



## Métis-sur-Montréal 2018 Fields of Memory by Dominique Blain

Montréal, July 3, 2018 – As part of the 10th edition of the event *Métis-sur-Montréal*, the Château Ramezay – Historic Site and Museum of Montréal and Reford Gardens is presenting the installation *Fields of Memory*. This work, by artist Dominique Blain, provides an opportunity to reflect on the First World War. The installation will be presented at Place De La Dauversière from July 3 to November 18, 2018.

*Fields of Memory* commemorates the 100th anniversary of the 1918 Armistice, which marked the end of the First World War. The installation is inspired by the story of George Stephen Cantlie, a soldier from Montréal who picked flowers in the gardens, fields and hedges of war-torn Europe and sent them to his granddaughter in Montréal. By evoking a landscape damaged by war, the work prompts a reflection on today's reality, with a message that is both poetic and political. In the heart of Montréal's historic district, the public is invited to admire how beauty can emerge from destruction.

Dominique Blain is a Canadian artist who lives and works in Montréal. For over 30 years, her work has explored the relationship between civilization and oppression, History and the amnesia, using the evocative power of aesthetics. Internationally renowned, Blain has exhibited her work in several North American and European cities as well as in Australia. She won the Prix Paul-Émile-Borduas in 2014 and the Prix Les Elles de l'Art in 2009.

The installation *Fields of Memory* is presented **free of charge** from July 3 to November 18, 2018, at Place De La Dauversière, situated between the Château Ramezay and Place Jacques-Cartier, across from Montréal City Hall. The same history that inspired this work also served as inspiration for the travelling exhibition *Fleurs d'ARMES*, which will be presented in fall 2018 at the Château Ramezay.

Jardins de Métis, also known as the Reford Gardens, is located at the gateway to the Gaspé Peninsula, beside the majestic Saint Lawrence River. It has been classified as a historic monument by the Quebec government. Some 3,000 species and varieties are displayed, in addition to the 25 contemporary gardens of the 19<sup>th</sup> International Garden Festival. The site is acclaimed for its successful marriage of horticulture and gastronomy. Visit www.refordgardens.com to learn more.

The Château Ramezay – Historic Site and Museum of Montréal, a non-profit organization, safeguards and makes accessible a collection that reflects and attests to the history of Montréal and Quebec. It was the first building in Quebec to be classified an historic monument and is the province's oldest private historical museum. Visit our website: <u>chateauramezay.qc.ca</u>

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