would happen if obesity were eliminated entirely, McIntosh used a model created from data that included information from more than 60,000 Canadians from the 2010 Community Health Survey. He found that if obesity were not a factor, doctor visits would decrease by 10 per cent.

Visits may further decrease when one takes into account the many appointments for problems related to Type 2 diabetes, a disease is related directly to obesity.

It's also possible that obesity is the cause of even more doctor visits than estimated by McIntosh's model because the national survey does not include information about weight history. Someone who has recently become obese may not



yet be experiencing the full effect of complications such as diabetes and the accompanying need for more medical care.

McIntosh hopes his recommendation for the next survey to include weight history will lead to more accurate results on the effect of obesity on doctor visits.

"The data are clear on the fact that people are overeating and under-exercising, and that has to change," says McIntosh. "While the situation is serious, it's not catastrophic. But now is the time to act before it gets out of control." ■

—Luciana Gravotta

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# Make a difference in the lives that follow



“When I was finishing my bachelor’s degree, my mother went back to school. She graduated in 1970 with a BA from Concordia—one year after me. I admired my mother for doing this, with a full time job and four children. The amount of effort that it took and the sacrifices she made were incredible.

So when she died in 1984, at the age of 60 from breast cancer, I knew I had to honour her memory. I contacted Concordia through Planned Giving, to establish a bursary to help women like my mother who choose to return to school in later years to better themselves and give new opportunities to their families.”

— Tania Shamy, BFA 69, GrDip 72, MA 84

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# IN IT FOR CONCORDIA

INCOMING CONCORDIA PRESIDENT ALAN SHEPARD'S ENTHUSIASM AND  
BACKGROUND MAKE HIM IDEALLY SUITED TO ADVANCE THE UNIVERSITY

BY HOWARD BOKSER



NEW CONCORDIA PRESIDENT ALAN SHEPARD'S CAREER HAS TAKEN HIM TO TCU IN TEXAS, THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH AND RYERSON UNIVERSITY.

Taking charge of an educational institution with 46,000 students, mounting international competition, growing societal expectations and evolving teaching methods might seem daunting for some leaders.

For Alan Shepard? Not a chance.

"Concordia is a place with a tremendous future," says the university's dynamic new president. "This is the time for urban universities like ours. It's the time for work that crosses disciplines and reaches new audiences. That's a real strength at Concordia."

His positive outlook and passion — immediately evident to those who meet him — certainly equip Shepard to lead the university. "This is a pivotal time for Concordia and universities everywhere," he says.

Shepard began at Concordia on August 1. For the last five years, he served as provost and vice-president academic at Ryerson University, where he negotiated with multiple stakeholders to deliver a successful academic plan. He also played a key role in advancing four new building projects and launching Ryerson's Digital Media Zone (DMZ), which allows young entrepreneurs to tap into the resources of its downtown Toronto setting.

An incubator for new digital enterprises by students and alumni from various disciplines, DMZ has since enabled the creation of 38 start-ups, seven full-fledged companies and about 350 new jobs. "DMZ entrepreneurs would rather start their own company than work from a cubicle," he says.

Sheldon Levy, Ryerson's president, lauds Concordia for hiring an effective new leader. "At Ryerson, the provost is the chief operating officer. That meant Alan had the responsibility of working with the community on the academic vision, and then making it happen operationally. He brought talent and strength to his mandate and, most of all, a real openness and collegiality to his conversations with students, faculty and the whole community, so that everyone was really engaged and invested in the university's momentum and achievements," says Levy.

This appraisal is echoed by Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice president at the University of Guelph. She worked with Shepard when he was that university's associate vice-president, academic, from 2005 to 2007. "Alan is a passionate and thoughtful leader. The focus, integrity and dedication to students, faculty and staff that he demonstrated during his time at Guelph will surely serve him and his university well," Mancuso says.





ALAN SHEPARD BELIEVES CONCORDIA IS IDEALLY PLACED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TODAY'S MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR URBAN UNIVERSITIES.

## MOMENTUM AND GROWTH

Shepard takes the helm of Concordia after exceptional growth at the university. Students can apply themselves in 500 programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels, while its two campuses have been rejuvenated through an investment of \$600 million in buildings and urban renewal. What's more, a recent study by the SECOR consulting firm reveals that Concordia generates nearly \$1.3 billion a year in economic spinoffs for the Quebec economy, notably through job and research creation.

The new president has already toured Concordia's numerous research centres — many of which are nationally and interna-

tionally recognized. He recalls asking his PhD advisor if he could take courses in other disciplines, to help place his studies in context. "I remember he said to me, 'Why would you want to do that?' Today, they would say, 'Of course you should do that!'"

That progressive philosophy has reinvigorated professors, he believes. "I think academics everywhere are excited by the ways in which academic fields are becoming more flexible. You still have the disciplines, but in the midst of that are incredible opportunities for new adventures with people in other disciplines; you get something totally new, and that's pretty inspiring."

I believe it's a time when societies are looking to universities. Suddenly we are at the epicentre of what's going on.

tionally recognized. He says the university possesses "invisible strengths" through its cross-sector collaborations: "It's a network of programs, people, attitudes and intellectual interests that goes toward the multidimensional nature of the modern academy. One excellent example is the fusion of work in engineering, digital media, digital literacy and visual arts that's happening at Hexagram-Concordia, and other programs and research centres across all four faculties."

Shepard, who earned a PhD from the University of Virginia in 1990, says that in recent years there's been a significant shift in how those in higher education view the dissemination

## BUOYANT IN FACE OF CHALLENGES

Shepard was well aware he would face some challenges when he said yes to Concordia's invitation. Not one to shy away from difficult situations, he met reporters just days after his arrival, ready to face some tough questions.

Among those were queries about the university's governance issues. "I'm coming to my role with my eyes wide open," Shepard says. "I feel confident that Concordia is a strong institution with great depth, and it's ready to move forward with the support of the Board of Governors and Senate."

Student protest action against the government's increase in

tuition fees, including a disruption at his public presentation in April, failed to dampen Shepard's spirit or humour. "I understood that I was caught up in a much larger public policy debate unfolding in Quebec and elsewhere," he says.

The interruption, which necessitated that Shepard later respond to questions from members of the Board of Governors and Senate via conference call, came as no surprise. "In fact, it gave me the opportunity to go back, tweak my speech and read it again — it was like getting extra time to write my assignment." He adds that it also gave him an opportunity to communicate with 700 people through the conference call, more than double the original audience.

Shepard acknowledges that tuition remains a sensitive issue. Yet he points out that, no matter the source, Concordia will need additional funds to continue to provide quality education, hire top faculty in a competitive environment and evolve to fit its changing public role.

As he sees it, Concordia and indeed all universities are coming to terms with new pressures in a new millennium. "I believe it's a time when societies are looking to universities. Suddenly we are at the epicentre of what's going on, and that's not actually a familiar role for us," Shepard says.

"There was a time when we educated a tiny elite. Now we educate a great number of people, and the well-being of Montreal, Quebec, Canada — the world — all depends upon having graduates from universities like Concordia who are ready for the 21st century."

Shepard also looks forward to tackling another potential obstacle: "How will the technology of the 21st century change our work, change how we educate students, how students learn? I think students will push us. And that's a big challenge not just for Concordia but for everybody."

Concordia's new leader is eager to assume another key function: approaching alumni, donors and friends of the university to raise new sources of support. "Fundraising and engaging with donors is incredibly important to the university," he says. "The generosity of our donors will be increasingly crucial in providing quality education that we can all be proud of. I enjoy fundraising because I get to talk to people who are in the position of making gifts to the university about what makes Concordia truly special."

### A PERFECT FIT

Shepard is clearly primed for his new role — and given his professional path, it would almost seem he's been gearing up specifically for Concordia.

In the late 1970s, the American-born Shepard entered St. Olaf College in Minnesota, the first in his family to go to

university. "I knew by the end of my first year that I wanted to work in university for life," he says. "I realized very early on that I loved these places and what they could do for people like me with no real family university history."

Shepard soon gravitated toward literary studies. "It's like studying the world — history, geography, science, and so on," he says. "It's an avenue into how the world works."

The respectful way his professors treated students also taught Shepard the value of outstanding pedagogy. In teaching, he says, "the 'who' matters as much as the 'what.'" He adds, "Great teaching is life-affirming."

His tenure-track career began in 1990, in the Department of English at TCU in Fort Worth, Texas. Former colleague Linda K. Hughes, now TCU's Addie Levy Professor of Literature, says Shepard's intellectual curiosity makes him an impressive scholar who's quick to support the scholarship of others. "Commitment to human relationships and high ethical standards also define him," she adds. "And he is a brilliant administrator. When I asked what he liked best about being a university leader, he answered, getting to meet so many fascinating people and working with them to realize their dreams."

## Concordia is an easy place to want to be at. Its long-term outlook is very, very bright.

As he prepared to make the move to Concordia, Shepard and his family also made the transition to Montreal. He's looking forward to live in the vibrant city, which he believes will be a wonderful setting for his sons. Avid cyclists and hikers, he and his partner adopted two children in 2007 — and quickly found out that parenthood has its own hurdles. "It's both been both the greatest reward of my life and it's for sure been the hardest thing I've done. It's harder than getting a PhD."

Shepard's combined focus on teaching, research and innovation match what he feels are essential Concordia goals. "It really matters to me that we offer the best programs, hire top faculty, recruit strong students and conduct vital research. That is why we're all here: a great education in a great environment — to have that education filled with research opportunities," he says.

His background, his experience, his education, his personality, his philosophy: these will all smooth Alan Shepard's transition into his new post. "Concordia is an easy place to want to be at," he says. "It has passionate students, two beautiful campuses, community engagement. Its long-term outlook is very, very bright."

Shepard looks forward to getting to know the Concordia community. As he puts it, "We have great people here. Great people working together make great universities." ■



Concordia's research centre in Technoculture, Art and Games (TAG) sheds new light on the gaming culture and explores modern ways of studying and designing games in the 21st century.  
By Athena Tacet

Video games have come a long way since the introduction of Tennis for Two, created by physicist Willy Higinbotham in 1958. Who would have thought that what first started as an arcade and console game would become, over the years, an integral part of our popular culture?

Aside from their societal dimension, video games also have had a profound impact on individuals and have become the subject of psychological, sociological and anthropological analyses. These studies examine the importance of the current "technoculture," that is, the way technology has played a critical role in reshaping how we act, communicate and interact with each other — and

are the focus of Concordia's Research Centre in Technoculture, Arts and Games (TAG).

Founded last year by the centre's director Bart Simon and associate director Lynn Hughes, TAG is a cross-faculty collaboration platform that gathers designers, artists, engineers, students and scholars from across all disciplines. Its home is in the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex.

Simon, an associate professor of sociology, was already working on game cultures with anthropologists and sociologists for 10 years when he met Lynn Hughes, an associate professor in the studio arts, Concordia University

Research Chair in Interactive Design and Games Innovation and associate dean of research and international relations in the Faculty of Fine Arts. Both shared an interest in exploring and building games; when they received seed funding from Concordia's Office of Research in 2011, they initiated TAG.

TAG brings together faculty members and researchers from varying backgrounds and disciplines who share a passion, interest and concern for 21st century gaming culture. As its website ([tag.hexagram.ca](http://tag.hexagram.ca)) describes, they view digital games "as exemplary objects for cultural research, artistic creation, technical innovation and social mediation."





# ALONG!

GAMERS TEST PROPINQUITY,  
DEVELOPED AT TAG.

## TAG TEAM

For many, such as TAG PhD student Adam van Sertima, MA (art history) 11, its interdisciplinarity and openness make it a unique and particularly appealing place to conduct research. “By the contact of research methodologies, such as sociology, engineering, design and others, I was able to expand my thought beyond particular disciplinary boundaries,” he says. “Many people at TAG blog their work from its early stages, encouraging feedback from their colleagues and pretty much anyone interested.”

Simon adds that TAG’s success lies in the solidarity between the researchers who don’t hesitate to share their expertise with each other. “It’s about skills

training, like ‘I know how to do this and you know how to do that.’ So it’s a help-each-other kind of a deal.” And in this process of learning from and with others, researchers and participants are strongly encouraged to share ideas and perspectives about a given topic. “The cool thing about games is that everybody knows what a game is,” Simon says. “This context is actually very productive for generating various kinds of discussions. Even if you fundamentally disagree, you don’t disagree about what it is that you’re disagreeing about.”

Therefore, in order to bring in a greater variety of perspectives, TAG has been actively recruiting individuals from a variety of Concordia departments,

successfully bridging the Faculty of Arts and Science and Faculty of Fine Arts, as well as connecting design and programming students from computer science with creative writing students. “Sometimes they’re all working on the same project, sometimes they’re just working side by side,” says Simon.

TAG’s members aim to bridge the gap between traditional projects usually undertaken by researchers in humanities and social sciences, who try to understand players and interpret games, and modern research, which deals with creating new types of games. “Either they start to talk to each other and influence each other or they actually start working on projects together,” Simon adds.

And into that mix, TAG welcomes many who are either former students or real game developers from the community who deal with the political, economic and cultural realities of making games. "The conversations that take place at the centre are incredibly resourceful and productive," says Simon. He wants to encourage this type of collaboration in order to make TAG "a part of the university that is slightly more edged into the community."

### FUN AND SOLIDARITY

One of TAG's goals is to counter stereotypes. As the field of games research quickly grows, Simon underlines the importance of having centres like this to demystify what video games are. "There is a sort of public understanding about what a stereotypical game is and you find little of that here," he says. "Some people talk

The cool thing about games is that everybody knows what a game is. Even if you fundamentally disagree, you don't disagree about what it is that you're disagreeing about.

about it more in terms of games as art. It's even broader than that."

Part of the stereotype is the idea that the world of gaming cannot be dissociated from the emergence and intensifying of a culture of violence. This idea is particularly dominant in the field of massively multiplayer online role-playing games such as World of Warcraft, which has frequently been criticized for its addictiveness and blamed for being a potential training tool for spree killers. Research conducted at the centre illustrates that gaming culture does not

necessarily have to be about violence; it can also and most certainly bring about amusement and solidarity among players.

Cases in point are studies at Concordia by Canada Research Chair for Game Studies and Design Mia Consalvo and her PhD students. They have focused on the positive socializing impact of Facebook games rather than on games' so-called antisocial dimension. Another research project by Consalvo's team explores how role-playing video games like Dragon Age handle ethical and moral dilemmas. Researchers found that in games where players must make decisions that will eventually affect the future of their virtual characters, about 80 per cent of the time they choose to play the game's good person. "I've been really curious as to why that is," Consalvo says. "The students are going to be doing more interviews to figure out what it is that's pushing them because it's going against that stereotype according to which people just like to kill things."

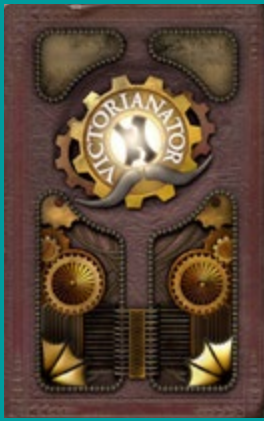
Nonetheless, for Simon, concerns about violence in the gaming culture remain a reality. Yet he stresses that game research has grown to ask more fundamental questions about the importance of playing and the relationship between technology and play. It has also examined the influence of games on friendship and sociocultural values. "These are some questions you might already be asking about television, radio and film," he says. "Now you will ask them about video games. The difference is that we're young compared to the people who have been working on television, radio and films. So it's a growing field around the world."

Another popular perception of gamers is that they are couch potatoes, lazily sitting in front of their consoles all day. The projects undertaken at TAG



LINDA RUTENBERG

BART SIMON (LEFT), DIRECTOR OF CONCORDIA'S RESEARCH CENTRE IN TECHNOLOGY, ARTS AND GAMES, WITH ASSISTANT DIRECTOR LYNN HUGHES. SIMON HAS STUDIED GAME CULTURE FOR MORE THAN A DECADE. "I WOULDN'T SAY THAT GAMES HAVE *REVOLUTIONIZED* EVERYTHING, BECAUSE THAT'S TOO STRONG A WORD, BUT THEY HAVE ALREADY IMPACTED EVERYTHING. THEY'RE NOW PART OF THE ECOSYSTEM, AS MUCH AS TELEVISION AND ANY OTHER MEDIA FORM."



## VICTORIANATOR

The Victorianator is an iPhone application designed to teach users to speak in Victorian English. It was developed in 2011 by Jason Camlot, TAG member and Concordia associate professor of English, and his LudicVoice research team of Concordia students. "We took specific gestures as they're prescribed in Victorian elocution manuals and we put them at the core of our gameplay," Camlot explains.

Users voice one of the three Victorian poems, in monotone, into the iPhone. The game's steampunk-style robot shows how to gesture correctly along to the poem. "If you hit the gesture correctly, it triggers a 'Victorian' elocutionary effect on the monotone speech that you already recorded. Thus it 'Victorianates' your voice," Camlot says. The app is available on iTunes.

on gestural games, connecting Wii and looking at what happens when the body becomes more implicated in playing games have already started to debunk this generalization. "It used to be that we sit in front of a screen; it's really just your mind and your eyes that are engaging with the game," Simon relates. "But the whole gestural revolution sees bodies moving around in spaces, and so we need new methods and new languages." That drove Simon and Hughes to cre-

pedagogical dimension of video games. TAG highlights the idea that video games have truly become an inherent part of our lives. The studies grouped under the framework of its civic gaming project illustrate the critical role played by video games in citizens' level of knowledge and interest in civic life. In another example, game users can time travel back to the 19th century Victorian era thanks to the Victorianator, an iPhone application created by Jason Camlot,

non-profit organization. Now at the experimental stage, the game aims to raise awareness on the dangers related to wasting as well as the necessity to respect seas and oceans. "Games are a dominant form of storytelling and they can drive different behaviours," Mannella says.

For Adam van Sertima, TAG's success and future prosperity are mainly rooted in its openness to dynamic discussions, which he considers at the heart of any technological, cultural and artistic progress. "I have found here one of the most intellectual vibrant groups of people I have ever met," he says. Its directors, faculty and students seem to be uniformly driven by a profound curiosity of what it means to play in a technologically advanced society. The generosity of spirit makes it a wonderful place to do academic work."

As faculty and TAG member, professor and acting chair of computer science and software engineering Peter Grogono emphasizes, the centre has already succeeded in bringing Concordia to the forefront of Montreal's prominent gaming culture: "I think that this centre is an excellent initiative — one of the things that make people notice Concordia." ■

*Athena Tacet, BA (poli. sci.) 09, GrDip (journ.) 12, is a Montreal freelance writer.*

## Games are a dominant form of storytelling and they can drive different behaviours.

ate the game Propinquity. Each player attaches proximity sensors to his or her body and tries to get as close as possible to the opponent without touching. "One person is trying to get you and you're trying to get the other person, so you're kind of dancing and fighting at the same time," Simon explains.

### NEW ROLES

Through its research and practical applications, TAG transcends the traditional and occasionally negative image associated with the gaming culture. The goal is to provide the Concordia and greater community with the interactive, interdisciplinary and

BA (Eng. lit. & western soc. & cult.) 90, Concordia associate professor and chair of English. The app links gestures to speech and poetry (see sidebar, "The Victorianator").

The various TAG projects show that combining cross-faculty and complementary skills and knowledge can open a wide range of opportunities for the world of gaming, such as being a tool for social change. Visiting scholar Angelique Mannella is running a non-profit organization called Decode Global that seeks to bring people together to make technology applications for a social change. She's currently developing a game for an international





# COLOUR COLOUR WORLD

Concordia experts take  
us on a journey into the  
vibrant realm of colours.

BY ATHENA TACET

From the impressionist paintings of Van Gogh and Monet to Warhol's Pop Art; from cornucopias of fruits to frosting- and sprinkle-covered cupcakes; from neon and pastel clothing to little black dresses; from picturesque natural landscapes to psychedelic mental images; from *Little Red Riding Hood* and *Anne of Green Gables* to *A Clockwork Orange*: colours surround and inspire us. They are an integral part of our culture, seeped into our everyday lives — although sometimes at subconscious levels.

Over the next few pages we try to crack the colour code through the lens of Concordia experts and faculty members from a wide range of disciplines, including athletics, marketing, evolutionary psychology, art theory, fibre arts, physics and engineering.

### LA VIE EN ROUGE

In the business world, marketing experts are well aware that colours play an undeniable — and often unconscious — role in shaping consumer behaviour. Italian-based fashion brand United Colors of Benetton is an excellent case in point. Since its 1965 inception, the company has based its advertising campaigns mainly on the use of colours as a powerful means to promote their brand while conveying political messages, including tolerance for religious and cultural diversity.

Far from being the result of a designer's whim, marketers carefully consider their choice of colours on logos and brands because they may positively influence consumption as well as highlight a company's image. "Colour is extremely important for marketing specialists and campaigns," says Bianca Grohmann, a marketing professor in Concordia's John Molson School of Business (JMSB). "It is also very important for branding efforts: an example is the clear delineation of competing brands based on

As a result, colours are inherent ingredients of any good marketing strategy given that consumers tend to frequently associate them with more general concepts. "Colour is a means to reach consumers that don't really pay attention to the product because it evokes associations on an automatic level," says Grohmann, adding that the influence of colours is often subtle and unconscious. "Marketers therefore rely on the influences of colour as a peripheral cue that conveys information about the product to consumers even if they don't have the time or are too distracted to process information about a product carefully or consciously."

General cultural and gender issues surrounding colours also come into play. "Consumers tend to respond more positively to colours that fit their gender role perceptions — for example, darker colours and masculine self-concept, pastel colours and feminine self-concept," Grohmann says. "Marketers use these differences in tailoring their communication and branding strate-

gies to gender segments by using the colours that are perceived to fit best with the targeted self-concept."

One of the most striking examples of the different gender-related approaches to colours is the critical

role played by red. In *The Consuming Instinct: What Juicy Burgers, Ferraris, Pornography, and Gift Giving Reveal About Human Nature* (2011), evolutionary psychologist and JMSB marketing professor Gad Saad dedicates one chapter to the discussion of "the red effect" and "the

It is also very important for branding efforts: an example is the clear delineation of competing brands based on colour, such as Coca Cola (red) versus Pepsi (blue).

colour, such as Coca Cola (red) versus Pepsi (blue); or the use of colour in imitation strategies, for example, if a new entrant adopted an orange laundry detergent package in order to make consumers believe the product is associated with the brand Tide."



distinct effects of the colour red in the contexts of intersexual wooing versus intrasexual rivalry.”

Saad refers to a 2010 study, *Color and women hitchhikers' attractiveness: Gentlemen drivers prefer red*, by Nicolas Guéguen. The study tested the power of red, worn by female hitchhikers. Results showed that women donning red had the highest chances to persuade men to stop their trucks. Red automatically increased the females' attractiveness. Saad feels that's one reason why marketers use — even overuse — red to sell their products.

“Of course, culture matters. But ultimately there are some biological forces that unite consumers around the world,” says Saad. “What makes the Peruvian consumer, the Jamaican consumer, the Canadian consumer quite similar to one another is common shared biological heritage.”

Consumer behaviour and relationship to colours are deeply rooted in evolution, says Saad. “Nothing in consumer behaviour could ever make sense without an understanding of our evolutionary heritage.”

### GOLDEN MAROON

The Concordia Stingers' colours — maroon and gold — have become “an incredible source of pride” for the athletes, says Catherine Grace, BA 87, communication advisor in Department of Recreation and Athletics.

Grace recalls witnessing on many occasions that singular moment when a young athlete pulls on his or her first Stingers track suit, T-shirt or uniform. “The expression on their face is priceless,” she says. “There's a sense of awe, honour and accomplishment. It means

university's culture. “They speak volumes about who we are,” Grace says. “They represent our roots and traditions as well as our current identity. You know everyone who ever represented Loyola, Sir George Williams or Concordia has proudly worn these colours, or close variations of them, before you, and you have standards to live up to.”

The teams' colours may provide more than an emotional and historical connection. In a 2008 *Journal of Sports Sciences* article, Robert Barton and Russell Hill of the University of Durham

You know everyone who ever represented Concordia has proudly worn these colours before you, and you have standards to live up to.

a lot that you have earned the right to wear maroon and gold and represent Concordia and its alumni.”

Loyola College and Sir George Williams University merged to form Concordia University in 1974, yet the Warriors and Georgians varsity teams remained separate during the 1974-75 year. When the clubs joined together and became the Stingers in 1975, the two institutions' white, maroon and gold colours were officially adopted and symbolized the union between Loyola and Sir George Williams.

It's therefore not surprising that the Stingers' maroon and gold hues have become essential to the teams and

in the United Kingdom reported on a link between the colours of athletes' jerseys and their teams' probability to win. They concluded that victors disproportionately wore red and therefore colours may have a greater impact on players' psychology than one might think.

Grace relates that the Stingers' maroon and gold also help promote Concordia's distinctive athletic identity among other North American and international universities. “That's the reason why, for the third consecutive year, the Department of Recreation and Athletics decided to print T-shirts for athletes and students that read, “The only colours that matter are maroon and gold.’ ”



## GROWING COLOURS

Carissa Carman, a lecturer in Concordia's department of studio arts and MFA candidate in the Department of Fibres, and her colleagues Sarah Gotowka and Johanna Autin, BFA 04, created the Color Collective in 2009. The artistic collaboration aims to literally grow colours by cultivating and foraging plants to create natural

to the source." Specialized in weaving, Gotowka compared this experience with the slow food movement and the importance of knowing the origins of the food we eat. For her, colours have a deep socio-cultural significance. "A lot of people don't really grasp how much time and labour goes into making a piece of clothing or a blanket or things that we wear to identify ourselves or to put our



pigments, used to make print pastes and dye baths. Also members of the Concordia Greenhouse, the three artists have worked to promote the importance of sustainable colours.

"It's just amazing," says visual artist Gotowka, who is also pursuing an MFA in fibres. "Walking around and looking at a plant and then thinking, 'Oh, that will give you a yellow,' or seeing a flower and thinking, 'I wonder if that will give me an orange' — honestly, I don't understand the science of it. I just think it's magical."

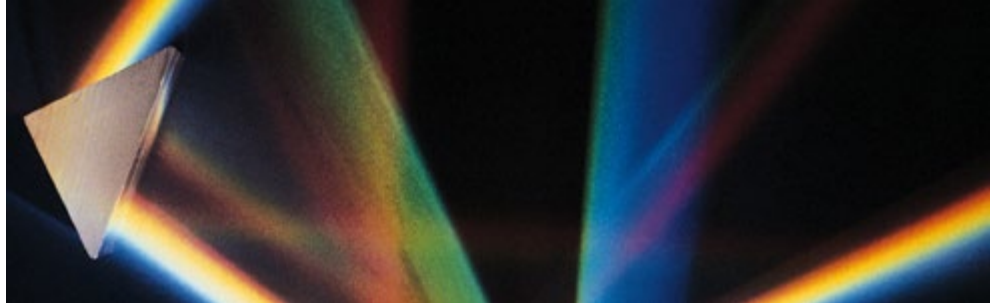
For American-born artists Gotowka and Carman, growing colours, dying plants and weaving represent a means to get to know the source of the material and thus experiencing a "closeness

identity out there to define ourselves," says Gotowka. "I think that it's really satisfying to be able to go to a field and grab a bunch of orange or green or whatever it is and then potentially wear it."

Growing colours has also meant interacting with and learning from each other. The three students were able to develop this knowledge through various trips, including one to Mexico, during which Autin was able to learn extensively from the local women and their experience with the region's plants.

"It's also about cultivating this cross-generational knowledge," says Gotowka. Carman concurs: "It's the type of knowledge that you cannot just learn in a book."

Looking at a plant and then thinking, 'I wonder if that will give me an orange' — I don't understand the science of it. I just think it's magical.



## VIVID PERCEPTION

From rainbows to fall foliage to northern lights, nature's colours never cease to amaze. But are these tones and shades actually tangible or are they the product of our perception? What are colours and where do they come from? Is that blue that we see inside our head or does it materially exist?

Scientists and philosophers have tackled these questions throughout history. Until the 17th century, when English physicist Isaac Newton first proved that light is a physical thing in the physical world, many believed that white light was sent by God.

Remember that high school physics experiment that consisted of dropping a pinch of salt in a blue-tinted flame and seeing how it would suddenly turn green? Concordia physics professor Pablo Bianucci explains that this sudden colour change stems from the excitement of electrons and atoms, which eventually emit at various wavelengths. In other words, far from being holy, the various possible colours deriving from the experiment tell us the identity of the present elements, such as lithium, calcium, potassium, copper and so on.

For Bianucci, colours result from the perception of the wavelength of the light. Concordia art history professor Ernestine Daubner, BFA 85, PhD 00, agrees: "The colours we see in objects are actually reflected light. This is because each coloured object we see has a specific molecular structure that makes it either absorb or reflect certain light rays. When we see red, the red rays of the spectrum are reflected;

an object only exists in the eyes of the beholder. "Were our visual system different, we would see colours differently. For example, a cat with a different visual system sees better than we do in the dark," she says.

"Our eyes also fool us; they make colours appear elusive, unstable," Daubner adds. "For example, a light hue seems to be lighter next to a darker hue

**Daubner says our visual system plays an essential role in the way we perceive colours. Just like beauty, the colour of an object only exists in the eyes of the beholder.**

the rest are absorbed." As for the two opposite colours, "White reflects most of the light rays and black absorbs all the light," she explains, which is why "it's cooler to wear white in the summer."

Daubner explains that our visual system plays an essential role in the way we perceive colours because it helps interpret these reflected light rays as colours. As a result, just like beauty, the colour of

and vice versa; a red appears more vivid against a green, and vice versa." As for complementary colours — that is, those that create white or black when combined with one another — they represent a clear example of what our visual system can produce. "Stare at any colour long enough and then look at a white or grey area and you will see its complementary colour appear."

## COLOUR-CODED SAFETY

Whether to inform, forbid or indicate particular information on the roads, colours play an essential role in traffic and construction. "It's internationally established that traffic lights follow red, amber and green to indicate stop, caution and go," says Luis Amador, associate professor in Concordia's Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Colours help assure safety and enforce traffic regulations. According to Amador, whether they are dark grey, light grey or yellow, colours on roads and highways are expected to be understood by road users, therefore they follow accepted conventions.

**Whether they are dark grey, light grey or yellow, colours on roads and highways are expected to be understood by road users.**

These are spelled out in the United States Department of Transportation's *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, which defines the standards, as its website describes, for "traffic control devices on all public streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public traffic."

For colour-blind drivers, signs and road pavements tend to be contrasted between black, for the pavement surface, and white, for the markings, in order to ensure safety on the roads. "There is also a written message on the sign indicating 100 km per hour," says Amador. Regarding traffic lights, the order of the lights matter because colour-blind drivers need to know that the top ball indicates stop. "They won't see the red colour, though. And in the case of more than standardized three balls, any additional ball must have an arrow."

As well, the international norm is to have construction workers wear bright-orange safety vests, as opposed to red ones. "In dark lighting, Orange reflects back more light," Amador explains.



## THE COLOUR OF BEAUTY

Colours play a significant role in the way we define beauty and social standards. “You know the stereotype: blondes have more fun,” says Anthony Synnott, professor of sociology at Concordia. “Red hair is associated with fire, anger and bad temper, while white hair is an age symbol, especially for women – not so much for men, for whom it may be a

For Synnott, this phenomenon traces its roots back to the Ancient Greeks’ preconceived idea that one’s outer beauty is the reflection of one’s inner beauty. In *The Body Social*, he contends, “[A]s physical beauty is believed to symbolize inner moral or spiritual beauty or goodness, so too physical ugliness is believed to symbolize an inner ugliness or evil.” As well, Western and African cultures’



Red hair is associated with fire, anger and bad temper, while white hair is an age symbol, especially for women – not so much for men, for whom it may be a sign of wisdom.

sign of wisdom.” As a result, he explains, women tend to change their hair colour more often than men because of the negative connotation associated with the grey colour.

“Beauty is more important for women than for men. One indication of this is cosmetic surgery,” Synnott notes in *The Body Social: Symbolism, Self and Society* (Routledge, 1993). According to him, cosmetics play an essential role in today’s society because they offer women and men the opportunity to change the colour of their skin and hair; and “by altering the self, hence improving attractiveness, one changes people’s perception and evaluation of the self. Attractiveness attracts.” In other words, cosmetics participate in enhancing one’s self esteem.

concept of evil is filtered through historical and sociological dimensions. Therefore in the West, evil is often illustrated in black, the symbol of the night and darkness. In contrast, when he travelled to Zimbabwe, Synnott noticed that white was the colour of evil because not only does it refer to “bones and death” but it also acts as a reminder of slavery and slave traders.

Overall, colours are clearly inherent to the ideal of beauty and goodness. “Beauty is highly evaluated everywhere but defined differently,” Synnott says. “It is part of our social capital in a free market.” ■

*Athena Tacet, BA (poli. sci.) 09, GrDip (journ.) 12, is a Montreal freelance writer.*



A CANVAS  
TO OUR  
IMAGINATION:

ELLEN TURNS 50



SPYROS BOURBOULIS

MICHÈLE THÉRIAULT HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF CONCORDIA'S LEONARD AND BINA ELLEN ART GALLERY SINCE 2003. "WE PRESENT CONTEMPORARY ART AS A CRITICAL FORM OF KNOWLEDGE OR AS A WAY TO ENGAGE IN A LARGER CULTURAL DEBATE."

## IN THIS ITS MILESTONE YEAR, CONCORDIA'S LEONARD AND BINA ELLEN ART GALLERY HAS NEVER BEEN MORE RELEVANT.

BY SCOTT MCCULLOCH

It's not unreasonable to think of Fermat's Last Theorem, a mathematical equation that took 358 years to prove, as the sly title of a quirky work of contemporary art.

It isn't, of course. Yet disparate as art and mathematics may be, they share fertile common ground in their propensity to puzzle and fascinate. Studies show that taking part in sustained art projects helps develop critical thinking. And for those interested in cultivating new ways of thinking, or questioning assumptions, there are arguably few better settings than Concordia's Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery.

While the gallery is home to works by such masters as Riopelle and Borduas, much has changed since acquisitions were its focus, beginning 50 years ago. *My Treaty is With the Crown* and *This is Montreal!*, recent out-of-the-ordinary exhibitions, are testament to the gallery's current mandate.

Fifty years, as anniversaries go, resonate louder than 20-year milestones. Yet this year Concordia's Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery will celebrate both. September will mark two decades since the gallery opened in the then-newly built J.W. McConnell Building and a half century since artworks began to be collected at Sir George Williams.

Its original collection of six works acquired through a fund established in 1962 by Montreal entrepreneur Samuel Schecter, LLD 68, was first exhibited on campus in 1963. By the end of 1964 the holdings comprised 150 works and two years later the collection found a home in the new Henry F. Hall Building. In 1984, the space was rechristened the Concordia Art Gallery, a moniker that held until 1992 when it was renamed in honour of its eponymous benefactors, Leonard and Bina Ellen.

Over the years under the directorships of Concordia professor emeritus of art history Sandra Paikowsky, BA 67 (1981-1992), and Karen Antaki, BFA 82, MFA 92 (1992-2001), the gallery's collection grew through various purchases

but mostly through acquisitions by donations. The current collection, mainly Canadian works on paper and paintings from the 1960s to 1990s, comprises more than 1,700 objects.

In 1991, a generous contribution to Concordia's capital fund by Leonard and Bina Ellen, along with other donations, enabled the gallery to expand, modernize and move into the new McConnell Building. On the gallery's 10th anniversary, in 2002, President and Vice-Chancellor Frederick Lowy pledged the support of Concordia and the Concordia University Foundation. With the contributions of donors and particularly the Ellen and Schecter families, as well as the Stern Estate, endowments of up to \$2.5 million were established for the gallery.

At that moment, and for the first time in its history, Concordia launched a national competition for the position of director of the Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery. As a result, Michèle Thériault was appointed in 2003. The positions of Max Stern Curator of the Collection and Coordinator of Education and Public Programs were created a year later.

### COHERENT THINKING

Thériault's appointment brought big changes. The gallery took on a stronger international outlook and its focus became strictly contemporary and curatorial. "Michèle has been able to really carve out a niche within the university," says Graham Carr, Concordia's vice-president, research and graduate studies, whose sector oversees the gallery. "This is a gallery that's very much a public art gallery engaged in research in curatorial practice and which generates interesting, well-crafted and sophisticated publications."

Historical projects would still take place but in relation to the recent past and from a contemporary perspective. The gallery initiated an ambitious publication program and, because of storage limitations, declared a moratorium on collecting.

## ART ON CAMPUS

Concordia boasts one of the most diverse collections of public art of any university in Canada and has grown to become a major Montreal cultural engine. No less than 26 artists' works grace Concordia's campus walls, corridors and other public spaces. Most are elegantly displayed as permanent installations and part of the very fabric of the university. Below are three examples of Concordia's public works of art:

- Rose-Marie Goulet's installation *Various* (1992) was commissioned for the opening of the J.W. McConnell Building in 1992. The art work is spread over four locations. A spiral motif energizes and unifies the pieces and the work highlights linguistic references through fragments of text, letters and signs set in the very materials of the building.
- Walter Fühler's *Transcendence* was one of 20 artworks commissioned by the House of Seagram for Montreal's Expo 67 and was donated to Loyola College in 1968. The 4,500-kg stainless steel structure represents human and space travel and has left an indelible mark on the Loyola Campus landscape.
- Geneviève Cadieux's *Lierre sur Pierre* (2009), a 165-square-metre metal vine on the Molson Building, is arguably one of Concordia's most striking works. Cadieux created the anodized metal on a limestone wall as a take on the elitist tradition of ivy-covered academe.

Thériault felt it important to “refocus” on programming and curating. “Collecting and the collection needed to emerge from and contribute to the overall programming,” she recalls.

In 2011, the gallery began acquiring again but within the framework of a new policy tied to programming. Six works, all of which had connections to the gallery's exhibitions, were purchased. All have been shown more than once and borrowed

by institutions such as the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal for its Triennial.

Thériault's strategy led to a tripling of its Canada Council for the Arts funding in the first six years of her directorship. In the context of university art galleries, she has helped consolidate the Ellen Gallery's reputation in Canada as a major player in the presentation and dissemination of contemporary art worldwide. She has emphasized the critical dimension of curatorial practice and its relationship with artmaking, writing and dissemination. “The gallery is recognized as a place where the curatorial framing of exhibitions and events are publicly tested and discussed,” Thériault says.

In other words, there is deep thinking or “coherence” behind its programming. Coherence, Thériault conveys, lies in linking together exhibitions, works, publications, talks, lectures, film and so on so that each inflects the other to draw out the complexity of both artmaking and of curatorial experience. “In our programming, it is also about connecting the recent past with the present.”

For instance, *Documentary Protocols* had visitors peer through “vitrines” at mostly administrative documents (reports, seals, notary acts, grant applications) in an exhibition that examined the administrative ethos in artistic practices of the '60s and '70s in Canada and the transformation of the artist into an administrator.

*Documentary Protocols* was austere — and not necessarily seductive to mainstream audiences. Yet crowd-pleasing or easy accessibility, says Thériault, is not foremost when mounting an exhibition. “My criteria and the criteria of the people who I work with is to ask: ‘Is this project contributing to knowledge on artistic issues?’ It's just like the mission of the university: to foster critical thinking and develop knowledge.”

Thériault points out that the public can interpret things the way they want and in diverse ways. “As a gallery within a university we need to offer audiences pedagogical tools to encourage and develop understanding and various forms of interpretation; our tools are our public programs.” She cites

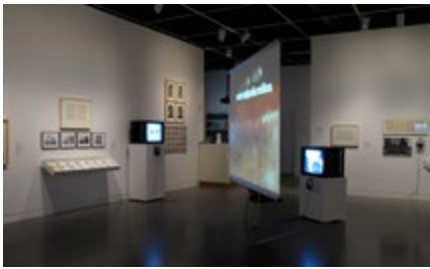
We need to offer audiences pedagogical tools to develop understanding and various forms of interpretation.



BAILEY FINE ARTS, TORONTO

KENT MONKMAN, MARY, 2011.  
HIGH DEFINITION VIDEO.





TRAFFIC: CONCEPTUAL ART IN CANADA 1965-1980  
PART 1, MONTREAL SECTION VIEW OF THE EXHIBITION.  
2012.



OUT OF GRACE, A PROJECT BY LYNDA GAUDREAU  
VIEW OF THE EXHIBITION. 2010.



AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE GIVEN THE TIME  
AND SPACE ALLOTTED  
VIEW OF THE EXHIBITION. 2009.

We want to look into that gap that often exists between the general public and contemporary art.



THIS IS MONTREAL  
VIEW OF THE EXHIBITION. 2008.



DOCUMENTARY PROTOCOLS II  
VIEW OF THE EXHIBITION. 2008.



HARUN FAROCKI: ONE IMAGE DOESN'T TAKE  
THE PLACE OF THE PREVIOUS ONE  
VIEW OF THE EXHIBITION. 2007.

*Ways of Thinking*. Available in print and on the gallery's website, it offers primary information about each curatorial project, the works that it addresses and the curator. *Ways of Thinking* raises questions, too. Its objective is not only to draw the public into the gallery and make them comfortable with their experience but also prepare teachers and students for their own visits.

"The Ellen Gallery makes unusually extensive use of guest curators," says Patricia Grattan, BA 66, former director of

Memorial University's Art Gallery. "This seems to me not just a distinctive characteristic but a significant contribution to the development of curatorial practice in this country."

If art today is, at times, mistakenly viewed as an extension of the entertainment industry, the Ellen Gallery is resolute in focusing on its complexity and how it is embedded within society. Yet the relationship of contemporary art to the public and media is often fraught. How contemporary art is received by audiences is the subject of *Interactions*, the gallery's anniversary exhibition that runs until October 27. Curated by Mélanie Rainville, the Max Stern Curator, *Interactions* features works from the collection and by artists from Quebec, France, Taiwan and the Palestinian territories and considers questions of reception and interpretation by "problematizing" those notions.

"Her exhibition will not only foster a discussion on the subject but will examine different approaches to how one receives contemporary art," Thériault says. "Many find contemporary art difficult to access, don't understand it or find it opaque. So we want to look into that gap that often exists between the general public and contemporary art."

Whether Rainville's *Interactions* pleases or perplexes its audience remains to be seen. Either way, there will be critical thought, which is always welcome at Concordia. ■

*Scott McCulloch, BA 90, is manager of content and production with Concordia's Advancement and Alumni Relations.*

### LEONARD AND BINA ELLEN ART GALLERY: 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

The Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery has planned a series of events and projects to highlight its anniversaries. They include an online exhibition, exhibitions in a satellite "white cube" called *Sightings*, an ambitious autumn exhibition, *Interactions*, addressing the reception of contemporary art, a series of lectures on innovative projects developed by university art galleries across Canada, as well as a tour of *Interactions* during Homecoming 2012.

*Sightings* features works from the gallery's collection and is curated by graduate students in Concordia's art history and studio arts programs. In all, five exhibitions take place in a large white cube located on the metro level in the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex. *Sightings* offers an opportunity for students and the public to become familiar with the gallery's collection in a new setting, while allowing students to develop their curatorial skills.

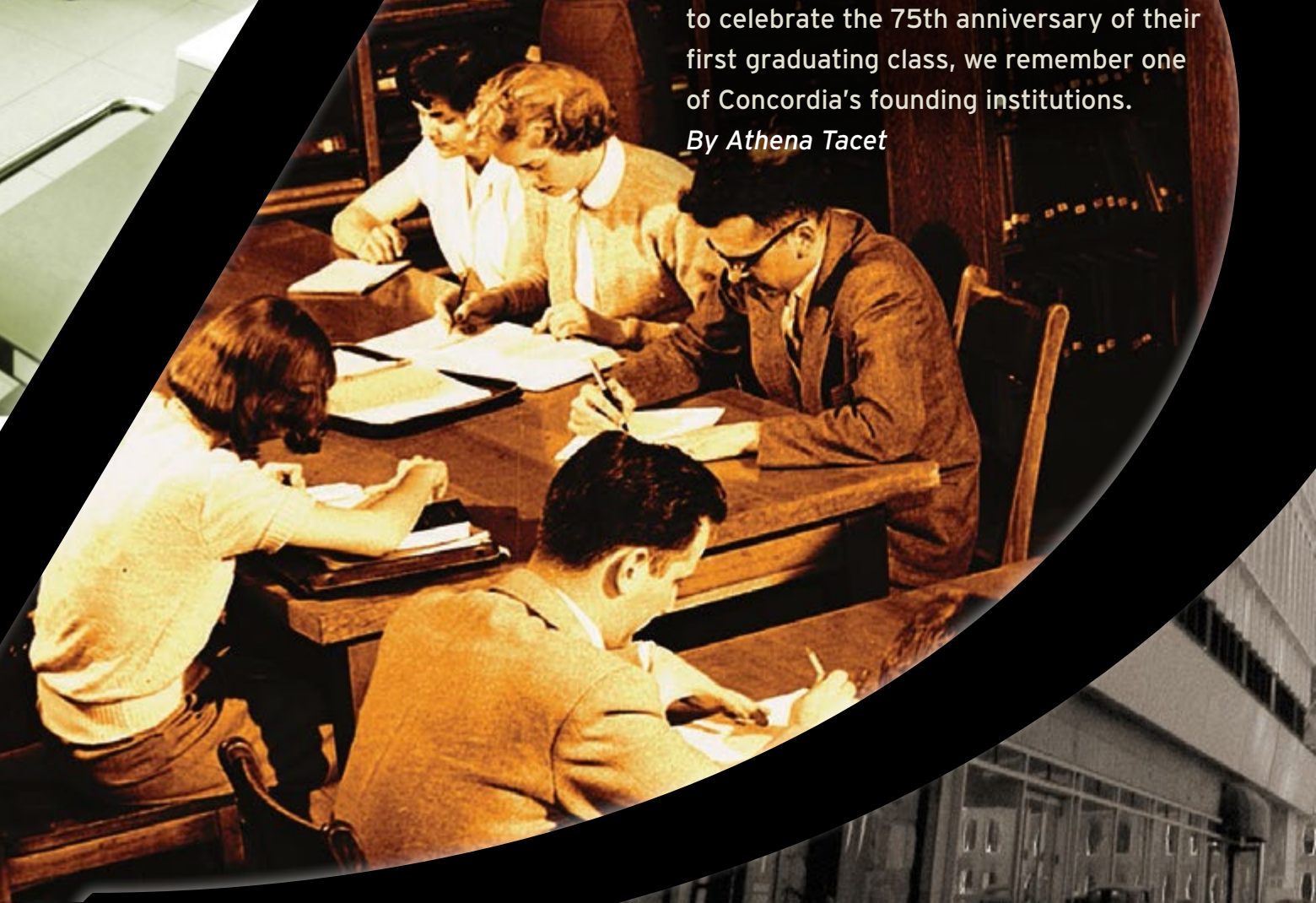
For more information, visit [ellengallery.concordia.ca](http://ellengallery.concordia.ca).



# CELEBRATING SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS

As Sir George Williams alumni prepare to celebrate the 75th anniversary of their first graduating class, we remember one of Concordia's founding institutions.

*By Athena Tacet*





“This celebration will be an opportunity to recount special anecdotes and to celebrate that special community spirit that so epitomized SGW College and subsequently SGW University.” Canada’s prime minister, Brian Mulroney, wrote these words in 1987 in light of the 50th anniversary of the first class to graduate from Sir George Williams University.

Twenty five years later, these sentiments hold true, and alumni will be able to mark the 75th anniversary of Sir George Williams’s first graduating class as well as the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University (AASGWU) at a historic reunion as part of the President’s Reunion Gala on September 29. (See page 28 for more information.)

The diamond anniversary of Sir George Williams’s original class is a good time to look back at the university’s history and continuing legacy at Concordia.

Sir George Williams College (later University) was the first Canadian post-secondary institution to offer a full range of academic programs to evening students. From its inception, it was committed to the principle of “general education.” Its roots date back to 1873 when the Montreal branch of the YMCA—the Young Men’s Christian Association created by Sir George Williams in England in 1844—inaugurated evening courses in vocational and general education. Originally called the Montreal YMCA Schools, it was re-christened Sir George Williams College in 1926 and began its four-year program in 1934.

The first Sir George Williams graduating class, affectionately known as the Guinea Pigs, received degrees in arts, science and commerce on June 3, 1937. The class had 11 students, including one woman, Rita Shane, BA 37. She later became a medical doctor and was the last surviving member of the Class of ’37 before she passed away on July 6. (See her obituary on page 28).

According to *The Illustrated Companion History of Sir George Williams University* (1977): “Sir George Williams started as a ramshackle, rambunctious, and lively kind of place where thousands and thousands came to get a ‘collegucation,’ where lesser numbers came to develop the basics of scholarship, but most of all a place where anyone could study and still earn a living at the same time.”

Another member of the Guinea Pigs, former Sir George Williams professor and vice principal Douglass Burns Clarke, BA 37, LLD 73, remembered the early days in *Decades of Decisions* (1976): “The atmosphere at SGW was unforgettable for those who lived it. Everyone felt he was part of a common adventure in building up a new college with a distinctive and unique philosophy of education.”

“Sir George had no money, rudimentary facilities and very little status,” recalled former English professor Neil Compton in *The Illustrated Companion History of Sir George Williams University*. “However, the institution did have a heart; and the physical

circumstances imposed intimacy between professor and students whether they wanted it or not.” He added that fate “imposed upon us some of the virtues that students elsewhere would one day fight to regain.”

The school continued to grow through the years; it officially obtained its university charter in 1948 (although it had been granting degrees since 1936-37) and in 1959 changed its name to Sir George Williams University. In 1968, in the wake of a royal commission on education, the Quebec government asked Loyola College and Sir George Williams to consider a union. The two institutions eventually agreed to merge into Concordia University in September 1974.

Sir George Williams left an indelible mark on its alumni, many of whom studied at night. “Pursuing formal courses at Sir George in the evening after a full day’s work proved to be challenging,” says Harvey Stoliar, BComm 62, an AASGWU board member and chair of its 75th Anniversary Planning Committee. But Stoliar, who is also a

### ***Sir George Williams 75th anniversary celebrations***

Sir George Williams University alumni will have an opportunity to reconnect with former classmates and friends while honouring their alma mater.

To mark the 75th anniversary of Sir George Williams’s first graduating class and the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University, graduates are invited to the President’s Reunion Gala on Saturday, September 29, part of the university’s Homecoming festivities.

The gala, at the Westin Hotel in Old Montreal, will include a cocktail reception, four-course meal and tributes by class representatives. Guests will enjoy live music and dancing and have a chance to win a Caribbean cruise for two, sponsored by Group Voyage Ideal and Azamara Cruises.

The event’s planning committee is chaired by Harvey Stoliar, BComm 62. Robert Barnes, BA 68, was co-chair until his untimely death in June. (See Robert Barnes’s obituary on page 28.)

Register online: [alumni.concordia.ca/events/register](http://alumni.concordia.ca/events/register)

Email: [alumnievents@concordia.ca](mailto:alumnievents@concordia.ca)

Tel.: 514-848-2424, ext. 4397, or 1-888-777-3330

Mail: 1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., FB 520, Montreal, QC, H3G 1M8





playwright and songwriter, adds, "I owe a debt of gratitude to Sir George for allowing me not only the opportunity to earn my commerce degree but to hone my musical skills and whet my appetite for entry into professional show business."

### CONTINUED LEGACY

Nearly 40 years later, Concordia continues to advance the Sir George Williams philosophy of serving student and community needs by promoting access to education through flexibility in its programs and admission.

Concordia's Sir George Williams Campus has been dramatically transformed in recent years with the addition of two striking new buildings, a statement of the university's ambitious goal to create the best possible learning and teaching environment. The Molson Building, home to the John Molson School of Business, houses the world's first solar wall, with the capacity to heat fresh air and thereby warm the building.

Sir George Williams played an important role in the economic, cultural and political reality of Montreal and Quebec. As Neil Compton wrote:

"Perhaps the two most exciting periods at the old Sir George were the late '30s and early '40s when this YMCA college admitted hundreds of able Jewish students who at that time were not accepted at McGill because of quota restrictions, and the late '40s and early '50s when the swell of veterans and immigrants filled the classrooms with mature students avid for knowledge."

Today, Concordia continues to make a major contribution to the local and provincial economic, cultural and social development. According to a study by consulting firm SECOR, the university generates nearly \$1.3 billion a year in economic spinoffs in Quebec by creating jobs and producing wealth.

Seventy-five years after the Sir George Williams graduated its first class, its spirit lives on at Concordia. ■

### In memoriam: Robert W. Barnes

Robert W. Barnes, BA 68, died June 2 in Montreal. He was 70. A former president of the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University (AASGWU), he provided inexorable support to his alma mater and Concordia. Greatly involved in the AASGWU, he was closely involved in many projects and events such as the association's upcoming 75th anniversary as well as the annual bowlathon. He was a member of the Concordia Board of Governors' communications, advancement and real estate committees. Barnes successfully campaigned to have the provenance of the Sir George Williams Campus's name officially recognized through plaques on Concordia's Henry F. Hall and Molson buildings.

To donate in Robert Barnes's memory and contribute to the Sir George Williams Scholarship and Bursary Fund, contact [giving@concordia.ca](mailto:giving@concordia.ca).

### In memoriam: Rita Shane

By Sylvain-Jacques Desjardins

As the first woman to graduate from Sir George Williams University, Rita Shane, BA 37, was a pioneer in higher education.

Shane died, at 95 years old, on July 6 in Montreal. She was the last surviving member of the first graduation class of Sir George Williams.

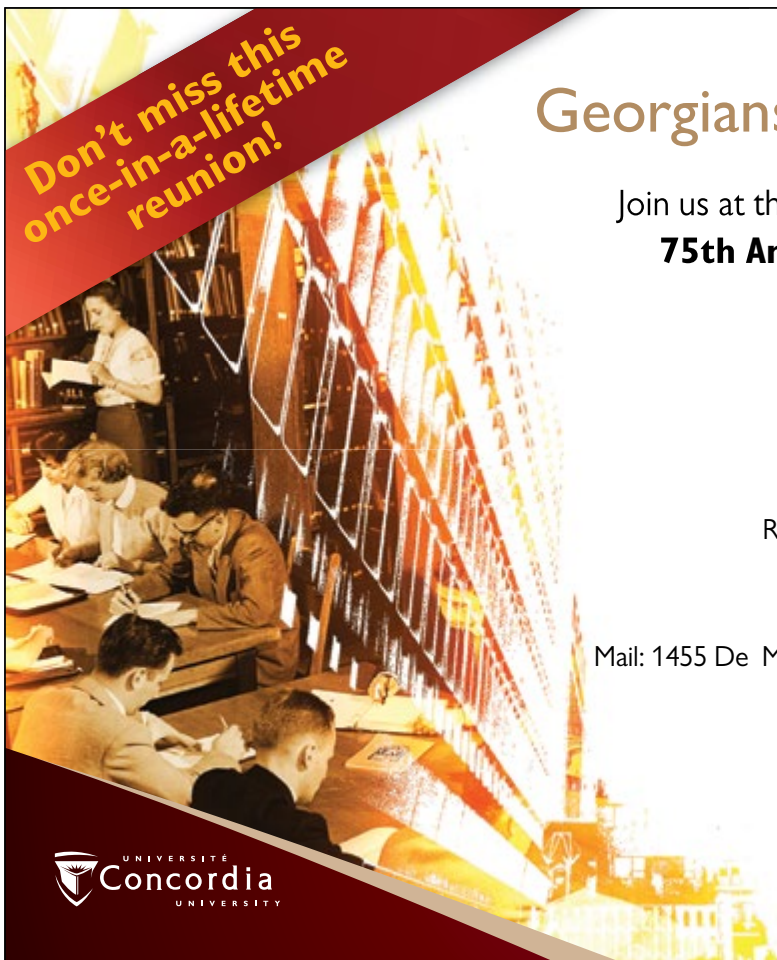
A force of nature, Shane was the picture of elegance, never seen without her signature hats. "She was one-of-a-kind and no one will ever replace her," says Michael Katz, Shane's only son.

Shane took great pride in being among the first 11 graduates of Sir George Williams – as well as the sole woman. After completing her undergraduate studies, Shane pursued a medical degree at McGill University. Only nine per cent of her 1942 McGill graduating class were women.

In 1946, Shane married the late Arnold Katz, who was also a doctor, and insisted on keeping her maiden name. She worked at the Montreal Children's Hospital for 17 years. After a hiatus following the birth of her son, she became medical director of a rehabilitation centre for addictions.

Shane remained dedicated to her alma mater as part of the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University and attended countless Concordia events over the years. In 1992, her efforts and considerable impact on society were recognized by the Concordia University Alumni Association with the Humberto Santos Award of Merit.

Shane also championed her second university. In 1998, she received the E.P. Taylor award for outstanding service to the McGill Alma Mater Fund.



## Georgians: Relive your memories

Join us at the President's Reunion Gala to celebrate the **75th Anniversary** of the **Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University** and the first graduating class.

**Saturday, September 29, 2012, 6 p.m.**

\$75 per person | Dress: Business

Register online: [alumni.concordia.ca/events/register](http://alumni.concordia.ca/events/register)

Email: [alumnievents@concordia.ca](mailto:alumnievents@concordia.ca)

Tel.: 514-848-2424, ext. 4397, or 1-888-777-3330

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## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY



Keep in touch with fellow alumni, enjoy exciting programs and activities, take advantage of special benefits and savings through the Concordia University Alumni Association.

[alumni.concordia.ca](http://alumni.concordia.ca)

Email: [alumni@concordia.ca](mailto:alumni@concordia.ca)  
Phone: 514-848-2424, ext. 4856  
Toll-free: 1-888-777-3330







# There's no place like **HOMECOMING**

From its inception in 1990, Concordia's Homecomings have attracted thousands of alumni and others back to campus for reunions, football and other events.

By David Adelman

Winston Churchill once said, "We shape our dwellings, and afterwards our dwellings shape us." That's certainly true for alumni of Loyola College, Sir George Williams University and Concordia University: as students, they helped mould their home for a few years, and the experience formed them for the rest of their lives.

Since its inauguration in 1990, Concordia's Homecoming festivities have allowed the university and its graduates — along with other community members — to celebrate each other. The annual gathering has welcomed more than 40,000 alumni and others to emotional class reunions, thought-provoking public lectures, exciting Homecoming football games, entertaining family fairs and the annual Shuffle walkathon, among many other events.

Sharon Fraenkel, Concordia's

director of Alumni Relations, Sponsorships and Events, says the idea of Homecoming today remains the same as it's always been: "Homecoming brings alumni back to their alma mater to reconnect with former classmates and professors and witness how the institution has progressed. At the same time, it introduces the university to the local community."

Véronique Tokateloff, BEng 05, is a president of Concordia's Engineering and Computer Science alumni chapter (ECAC). Tokateloff has taken advantage of several Homecoming opportunities since graduating. She attended a lecture and the last three Family Fair Day. She also volunteered at the ECAC's Are You Curious booth, conducting fun experiments to explain the world of engineering to visitors. "It's a great opportunity to educate kids — and their parents," she says. "It's also been a good chance to interact with alumni chapter members and network with engineering graduates and other alumni."

Over the following pages we feature some of the highpoints of Concordia's first 22 Homecomings.



## 1990 Oct. 12-13

Revellers toasted Concordia's 15th birthday as, for the first time, it celebrated graduates of the university and its founding institutions, Loyola College and Sir George Williams University. The inaugural event was billed as the only place at Concordia that has at least "500 heads, 1,000 legs and comes in all shapes, sizes and colours." Homecoming '90 featured reunions for graduating classes with years ending in 0 or 5.



## 1991 Oct. 3-7

At the Homecoming Football Game, Loyola (now Concordia) Stadium was filled with the Stingers' maroon and gold — thanks in part to scores of face-painted students. The sheer amount of support might have tipped the match for the Stingers, who won 28-16 against their hometown rival, the McGill Redmen.

## 1992 Oct. 1-3

Homecoming '92 welcomed a reunion of football players from championship teams of previous decades: the 1962 and 1972 Loyola Warriors and 1982 Concordia Stingers.

## 1993 Oct. 14-16

Concordia music professor Charles Ellison played a big part at Homecoming '93 as both an organizer and performer — he was part of a gala concert at the Concert Hall on the Loyola Campus and the Reunion Revival Big Band Dance in the J.W. McConnell Building.

## 1994 Oct. 13-14

David Suzuki, host of CBC TV's *The Nature of Things*, spread his scientific passions at the Rector's Dinner at Montreal's St. James's Club. He informed 600 rapt alumni and others about the dangers of ongoing species extinctions, greenhouse gases, global starvation and rapid deforestation. **Suzuki** (below) implored his audience to be conscious of the world around them. "We can't afford the indulgence or luxury of saying this is too depressing."



CHRIS MORRIS

## 1995 Oct. 12-14

Homecoming '95 weekend featured several lectures: Concordia sociology and anthropology professors David Howes and Anthony Synnott discussed the cultural history of smell, McGill University's Joe Schwarcz spoke about the relation between chemistry and crime and Concordia computer science professor Peter Grogono explained the new phenomenon, the "electronic superhighway."

## 1996 Oct. 3-5

Ovide Mercredi, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, dazzled the audience at the Stone Consolidated Lecture, the first of what would become an annual public talk. Speaking to a crowd of more than 500 alumni, students and others at Concordia's Henry F. Hall Building, Mercredi passionately described Native Canadians' financial hardships and constitutional frustrations. He urged the audience to make a difference and help local native communities.

## 1997 Oct. 16-18

The City of Montreal honoured the 60th anniversary of the first Sir George Williams graduating class. Rita Shane, BA 37, and Norman Manson, BA 37, the surviving charter members of the Association of Alumni Sir George Williams University and members of the class of 1937 (who called themselves the Guinea Pigs), signed the Livre d'or at Montreal City Hall, accompanied by Mayor Pierre Bourque.

## 1998 Sept. 23-26

Russell Gordon, a pioneering professor of drawing, began his career at Concordia in 1975 and also taught art at the University of California, Berkeley, and the San Francisco Art Institute. Gordon retired in the spring of 1997. A crowd of 60 art lovers and former students came to view his art at a vernissage at Montreal's Belgo Building during Homecoming '98.

## 1999 Sept. 30-Oct. 2

**Mordecai Richler** (below) made his way back to Concordia — he had attended Sir George Williams — to give a lively talk in the Hall Building. In typical fashion, the renowned Montreal novelist sardonically disparaged Quebec nationalists, Canadians outside of Quebec, radio talk-show hosts and book publishers, among others.



HAROLD ROSENBERG

## 2000 Sept. 22-23

Before Concordia was established in 1974, Loyola and Sir George Williams were bitter athletic rivals on the ice and field. But in the Hall Building at Homecoming '00, leading alumni of the two founding institutions, as well as those from Concordia, happily joined forces at the Past Presidents' Circle Breakfast. More than 40 former presidents of the Loyola, Sir George Williams and Concordia alumni associations came to share their good times — as well as some gentle ribbing.

## 2001 Sept. 20-22

Every year, the Rector's (now President's) Reunion Dinner invites graduates to celebrate their special reunion years. At Montreal's Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Rector and Vice-Chancellor Frederick Lowy brought more than 150 Concordians down memory lane.

## 2002 Oct. 3-6

Loyola Campus's Guadagni Lounge harkened back to the years of Beatlemania at Homecoming '02. Montreal's novelty/party band Replay, led by John Oriettas, BFA 81, brought their rock 'n' roll attitudes to more than 100 alumni and friends, who danced the night away to Replay's take on the Beatles, British Invasion and other '60s music.

## 2003 Sept. 30-Oct. 3

Each year, Homecoming invites a respected figure to speak to alumni, faculty members and staff, students and the general public on important community or international topics. In the Hall Building on Oct. 1, Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire (Retired) delivered an impassioned speech to more than 600 Concordians on the role of leadership, peacekeeping and humanity in 21st-century conflict.

## 2004 Sept. 27-Oct. 2

To celebrate Concordia's 30th birthday, the CUAA hosted a Come As You Are, Come As You Were anniversary and reunion party. About 230 guests filled Montreal's Windsor Ballroom, including MCs **John "Sonny" Ayles**, MA 76, and **Lucie "Cher" Fréchette**, BA 96 (below), and others dressed in period costume (mostly from the '60s and '70s).



HAROLD ROSENBERG

## 2005 Sept. 22-Oct. 3

Nearly 450 alumni returned to Loyola Campus to tour the new Communication Studies and Journalism Building, marking the 40 years of the Department of Communication Studies and the 30th anniversary of the Department of Journalism. The Reader's Digest Lecture attracted a range of journalists and communicators to hear Michael Ignatieff, who at the time was at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

## 2006 Sept. 7-9

A crowd of 150 alumni, students, friends and family came together to celebrate the Concordia Sports Hall of Fame Banquet at La Brasserie Molson in Montreal. Concordia Recreation and Athletics director Katie Sheahan, BA 78, inducted a number of former varsity stars including the championship 1968 Loyola Warriors football team and 1976-77 Stingers women's basketball.

## 2007 Sept. 27-Oct. 7

In 1956, two Sir George Williams students founded the Garnet Key Society, a group of top students who became involved in university life, on and off campus. About 60 Garnet Key alumni gathered at the Sir George Williams Campus to launch their new Concordia University Alumni Association Chapter and celebrate the society's 50-year anniversary.

## 2008 Sept. 19-25

The Concordia community is like a family. That's why more than 1,600 local parents and children came to the Loyola Campus grounds to enjoy a myriad of child-friendly activities and outdoor entertainment by acrobats, magicians and a one-man circus show at the second annual Family Fair Day. **Otis Grant**, BA 93 (below centre), former WBO middleweight boxing champion, and **Sylvain Girard**, BSc 99 (below right), former Montreal Alouettes receiver, mingled and signed autographs.



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

## 2009 Sept. 24-Oct. 4

One thing (at least) has not changed for Concordia's Engineering and Computer science alumni: their love for toasting to good times! Therefore it was natural for more than 100 grads to gather to discuss renewable energy and reminisce at Reggie's Bar in the Hall Building.

## 2010 Sept. 23-Oct. 3

Rick Hodes didn't plan on living in Ethiopia for 22 years. Indeed, when he arrived in the war-torn country in the late 1980s on a Fullbright Fellowship to teach internal medicine, he thought he'd stay for one. In 2007, Hodes was recognized as a CNN Hero for his extraordinary efforts to help save the lives of Ethiopian children. His work became a subject for an HBO documentary and a book, *This is a Soul: The Mission of Rick Hodes*. He shared his story with a crowd of 250 Concordia students, alumni and others in the Hall Building.

## 2011 Sept. 15-22

Concordia held its first Shuffle in 1990, the same year as the initial Homecoming. While in the early years the two were held separately, the annual walkathon has become a Homecoming fixture. It has brought thousands of Concordia students, staff, faculty members and alumni together for fun and fundraising. The 22nd Shuffle surpassed the \$1 million mark in donations for Concordia student scholarships and bursaries.



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

## HOMECOMING 2012 will be held Sept. 28-Oct. 11



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

Visit [concordia.ca/homecoming](http://concordia.ca/homecoming) for the full lineup.





NORMA JOSEPH, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RELIGION, AND CSABA NIKOLENYI, POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, CO-DIRECTORS OF THE AZRIELI INSTITUTE OF ISRAEL STUDIES.

## Israel from multiple lenses

Since its official launch at Concordia in June 2011, the Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies has developed at a rapid pace. Under the leadership of its co-directors, associate professor of religion Norma Joseph and political science professor and chair Csaba Nikolenyi, the institute is on a fast track to a bold national and international recognition.

The Azrieli Institute has made Concordia a leader in Israel Studies. “At present, only two other universities in the country offer Israel studies in the form of prestigious research chairs — the University of Calgary and the University of Toronto,” says Joseph.

The institute, founded thanks to a \$5-million gift from the Azrieli Foundation, is designed to provide a scholarly environment primarily for research and graduate student development in Israel studies. The institute’s mandate is to support the study of Israel across departments, encourage visiting professors in various fields with specialties related to Israel, and eventually offer an Israel studies minor. As well, Joseph and Nikolenyi stress that their mandate will be to provide

cross-disciplinary grants to students whose work is related to Israel.

The Azrieli Institute has already made its mark. This spring, Nikolenyi received the prestigious Schusterman Summer Institute of Israel Studies Fellowship, which consisted of a two-week program at Brandeis University in Boston followed by 10 days in Israel aimed to help participants develop syllabi for their programs. Using the fellowship support, Nikolenyi is developing a course on Israeli politics and government. It will be part of the forthcoming undergraduate minor, “a key component of our educational mandate,” he adds. “We hope to diversify in the future to include special mini courses, a certificate program, as well as webinars and online courses.”

Joseph notes that the institute will “support research, studies and students following individual scholarly interests in the subject across faculties: arts and science, business, fine arts and engineering — any area where students are interested in undertaking scholarship in issues related to Israel. As such, the institute is a neutral area for research and discussion so that the intellectual atmosphere can be stimulating without being hostile, to show the world that scholarship can be obtained in a healthy environment.”

The institute intends to begin making a name for itself in Israel Studies

through academic conferences and a series of visiting speakers. The first conference will launch the institute and the second will be the annual meeting of the Association of Israel Studies, the field’s flagship event, says Nikolenyi. “It will enhance our position and role in the academic community.”

“We look forward to having a visiting professor from one of many different fields whose work is related to Israel,” Joseph adds. “This person could come for a year, give one course and become a centre pole for a series of discussion groups for people doing research. The idea is to make Israel a case study for people thinking about models of economics, history, biology — or simply people who wish to be stimulated in open lectures and seminar groups.”

The co-directors concur that working with the Azrieli family and its foundation has been a wonderful experience. “The Azrieli Foundation is pleased to be involved in this creative endeavour,” says Joseph. “They have explicitly supported and encouraged the focus on scholarly development taking place here — not anything political, or involving insider knowledge, or work that’s particular to the Jewish world, but rather a scholarly project that would see Israel studies from a variety of contexts.”

— Jesse Staniforth



A RESEARCHER AT THE CENTRE FOR MICROSCOPY ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF CONCORDIA'S RICHARD J. RENAUD SCIENCE PAVILION.

## Four new research centres established at the Faculty of Arts and Science

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences is enjoying a bumper crop of new research centres.

Located in the Richard J. Renaud Science Pavilion on the Loyola Campus, the Centre for Microscopy at Concordia (CMAC) provides an array of high-performance microscopes for researchers across departments from biology and chemistry to psychology. "Microscopy is a tool that has been tied to many fields for many years, but technology has improved at such a pace that it allows us to do many more things than ever before," CMAC co-director Alisa Piekny explains. "The drive forward creates a demand to use these new techniques, but they're unfortunately very expensive. So it made sense to pool our resources."

The Centre for Clinical Research in Health (CCRH), to be housed within the Department of Psychology, is devoted to the study of psychological, social, behavioural and physiological aspects of mental and physical health. "We believe that research on physical and mental health can improve our ability to assess and treat physical and mental health problems, and that in turn, our interactions with clients during assessment and treatment can dramatically enhance our research," says CCRH director Adam Radomsky. Its research study of some of Canada's most common — and most

disabling — health problems, including anxiety disorders, substance abuse and chronic stress.

The Centre for Sensory Studies (CSS), under the direction of David Howes, fosters interdisciplinary study into the social, technological, aesthetic and commercial factors that influence sense perception. Founded in 2011, the CSS is built upon a unit called the Concordia Sensoria Research Team that has existed since 1988.

"Our main interest lies in taking the study of the senses and sense perception out of the laboratory and into everyday life or the art gallery, as well as back in history and across diverse cultures," Howes says.

The CSS's current projects include investigating differences between men's and women's sensibilities and exploring the augmentation of the senses and the possibility that their decline may be diminished by technology. Home to *The Senses and Society* journal and a number of book series, the CSS is hosting the Second International Congress on Ambiances this September in conjunction with the Canadian Centre for Architecture.

Finally, the faculty has seen the opening of the Centre for Iranian Studies (CIS), headed by Richard Foltz. The purpose of the CIS, says Foltz, is to promote a better understanding of Iranian culture, history and civilization. Prior to the CIS's establishment, he adds, there were no Iranian Studies centres or programs at any uni-

**"It's timely, it responds to immediate needs in the global scene, and we're off to a good start."**

versity in Canada and no more than four in North America. "Ever since the Iranian revolution over 30 years ago, there has been virtually no funding for studies and the field has virtually withered away," he explains. "What's missing in academia and public discourse is an appreciation and understanding of Iran's enormous role in the history of world civilization."

Speaking about the CIS, Foltz sums up the thoughts of all those involved in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences' new research centres. "Any new program-building effort in this economic climate depends heavily on community support," he says. "But we're filling a niche that was empty in North America. It's timely, it responds to immediate needs in the global scene, and we're off to a good start." ■

— Jesse Staniforth



For news on the full slate of recent and future Concordia Advancement and Alumni Relations events in Montreal, across Canada and the world over, visit [concordia.ca/alumni-giving](http://concordia.ca/alumni-giving).



1 2012 CUA A PRIZE



2

### 2012 CUA A PRIZE

New graduate Pier-Anne Mercier received the 2012 Concordia University Alumni Association (CUAA) prize in June for her artwork called *I was not quite sure I understood what was expected of me in a situation such as this one*. **1**

Mercier's multi-faceted, mixed-media piece came to life through a delicate process combining colours, material and shapes, she explained.

Surprised by her win, Mercier said it's a perfect ending to her four years of intense work and study. "The CUA A Prize gives me hope that I'm headed the right way artistically." Now in its 10th year, the \$1,000 prize is awarded to a graduating student whose work is showcased at the Graduating Students Exhibition. This year's winner was announced during the show's vernissage at the VAV Gallery in Concordia's Visual Arts Building on June 20, also the Faculty of Fine Arts' convocation day. Pictured at the event are (from left): **Tricia Middleton**, coordinator, Student Relations; **Jake Moore**, director, FOFA Gallery; **Pier-Anne Mercier**; **Kim Fuller**, prize-committee and board member, Concordia University Alumni Association; and **Catherine Wild**, dean, Faculty of Fine Arts. **2**

### ALUMNI TRAVEL: EXPLORING UNDISCOVERED ITALY

Stanley Wasilewski, BA 60, views the world through an artist's eyes. Having recently returned from Italy, he makes thoughtful, poetic observations as he shares the memories in his photo album.

The Sir George Williams University graduate, a retired school principal, and his wife Eva, also a Sir George Williams attendee, visited the undiscovered Italian region of Apulia with the Concordia University Alumni Travel Program. From their luxurious hotel overlooking the Adriatic Sea in Polignano a Mare **3**, the group enjoyed day trips to surrounding areas.

"Our local guide Daniella was superb," Stanley says. "In the many towns we visited, everyone knew her and greeted us warmly. Not only was she knowledgeable, she was our ray of sunshine. Roberto, our driver, was good natured, experienced and thoroughly knowledgeable of the terrain. Our lead tour guide, Mike, presented us with a daily agenda and was always helpful and attentive to all our needs." Having visited Italy several times before, the Wasilewskis had never seen the southern part of the country.

They had some experience with group travel but this was their first time travelling with a group of people they didn't already know. "Travelling with other university graduates proved to be a very enjoyable experience. We discussed books, other trips and all sorts of things with people who started off as complete strangers and came to be friends," says Eva.

"Exploring a part of the world with like-minded, university-educated travel companions is part of what makes the Concordia University Alumni Travel Program interesting," says Yanick Dahan, coordinator of marketing and alumni services. Nearly 90 Concordia alumni have participated in the Concordia University Alumni Travel Program since it was launched in 2008. The 2013 calendar features a wide variety of exotic destinations including India, Turkey and Haida Gwaii in British Columbia's Queen Charlotte Islands. (Visit [concordia.ca/alumni/travel](http://concordia.ca/alumni/travel).)

— Louise Morgan



3 Undiscovered Italy



## Alumni Recognition Awards

### Call for Nominations

Send your submission by November 16, 2012

All graduates, faculty members and staff, students and friends of Concordia University and its founding institutions, Sir George Williams University and Loyola College, are invited to nominate candidates for the Concordia University Alumni Association (CUAA) Recognition Awards, the highest honour bestowed by the association. The CUAA urges you to submit nominations for individuals who deserve to be recognized for their outstanding achievements, exceptional service to the advancement of Concordia or continued service to their community. Award recipients will be honoured at a special event in spring 2013. The awards are as follows:

#### Humberto Santos Award of Merit

This prestigious honour is awarded to an alumnus/a who has made a lifetime contribution of exceptional leadership and service to the university and community.

#### Alumnus/a of the Year Award

Awarded to an alumnus/a who has demonstrated professional excellence and community leadership.

#### Benoit Pelland Distinguished Service Award

Awarded to an alumnus/a who has demonstrated a long-term commitment of outstanding service to the alumni association and university.

#### Honorary Life Membership

Awarded to a non-graduate who has made a long-term commitment of outstanding service to the alumni association and/or university.

#### Outstanding Student Award

Awarded to a Concordia student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and contributions to student life.

#### Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching

Awarded to a member of Concordia's teaching staff who has proven to provide superior knowledge, teaching ability and availability to students.

#### MBA Alumnus/a of the Year Award

Awarded by the John Molson School of Business Alumni Chapter to an MBA alumnus/a with outstanding professional achievements and who has shown dedication to both the community at large and the university.

#### Outstanding Faculty/Staff Award

Awarded to a Concordia University faculty member or staff who has made an exceptional contribution to the alumni association or to the university community.

Visit [alumni.concordia.ca/events/awards](http://alumni.concordia.ca/events/awards) to complete a nomination form or contact Melanie Gudgeon: 514-848-2424, ext. 5647; [melanie.gudgeon@concordia.ca](mailto:melanie.gudgeon@concordia.ca).



## ADVERTISE IN Concordia University Magazine

*Concordia University Magazine* provides advertisers with an excellent and cost-effective way to reach our affluent and highly educated readers.

*Concordia University Magazine* is published quarterly – spring, summer, fall and winter – and mailed to more than 115,000 Concordia alumni, donors, faculty members and staff, as well as to media and opinion leaders across Canada and around the world.

For information about advertising rates and publication deadlines, contact:

**Yanick Dahan**  
Coordinator, Alumni Services & Marketing  
Phone: 514-848-2424, ext. 3819  
Fax: 514-848-4510  
Email: [Yanick.Dahan@concordia.ca](mailto:Yanick.Dahan@concordia.ca)

## THE 2012 SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY AND BANQUET

NOVEMBER 16, 2012

The Department of Recreation and Athletics and the Advancement and Alumni Relations Office are pleased to announce the induction of the following athletes, building and team into the Concordia University Sports Hall of Fame for 2012.

#### Athletes:

Helen M. Stewart, BA 65	John Erglis, attd 74
Sir George Williams, Sailing	Loyola, Men's Basketball
Caroline Assalian, BSc 89	Ronald Puskarich, BComm 76, MBA 78
Concordia, Women's Basketball	Loyola and Concordia, Men's Basketball

Builder: Michael Hickey

Team: Loyola Men's Basketball 1974-75

Congratulations to all inductees! For more information, contact Melanie Gudgeon: 514-848-2424, ext. 5647; [melanie.gudgeon@concordia.ca](mailto:melanie.gudgeon@concordia.ca).



Alumni with more than one degree from Concordia, Sir George Williams and/or Loyola are listed under their earliest graduation year.

**61 Thomas Kramer, BSc** (general sci.), BA (econ.) 62, retired as CEO of Penshu Inc., a major manufacturer of women's footwear. Now enjoying his retirement on Nun's Island (Montreal) and travelling, this year Thomas

celebrates his 50th anniversary of graduation and marriage.

**66 James Guy, BA**, recently retired from academia. A professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Political Science at Cape Breton University, he served as a PhD advisor at four Nova Scotia universities. James is author of five books, three of which were widely used

political science textbooks in Canada and the United States.

40TH REUNION

**72 Marguerite Mendell, BA**, is a professor in Concordia's School of Community and Public Affairs, director of the Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy and renowned for her

collaborative research on social economy. She recently received the inaugural Prix Pierre-Dansereau from the Association francophone pour le savoir.

**75 Clement Jodoin, BSc**, was appointed assistant coach of the Montreal Canadiens in June. Clement had been head coach of the Hamilton Bulldogs of the American Hockey League.



**1 Daniel Barkley, BFA** (cinema) 90, MFA (studio arts) 94, participated in two recent group exhibitions: "Re-Presenting the Nude II" in Santa Fe, N.M., July 6-31; and "God Save the Queen," which celebrated Queen's Elizabeth's 60 years on the throne, at Fofoune Electriques in Montreal, July 1-31. [evokecontemporary.com](http://evokecontemporary.com). 1) *Gateau Reine Elisabeth*

**2 Amir Baradaran, MA** (media studies) 08, presented *Marry Me to the End of Love*, an interactive performance at Arts Arena, Cité Internationale des Arts, in Paris, France, June 23-30. In the performance, Amir temporarily married anyone he could convince. [amirbaradaran.com](http://amirbaradaran.com) 2) Photo from *Marry Me to the End of Love*

**3 Susan Fowler, BFA** 90, and Uta Riccius, BFA 91, held a two-person exhibition called "Consumers and Collectors" at the OSA Gallery in the Shenkman Centre in Orleans, Ont., from March 1 to April 5. They are exhibiting together again in "Big Pictures/Small Things" at Karsh-Masson Gallery in Ottawa from November 9 to January 6, 2013. [susanfowlerart.com](http://susanfowlerart.com); [utariccius.com](http://utariccius.com) 3) *A Genus of Jellyfishes*

**4 David Elliott, MFA** (studio arts) 79, held an exhibit of his latest work, "La chambre enchantée," at Musée Rimouski in Rimouski, Que., from June 10 to September 16. 4) *La chambre enchantée*

**5 Rochelle Mayer, BComm** 83, BFA (studio arts) 10, participated in the following group exhibits: the Woman's Art Society of Montreal annual juried exhibition, March 29 to April 4; "Salon du printemps 2012 de l'Association des Artistes de LaSalle," April 18 to May 5; and "Le Salon des Arts Visuels de Brossard," April 27 to 29. [rochellemayer.ca](http://rochellemayer.ca) 5) *Au terminus*

**6 Robin Heather Campbell, BA** (Eng. & phil.) 73, **Nina Handjeva-Weller, BFA** 75, MA 90, Cert (TESL), **Diane Collet, BFA** 76, MA 03, **Claudine Ascher, BFA** 83, MA 06, **Christine Leduc, BFA** 90, **Audrey Killoran, BFA** 91, **Wah Wing Chan, BFA** (studio Arts) 92, **Marilyn Berzan-Montblanch, BFA** 96, and **Eric Busque, BFA** (inter. arts) 96, were part of an exhibition

## 35TH REUNION

**77 Norman E. Hébert, Jr.**, BComm, will serve as chairman of the board of directors of Fisker Automotive, a new car brand that has joined the Rolls-Royce Motors Cars Quebec dealership. Fisker has marketed the Karma as the first true luxury electric vehicle with extended range. Norman is president and CEO of Groupe Park Avenue Inc. in Montreal

and chair of Concordia's Board of Governors.

**80 Baruch Cohen**, BA, MA 85, received the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research's highest honour, the Lion of Judah Award, at its annual gala in June.

**Vladimir Pavlicik**, GrDip (DSA), GrDip (comm. studies) 93, was named as manager of Canada's men's soccer team for the 2013 Summer Universiade in Kazan, Russia. Vlad is associate

director of Concordia's Campus Recreation.

**84 Nancy Marrelli**, BA (hist.), was inducted as a fellow into the Association of Canadian Archivists in June. She was head of Concordia's Archives from 1983 to 2010 and was named archivist emerita. Nancy is best known to the Canadian archival community for her work in copyright, disaster recovery and planning, preservation management and the preservation of audio-visual records.

**85 Nancy Wood**, BA, began in April as the weeknight late-news anchor at CBC TV in Montreal. Nancy's nightly 10-minute local newscast appears between *The National* and *George Stroumboulopoulos Tonight*. She is former host of CBC Radio's *Radio Noon* and *Daybreak* and has worked for the *Toronto Star*, *Maclean's* and Montreal's *Gazette*.

**86 Kostas Andrikopoulos**, GrDip (acct.), is president and CEO of T.E. Wealth, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this October. Kostas says he



that featured the work of Canadian artists at the Embassy of Canada in Tokyo, Japan, from January 18 to March 26. 6) *Sky Canoe* by Robin Heather Campbell

**7 Jackie Rae Wloski**, BA 71, continues to work on her series of paintings based on the staircase in the new wing of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. One – *After The Meeting* – was displayed in the window of the Campbell Framing Gallery in Westmount, Que., in August and is now shown in the gallery. 7) *After The Meeting*

**8 Sharon Sutherland**, BFA 79, MFA 89, took first prize at the Women's Art Society of Montreal's annual juried exhibition, at Ogilvy's Tudor Hall from March 29 to April 4. There were 46 competing artists. 8) *Rodeo Riders*

**9 Ewa Monika Zebrowski**, BFA (photog.) 01, is presenting her photograph *Pont Champlain* at the McCord Museum from June 22 to January 13, 2013, as part of the permanent exhibition, "Montreal – Points of View." Ewa also had a solo show as part of "Les Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie en Gaspésie," from July 6 to September 10 in New Richmond, Que. She will have a solo show in late fall at Montreal gallery Art Mur. [ewazebrowski.com](http://ewazebrowski.com) 9) *Pont Champlain, Montreal*

**10 Jean Martin**, BFA 02, participated in a group exhibition at USINE 106U in Montreal from July 2 to July 30. 10) *Luttez*

**11 Khadija Baker**, BFA 07, exhibited at the "18th Biennale of Sydney" in Australia from June 27 to September 16. One of her art works, *Coffin-Nest*, consists of a nest-shaped coffin made out of clothes that Khadija collected from her friends and family in Syria and Montreal. [khadijabaker.com](http://khadijabaker.com). 11) *Coffin-Nest*



**Myer Horowitz**, BA 56, LLD 82, received an honorary doctorate June 14 from Royal Roads University in Victoria for his involvement as a community leader. Myer is chair of Royal Roads' Research Ethics Board, an adjunct professor of education studies and a member of the advisory board in the School of Communication and Culture. He received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in March.



**Pierre Jeannot**, BSc 57, LLD 97, was inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame at a ceremony June 14 at Montreal's Windsor Hotel. Pierre was president and CEO of Air Canada from 1984 to 1990 and director general and CEO of the International Air Transport Association in Montreal from 1992 to 2002. He's now president and CEO of Jinmag Investment and Management Services Inc. in Montreal.



**André Desmarais**, BComm 78, LLD 07, was awarded an honorary doctorate June 7 by McGill University. He is president and co-chief executive officer of Power Corporation of Canada. His philanthropic efforts have benefited organizations that include the Canadian Red Cross, the Alzheimer Society of Montreal, the Montreal General Hospital, the Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, and the Montreal Heart Institute.



**Nino Ricci**, MA 87, received an honorary doctorate June 14 by the University of Windsor. The acclaimed writer of *Lives of the Saints* and *The Origin of Species* has won a host of awards including the Governor General's Award for Fiction and the Books in Canada First Novel Award. Nino was recently recognized with the Order of Canada for his contributions to Canadian literature.



**Brian Marley-Clarke**, BComm 63, recently received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding volunteer and public service over many years. Canadian Governor General David Johnston (left) presented Brian with the award May 9 at the Diamond Jubilee Gala Dinner in Ottawa. Brian is a former senior executive in the Federal-Provincial Relations Office. He was a member of the fifth Garney Key Honour Society (1962), and executive member of Concordia University Alumni Association's Ottawa Chapter.

immediately became hooked on financial planning after drawing up his first plan while working as an accountant. "The process intrigued me, and I liked the idea of helping people with their financial lives." T.E. Wealth started as a boutique firm in Montreal and now has offices across Canada. It provides fee-based financial planning and education services. This fall, T.E. Wealth will host client appreciation events nationally in celebration of their milestone anniversary. [tewealth.com](http://tewealth.com)

**88 Howard E. Johnson**, BComm, is co-founder and managing director at Veracap Corporate Finance Ltd. in Toronto, where he specializes in corporate acquisitions, divestitures and shareholder value advisory services. Howard has received fellowships from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario and the Society of Management Accountants of Canada. He is author of several books, including his most recent, *Business Valuation*.

**89 Mark Moidel**, BFA, is a Montreal-born filmmaker. In June, his documentary *Planetary Defense* was broadcast on CTV for the fourth time. *Planetary Defense* shows how the scientific and military communities have begun to study options to mitigate an impact from asteroids, comets and other objects, collectively known as Near Earth Objects, which can and do occasionally collide with Earth.

**93 Anne Cimon**, BA, a Montreal poet and freelance writer, has recently published her sixth book, *A Room on the Mountain* (Gemma Books). A novella set in contemporary Montreal, it is both medical fiction and love story, described as "written in a graceful, lucid prose with evocative imagery."

**94 David O'Keefe**, BA, released his new documentary about the Dieppe raid, *Dieppe Uncovered*, to coincide with its 70th anniversary, on History Television in Canada and UKTV in Great Britain. The



**Gary Hoag**, BA 74, received a second GEM Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Ontario Public Service for his lifetime of advocacy of injured workers in June. Gary began his career with the Ontario Ministry of Labour in 1979. In 1991 he moved to the Office of the Worker Adviser, an independent agency that provides free services to non-unionized injured workers and their survivors in workplace insurance matters. Gary is pictured receiving the award with his daughters, Savannah (left) and Tarah.



**Mohamad El Sabawi**, BComm 02, became the first member of the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) based in the Middle East and North Africa region to be selected for the John T. Riordan Professional Education scholarship program. The professional development program was held in Belgium in July. He manages the high-end Wahat Hili Mall in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates. Mohamad (pictured, right) was also honoured by the CEO of ICSC, Mike Kercheval (left), at the Global Retail Real Estate Convention in Las Vegas, Nev., in May.

documentary is based on David's 15-year research journey to discover the hidden agenda behind the doomed raid.

## 15TH REUNION

**97 Andrew McIntosh**, BA, and **Kinia Adamczyk**, BA 08, are QMI Agency journalists. In March, they took home a Canadian Association of Journalists award in the computer-assisted reporting category for their French-language report, "On mange bien à Terrebonne." The two-part story, released October 3 and 4, 2011, revealed the voracious appetites and expensive tastes of 14 Terrebonne, Que., city managers.

**98 Régine Chassagne**, BA (comm. studies), **Sarah Neufeld**, BFA (electro. studies) 03, and **Richard Reed Parry**, BFA (electro. studies) 03, appeared with their group, Arcade Fire, along with the Foo Fighters when Mick Jagger hosted the NBC TV show *Saturday Night Live* on May 19.

**99 Yung Chang**, BFA, recently released his second documentary film, *China Heavyweight*, which garnered standing ovations at the Sundance and Hot Docs festivals. *Globe and Mail* film critic Liam Lacey calls Chang "one of our great young cinéma-vérité directors." The film tells the story of an amateur boxing school in a small rural village in Sichuan Province, China. As a metaphor for the change occurring in the new China, the coaches train young boys and girls to fight for the good of the nation, with a goal to reach the Olympics.

**00 Cecilia Grayson**, GrDip (transl.) 00, recently translated a book from German into English, *Urban Sprawl in Switzerland – Unstoppable? Quantitative Analysis 1935 to 2002 and Implications for Regional Planning* (Haupt-Verlag). The English and French translations appear in one volume and were coordinated by Jochen Jaeger, assistant professor of geography, planning and environment at Concordia.



**Susan Pepler**, BFA 84, exhibited her new paintings of vintage cars from Havana, Cuba, at the Annual Summer Exhibition in Knowlton, Que., July 21-22. Susan is pictured in one of the cars in Havana. "What I love about these giant gems is the joyful colours and incredibly creative designs, their unbelievable endurance even through the toughest of times; they continue to shine and never seem to tire of helping people get to where they need to be."

**06 Heather Jessup**, MA, is a doctoral candidate at the University of Toronto and a creative writing instructor at Dalhousie University. She was shortlisted in the 2012 Margaret and John Savage First Book Award for her first novel, *The Lightning Field* (Gaspereau Press). Set against the backdrop

of Cold War Toronto, the story follows the lives of Peter and Lucy Jacobs from their post-war courtship through marriage and child-rearing in the suburbs. Though spanning four decades, the book pivots on the events of a single day, October 4, 1957, when the Soviets launched the *Sputnik* satellite into orbit.

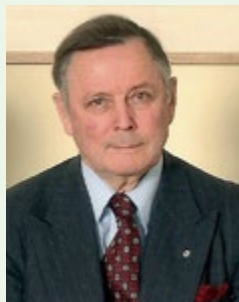


## Concordia Hon Docs:

*Concordia University bestowed eight honorary doctorates during its spring convocation ceremonies June 18 to 20 at Place des Arts. The distinguished recipients joined more than 5,000 students from across Concordia's four faculties and the School of Graduate Studies.*

### **General John de Chastelain, LLD**

12, is a retired Canadian military officer and former ambassador to the United States. He is an officer of the Order of Canada, a commander of the Order of Military Merit, a Companion of Honour (United Kingdom), a commander of the Order of St. John, a commander of the Legion of Merit (United States), and holds the Medal of Merit and Honour of Greece. He has received honorary doctorates from seven Canadian universities and is an Honorary Fellow of Lady Margaret Hall College, Oxford.



**Jane Doe, LLD 12**, is an author, teacher and activist who has had an important impact on both academic and civil reflections and actions regarding the effect of sexual assault on women's equality in Canada and internationally. Her story, contributions and brave struggle for justice are key and very much present in the study of law, women's studies, sociology and criminology.

### **Darren Entwistle, BA 86, LLD**

12, is president and CEO of Telus Corporation in Vancouver. Darren holds an MBA in finance from McGill University and a Diploma in Network Engineering from the University of Toronto. He sits on the Canadian Council of Chief Executives and McGill's Board of Governors, and is an honorary fellow of the Royal Conservatory. In 2010, Darren was named an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Conservatory and in 2003 he received the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal.



**Graham Fraser, LLD 12**, was appointed Canada's Commissioner of Official Languages in October 2006. During his long and distinguished career as a journalist, Graham wrote in both official languages on issues affecting Canada and Canadians. He has held important positions with the *Toronto Star*, *Maclean's*, Montreal's *Gazette*, *The Globe and Mail* and *Le Devoir*. Fraser was the first recipient of the Public Policy Forum's Hyman Solomon Award for Excellence in Public Policy Journalism. He has received two other honorary doctorates.



**Craig Kielburger, LLD 12**, is a *New York Times* bestselling author. He founded Free the Children, an organization that campaigns against child exploitation, and Me to We, a social enterprise that "transforms consumers into world changers." Craig holds a degree in peace and conflict studies from the University of Toronto and is the youngest-ever graduate of the Kellogg-Schulich Executive MBA program. He has received 10 honorary doctorates and degrees, the Roosevelt Freedom Medal and the World Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child (often called the Children's Nobel Prize), and is one of the youngest recipients of the Order of Canada.



**Marc Kielburger, LLD 12**, co-founded Free the Children and Me to We with his younger brother Craig. He graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University, completing a degree in international relations. Marc won a coveted Rhodes Scholarship and went on to complete a law degree at Oxford University. He has received six honorary doctorates and degrees for his work in education and human rights. He is also a member of the Order of Canada.



**Gaston J-M Kaboré, LLD 12**, is a Burkinabé filmmaker. Gaston studied history at Ouagadougou University in Burkina Faso and the Sorbonne in Paris and completed a diploma in directing at the École Supérieure d'Études Cinématographiques in Paris. His filmography includes more than 20 films and television productions, including four feature-length films that attracted considerable international attention. Gaston has been a member of the jury at several international film festivals, including Cannes in 1995.



**George Springate, BA 65, LLD 12**, was named Canada's senior citizenship judge in 2008. George is a former police officer, Member of the Quebec National Assembly and member of the 1970 Grey Cup-winning Montreal Alouettes. In 1973, he co-founded the Police Technology Department at John Abbott College in Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., where he taught criminal law and criminal evidence for 33 years.





**Rita Shane**, BA 37, July 6, Montreal. She was 95.

**Charles Guy Paré**, BA 38, Aug. 3, Montreal.

**Walter McPherson**, BA 46, BComm 50, May 4, Montreal. She was 88.

**Roland Picard**, BSc 46, June 30, Montreal. He was 98.

**George B. Houston**, BA 48, Apr. 4, Montreal. He was 85.

**Lillian Sheps**, BSc 48, Aug. 1, Penticton, B.C. She was 84.

**Frances L. Starkey**, BA 49, Apr. 24, Toronto. She was 97.

**Eric J.S. "Rick" Stafford**, BComm 50, July 5, Hawkesbury, Ont. He was 87.

**Julius Stracina**, BComm 50, June 3, Montreal. He was 89.

**George T. Griffin**, BA 52, July 19, Windsor, Conn. He was 82.

**Jenny Helfenbaum**, BA 52, July 30, Montreal. She was 84.

**Cecil W. de Bretigny**, BA 53, Apr. 30, Ottawa.

**Christopher Gleeson**, BSc 53, May 19, Montreal. He was 80.

**Leon Jedeikin**, BA 57, July 13, Montreal. He was 69.

**Edward Heft**, BComm 58, June 11, Montreal.

**Charles W. MacDonald**, BA 61, Apr. 11, Montreal.

**Anthony J. Meech**, BA 61, May 15, Montreal. He was 82.

**Natalie R. Polonsky LaRoche**, BA 64, Apr. 29, Toronto.

**Gary Joseph Zarta**, BSc 64, BA 81, June 12, Lachine, Que. He was 59.

**Marvin Segal**, BA 65, July 17, Montreal.

**John Edward Bates**, BComm 68, Apr. 17, Montreal. He was 75.

**Robert W. Barnes**, BA 68, June 2, Montreal. He was 70.

**Gloria Wallet**, BA 68, June 2, Bedford, Que. She was 71.

**Jason B. Wolfe**, BA 68, May 26, Montreal.

**Freda Greenstone**, BA 69, Apr. 24, Montreal.

**The Rev. Msgr. Barry Egan-Jones**, BComm 70, July 26, Montreal. He was 80.

**William Taylor Bryans**, BA 70, Apr. 23, Toronto. He was 63.

**Miles C. Tyrer**, BA 70, June 14, San Diego, Calif.

**Francois F. d'Entremont**, BA 71, June 1, LaSalle, Que. He was 77.

**Ruth Ilieff-Goldman**, BA 71, June 1, Montreal. She was 90.

**Donald Olmstead**, BA 72, July 13, Morin Heights, Que.

**J. William Corber**, BA 73, MA 79, May 28, Montreal. He was 98.

**Luis E. Cortez**, BEng 74, May 18, Montreal. He was 64.

**Esta Resnick**, BA 74, Apr. 19, Vancouver. She was 60.

**Marie W. Lloyd-Smith**, BA 75, Apr. 17, Montreal. She was 91.

**Miriam Shuchat**, MA 75, May 3, Montreal. She was 81.

**Andrew Emrich**, BEng 76, July 12, Mississauga, Ont.

**Ram Karnani**, MA 76, June 8, Dorval, Que. He was 86.

**Esther Greenberg**, BA 76, Apr. 23, Montreal. She was 92.

**Gabriel Sacratini**, BA 77, June 25, Montreal. He was 60.

**Ann Oles**, BA 78, Aug. 3, Montreal. She was 76.

**Maureen B. Teasdale**, BFA 78, May 21, Vancouver. She was 77.

**Dorothy E. Dunkley**, BA 79, July 29, Montreal. She was 88.

**Beryl P. Grant**, BA 79, Apr. 18, Chateaugay, Que.

**Brenda E. McGrath-Plescia**, MSc 79, May 2, Montreal. She was 67.

**Ruth E. Pow**, BA 79, May 23, Montreal. She was 42.

**Robert Basilico**, BA 80, May 23, Montreal. He was 55.

**Stacey Janett Charon**, BFA 81, Apr. 15, Montreal. She was 53.

**Stephen Craig Elliott**, BA 82, May 21, Montreal. He was 56.

**Margaret C. Mackasey**, BA 82, Apr. 7, Montreal. Margaret was 89.

**Helen Adams Meskinis**, BA 82, May 15, Montreal. She was 70.

**Dee Dee (Mendlovitz) Smilovitch**, BA 82, Aug. 2, Montreal. She was 74.

**Marjorie C. Lyng**, BA 84, Apr. 21, Montreal. She was 84.

**Ruth Esther Auersperg**, BA 85, June 21. She was 93.

**Dina Kabis**, BA 85, GrDip (DIA) 86, May 4, Montreal. She was 53.

**Bronwyn Chester**, GrDip 88, Aug. 2, Montreal. She was 54.

**Kevin Weaver**, BEng 88, Apr. 25, Ottawa. He was 47.

**Bruce G. Emo**, MFA 89, June 17, Montreal. He was 57.

**Jeffrey William Butler**, EMBA 90, July 31, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. He was 61.

**R. Edward Meredith**, BA 90, May 8, Montreal. He was 48.

**Sean Murphy**, BComm 90, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. He was 44.

**Meredith Hallett**, BA 91, MA 98, May 31, Montreal. She was 52.

**Anita Miller**, Cert 94, May 4, Montreal. She was 93.

**Phyllis Stern**, MA 97, June 10, Montreal. She was 64.

**Eric Noel**, BA 94, July 16, Ottawa. He was 43.

**Madeleine Shaw**, BA 99, May 5, Montreal. She was 67.

**Glenn Leonard Brook**, BFA 00, MA 02, PhD 09, June 1, Montreal. He was 53.

**Janice Ann Grover**, BFA 03, May 5, Montreal. She was 56. ■

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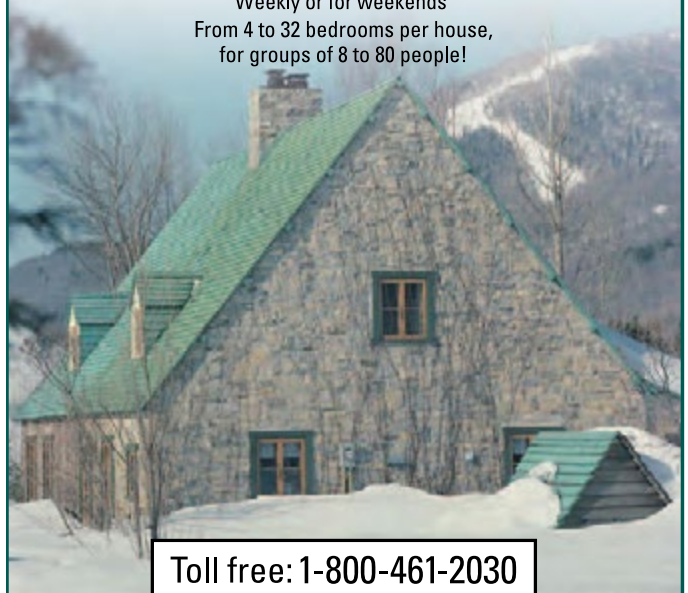
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# Sweet Sixteen, Secrets and St. John's

**The Sweet Sixteen: The Journey that inspired the Canadian Women's Press Club** (McGill-Queen's University Press, \$34.95), by Concordia journalism chair and associate professor **Linda Kay**, MA (media studies) 01, traces how a single train ride in 1903 revolutionized journalism in Canada. A

vote, were not regarded as persons under the law, and were professional journalists at a time when marriage and motherhood were considered a woman's true calling."

**Secrets of the Dunes: A Hannah and Emily Morgan Mystery 2** (McArthur & Company, \$9.99), is the

\$26.95). James Miranda Barry is a brilliant and eccentric military surgeon in 19th-century England. While travelling through the British colonies to treat soldiers, and experiencing various love adventures, Barry must keep secret the fact that *he* is actually *she*.

Case Competition. [purplechips.com](http://purplechips.com)

**Patricia Grattan**, BA 66, was director of Memorial University's Art Gallery (later known as the Art Gallery of Newfoundland and Labrador) for more than 20 years. Her book **City Seen: Artists' Views of St. John's**



young Ottawa reporter, Margaret Graham, asked a CP publicist for the same press pass her male colleagues were given to attend the St. Louis World Fair. He said if she could find 12 accredited female writers, he'd escort them to St. Louis himself. She found 15 others — and the group was soon dubbed the "Sweet Sixteen." "I became intrigued by the story of a club forged on a railway car — a quintessential Canadian beginning," Kay explains in the book's engaging introduction. She documents the struggles of these talented women "who did not have the right to

second story in a series by Quebec and Prince Edward Island teacher and former financial journalist **Julianna Tunde Kozma**, BA 89. Amateur detectives Hannah and her younger sister Emily take readers on an enchanting journey to beautiful P.E.I., where evidence of the lost city of Atlantis has been found. Kozma's first book, *Mosquitoes of Summer*, won the 2009 Book Idol award.

**Sylvie Ouellette**, BA (journ.) 95, recently published her first novel, **Le Secret du Docteur Barry** (JCL edition,

**Purple Chips: Winning in the Stock Market with the Very Best of the Blue Chip Stocks** (Wiley & Sons, \$23.95), by **John N. Schwinghamer**, BComm (fin.) 84, presents concise stock-market investment advice, counselling readers on when to buy and sell to make modest gains often and only occasional losses. The book's succinct chapters include many examples, graphs and charts. Schwinghamer is a portfolio manager with ScotiaMcLeod in Montreal and a lead judge for Concordia's John Molson MBA International

**1785-2010** (WinterPlace Projects, \$44.95) is a beautifully designed volume that includes artwork with extended captions, artists' biographies, text on the visual arts in St. John's, excerpts from historical journals and poems by several contemporary Newfoundland writers. To recognize her contributions to development of the visual arts in Canada, the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts awarded Grattan its 2012 RCA Medal and, in 2010, she received a Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Museums Association. [winterplaceprojects.com](http://winterplaceprojects.com) ■



## Education for a Surreal World

BY MICHEL CHOQUETTE, BA 62

My parents didn't send me to university so I'd end up juggling on television or warding off hate mail for my contributions to a satirical magazine. And they certainly didn't count on my going bankrupt compiling a book of comics — especially since as a kid I had to sneak comics past my father. The way my mother saw it, I was going to be a corporate lawyer. But her wish never came true.

By the time I was attending Sir George Williams in the early 1960s I was hooked on comedy. I'd already recorded some of my satirical songs and was parodying beat poets at Montreal night spots. A half-hearted effort at grad studies in ancient Mesopotamian languages at the University of Pennsylvania did nothing to rid me of the habit. Indeed, Samuel Noah Kramer, the eminent Sumerologist whose books had drawn me there, pulled me aside one day to suggest: "Shawgett, why don't you just go and write more funny songs."

And I did. Over the next few years I toured Canada and made forays into the United States, performing my offbeat material. Then, in Vancouver, for no other reason than it seemed a crazy idea, I persuaded a British blues singer named Peter Elbling to join forces with me as the Times Square Two. Our comedic output, which incorporated the aforementioned juggling, could best be described as



### THE TIMES SQUARE TWO *Big Time New York Act*

THE TIMES SQUARE TWO IN THE MID-'60S (FROM LEFT): PETER ELBLING AND MICHEL CHOQUETTE.

surrealized vaudeville. We soon moved to the U.S. and grew strangely popular, notably on national television.

My partner's 1969 decision to break up the act was a shocker. I wallowed for a respectable amount of time, then resurfaced to write a demented letter to the editors of the nascent *National Lampoon*. Within days

I was sworn in as a contributing editor. My three-year stint at *Lampoon* boiled down to being paid for creating material few other glossy magazines would touch, including a photo spread of a Hitler look-alike basking

nude on tropical beach and a slew of edgy comics often illustrated by top Marvel and DC artists.

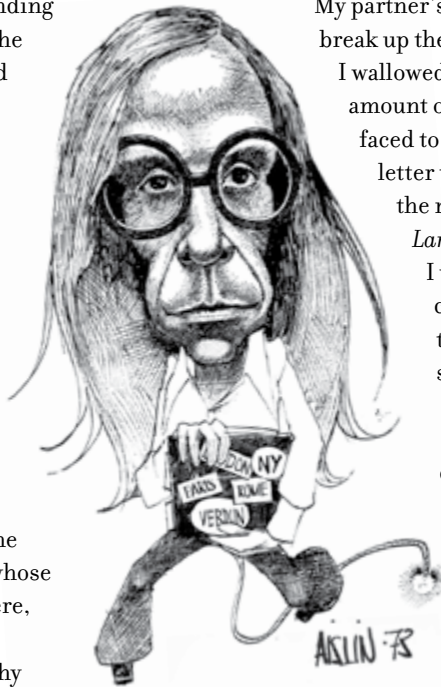
When *Rolling Stone* editor and publisher Jann Wenner asked me to commission a 20-page insert of original comics about the 1960s, we had no idea the project would balloon into a book venture with the participation of dozens of international figures from across the arts. It would send me hopping around

the globe and gradually pull me away from *National Lampoon*. But *Rolling Stone* eventually decided it was too expensive and backed out. Harper & Row took over for a while but then also withdrew. I was left holding the bag, with 169 unpaid contributors, including some of those Marvel and DC artists, the creators of European classics like *Astérix*, *Lucky Luke* and *Barbarella*, cartoonists known for their work in *MAD*, *Playboy*, the *New Yorker* and *National Lampoon* and several pioneers of the underground comics world — not to mention Tom Wolfe, Pierre Berton, William S. Burroughs, Federico Fellini, Penelope Tree, Frank Zappa, and a few others in need of a career change.

I spent nearly five years trying to raise money to publish the book privately. But by 1978, emotionally and financially drained, I had to call it quits. I put the project in storage, took a job behind a bar, and shortly after declared personal bankruptcy. I stuck it out at the bar for four years before landing more inspiring work directing documentary films at the National Film Board and, in 1984, creating a screenwriting course at McGill University — one I then started teaching at Concordia as well.

It amazes no one more than me that I've now had a respectable job in academia for 28 years. My parents lived long enough to convince themselves that perhaps this was why they'd sent me to university after all. And on that rather staid note this account could end, if it weren't for the fact that very recently my old comic-book history of the '60s reared its head unexpectedly. In 2011, it was published by Abrams ComicArts as *The Someday Funnies*, enabling me at last to pay the artists and writers or their heirs for the strips. As a cartoon character who looks an awful lot like me proclaims from the dust jacket: "Better 39 years late than never." ■

*Michel Choquette teaches creative writing and screenwriting at Concordia.*



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