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IMAGINE

The Peace Ballad of John & Yoko

Exclusively at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
April 2 to June 21, 2009

"It's time for Action. Action is peace. I love you!" Yoko

Montreal, April 2, 2009 – In 1969, John Lennon and Yoko Ono's famous Bed-in, held from May 26 to June 2 in Suite 1742 of Montreal's Queen Elizabeth Hotel, made headlines around the world. Forty years later The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts will celebrate this legendary event with *Imagine: The Peace of John & Yoko,* from April 2 to June 21, 2009, organized in collaboration with Yoko Ono.

This multidisciplinary exhibit will be presented exclusively in Montreal, curated by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts under the direction of Nathalie Bondil. Rekindling the philosophy behind John Lennon and Yoko Ono's commitment for today's world, this comprehensive exhibit will provide a picture of the historical and political context in 1969 that formed the backdrop to the Bed-in, as well as explore the wide-ranging artistic and musical dialogue in the name of peace conducted by the pop icon and the conceptual artist with ties to the fluxus group.

The exhibit will consist of some 140 works, drawings, unpublished photographs, videos, films, artworks and interactive material will convey the famous couple's message of universal peace. Furthermore, visitors will be able to play "Imagine" on a white piano with Disklavier sound system, write down their wishes and tie them to Yoko Ono's Wish Tree, stamp "Imagine Peace" on maps of the world, and read the works of certain Nobel Peace Prize winners.

Admission to Imagine: The Peace Ballad of John & Yoko exhibit at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts will be free at all times. This will allow for the widest possible public to understand, be moved by, and perpetuate this still-topical peace message.

The exhibition *Imagine: The Peace Ballad of John & Yoko* benefits from the financial support of Amel Chamandy owner of Galerie NuEdge.

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John Lennon & Yoko Ono. Montreal Bed-in, 1969, Yoko Ono Lennon Collection, New York. Photo: Ivor Sharp/® Yoko Ono