



NIKI DE SAINT PHALLE: THE BEACON OF OUR FALL SEASON

PLENTY OF EXCITING CULTURAL ACTIVITIES PLANNED
TO CELEBRATE THE ARTIST

Québec City, Tuesday August 26, 2025

“A renegade, utopian, artist extraordinaire still makes us think and smile (...) Her art is fun and buoyant, sexy and dogmatic, madcap and, yes, on the edge of psycho. (...) Prepare to be entranced, submerged, and charmed.”

– Brian T. Allen, *National Review*

Niki de Saint Phalle. The 1980s and 1990s: Art Unleashed, featured at the Musée until January 4, 2026, is receiving glowing reviews. Acclaimed by critics and audiences alike, the Franco-American artist's work will continue to be a beacon this fall season at the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec.

With its 150 works and spectacular design, the exhibition is truly impressive, both in style and in content. The Musée is delighted to be sharing the exuberance and relevance of Niki de Saint Phalle, an artist who focused on colour and chose joy as a weapon of resistance. Her uplifting works have an extraordinary impact on amateurs and connoisseurs alike.

The Musée has planned cultural programming that colours outside the lines this fall in honour of the influential international artist. Our scheduled activities will provide visitors with a more immersive experience and give them the chance to “Phalle” into Niki’s world.

Our fall 2025 program reflects our desire to create distinctive and memorable experiences. Enjoy!



EXPERIENCING NIKI IN 1,001 WAYS

One of the events you won’t want to miss this fall is seeing **Bloum Cardenas**, Niki de Saint Phalle’s granddaughter, at the Musée on **November 7**. As part of the Niki Charitable Art Foundation, she strives to spread and promote understanding of her grandmother’s transformative, dedicated, and feminist work. This occasion for unprecedented sharing is one of a series of lectures and major events that will take place at the Musée this fall.

One of the original activities on the cultural program is Guided Meditation: 100 People Inspired by Temperance. This guided meditation will take place by candlelight in the Grand Hall of the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion on **December 9**. Take this unique opportunity to meditate under the beneficent gaze of Saint Phalle’s monumental *Angel of Temperance*, which currently stands in the glass-walled space looking out on the Grande Allée. Marie-Ève Lécine, teacher and founder of Let it Be Méditation, will provide guidance to help us slow down, open up our inner space, and let gentleness flow through. Breathe and recentre collectively in an unusual space—a Zen activity worth experiencing.

In November, a different meditation activity will draw interest: The Space Within: Meditating with Niki de Saint Phalle. There will be three dates for the activity, located in the feature exhibition’s galleries this time, on **November 15, 23, and 29**. Participants will enjoy a sensitive, introspective experience that follows in the

footsteps of Niki de Saint Phalle, using joy as a tool of resistance. A creative workshop will follow to channel and circulate the vibrant energy generated by the meditation journey.

An Apéro découverte on **October 15** will present an opportunity to discover an artist with a dual identity like Niki de Saint Phalle. **Marion Cousineau**, who splits her time between Europe and North America, will perform a unique repertoire that takes a perceptive and sensitive look at the world through a free, feminist voice.



At the end of November, the Musée will host **DANSER NIKI**, a stunning interaction between dance and visual arts. Directed by **Harold Rhéaume**, the show is presented by six women from **Le fils d'Adrien danse** dance company. In harmony with *Niki de Sainte Phalle. The 1980s and 1990s: Art Unleashed*, it showcases the power of the female body in its expression of freedom and joy as well as alienation and rebellion. This original creation is part of the **Danser au Musée** series Le fils d'Adrien danse has been producing in collaboration with the MNBAQ since 2018, an innovative initiative that yields unforgettable artistic interactions.

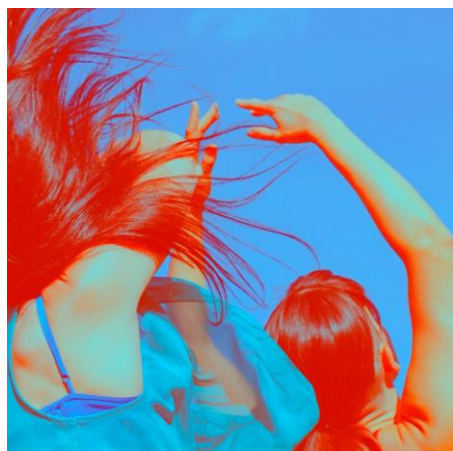
ADDITIONAL DATES FOR SUCCESSFUL ACTIVITIES

Given the success of several activities that were launched in June, more dates have been added to the fall program. The activities include Creative Cartomancy: Niki de Saint Phalle and the Tarot, which combines a themed tour with a creative workshop; Ciné-mercredis Niki, which present unreleased films about the artist; guided tours, including the stroller museum tour; and creative workshops for all. These activities echo the spirit of the international exhibition that has crowds flocking to the Musée.

CLASSICS AND ESSENTIALS

From September 10 to 14, 2025, the **Festival de cinéma de la ville de Québec** will launch the fall season at the Musée, with an inspired program aimed at cinephiles who love going to the Sandra and Alain Bouchard Auditorium in the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion.

Le FIFA Year-Round will continue to show an art film one Sunday per month for fans of the genre to enjoy in the comfort of the Musée's Auditorium.



Dance will also take centre stage, with the **Danse K par K** troupe in residence for *Osez!* 2025. Working together to develop an ephemeral, spontaneous, vibrant work, three choreographers from three different countries—Canada, France, and Belgium—will lend their vision to a joint creation in collaboration with 12 Québec performers and a live musician.

Creation before the public: September 9 to 13, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Official performances: September 12, 7 p.m. and September 13, 1:15 and 5:45 p.m.

Popular events that will delight our loyal Musée audience include the classical concerts of the Conservatoire de musique de Québec's teachers' series (**October 10, 2025, and January 23 and March 6, 2026**) and the lunchtime concerts of the students' series (**October 30, November 6, and December 11, 2025**). Music lovers will be thrilled to see them on the program.

Family and morning museum yoga sessions are back in time for the fall colours, as are creative workshops, including model sketching workshops, starting October 22. Mark your calendars!

Check the detailed schedule to see our ever-evolving programming:

[Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec website](#)

THE MUSÉE'S SATELLITE PROJECTS

Prix Lynne-Cohen 2025

Following **Maryse Gaudreau** (2017), **Jinyoung Kim** (2019), **Laurence Hervieux-Gosselin** (2021), and **Leila Zelli** (2023), who will receive the next Prix Lynne-Cohen in November 2025?

Presented once every two years by the Estate of Lynne Cohen in collaboration with the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (MNBAQ) and its Fondation, the award is intended to support the practice of emerging professional visual artists from Québec who focus primarily on photography. The award includes \$10,000 and a video portrait produced and directed by the MNBAQ, which highlights the artist's creations and will be posted on all MNBAQ platforms. The jury will meet this fall to select the emerging artist who will earn that honour.

The Café Rosa mural: unveiling the chosen artist

Who will create the ceramic mural for the new Café Rosa at Espace Riopelle? A call for proposals went out last spring to artisan members of the Conseil des métiers d'art du Québec to find someone to create a distinctive emblematic work that will adorn one of the walls of the café area.

Located on the first floor of the building, which is currently under construction and will be inaugurated in fall 2026, the wall chosen for the mural will be visible from the entrance. Given that, the work will draw the eyes of visitors to the site. The creation must reflect the identity of the space, follow a specific colour palette, and offer an aesthetic experience inspired by the world of Jean Paul Riopelle, particularly his landmark work, *Tribute to Rosa Luxemburg* (1992). It should blend harmoniously into its environment, add to the ambience of Café Rosa, and encourage visitors to reflect. An exciting prospect!

ESPACE RIOPELLE, ALREADY SHAPING THE LANDSCAPE



The building's silhouette is becoming more pronounced by the day. The site is teeming with workers of all kinds. Specialists in steel structures, timber frames, and concrete give their all alongside experts in masonry, mechanical engineering, glass, and even landscaping. All in all, around 65 workers are proudly taking part in one of Québec's biggest cultural projects.

They made the most of the summer to complete the steel framework and impressive wooden structure of the new hall, as well as the roof made up of cascading triangles. The mechanical and electrical systems are progressing, and the glass curtain walls are currently being manufactured. This fall, they'll be tackling the interior so they can deliver the building to the Musée's teams on schedule next spring.

Preparing the exhibitions

Meanwhile, the Musée's collections teams are restoring and preparing works by Jean Paul Riopelle from the historic donation the MNBAQ received in 2021, particularly from patrons Michael Audain and Pierre Lassonde. Other teams are designing the inaugural exhibitions, including the artist's

flagship exhibition, which promises to captivate visitors with a selection of never-before-seen pieces. It will be an exceptional showcase of Québec's leading artist. **Everything is being done to ensure that the first visit to Espace Riopelle will be unforgettable... in fall 2026.**

Find out all about the Espace Riopelle project at the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec
Espace Riopelle

PRESS CONTACTS

Linda Tremblay

Media Relations Officer, MNBAQ

418 262-4681 | linda.tremblay@mnbaq.org

Montréal

Rosemonde Gingras

Rosemonde Communications

514 458-8355 | rosemonde@rosemondecommunications.com

PHOTO CREDITS

Page 1 – Photo : MNBAQ, Emmanuelle Letendre-Levesque

Page 2 – From left to right : Photos : MNBAQ, Emmanuelle Letendre-Levesque et David Cannon

Page 3 – From left to right : Photo : © Emilie Dumais // *The Angel of Temperance*, a monumental work by Niki de Saint Phalle in the Grand Hall of the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion at the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec. Photo : MNBAQ, David Cannon // Photo : © Marie Olivier

Page 4 – Photo : Courtesy of Danse K par K

Page 5 – Photos : MNBAQ, Loïc Lefebvre

Partners



LE FILS D'A.DRIEN D.ANSE
HAROLD RHÉAUME

ENTENTE
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT CULTUREL



*The Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec is a state corporation
funded by the Gouvernement du Québec.*



GENERAL INFORMATION

OPENING HOURS OF THE MNBAQ*

Until September 7, 2025

Monday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesdays, until 9 p.m.

From September 8, 2025, 2025

Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesdays, until 9 p.m.

**During the construction of the Riopelle Space, only the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion is open.*

ADMISSION*

Ages 31 to 64 : **25 \$**

Seniors (65 and Over) : **24 \$**

Ages 18 to 30 : **18 \$**

Ages 13 to 17 : **8 \$**

Families (2 adults accompanied up to 5 children
aged 17 and under) : **54 \$**

12 years and under : **free**

Members : **free**

Wednesdays from, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. : **half-price**

First Sunday of every month : free | 19 and under

The Indigenous communities : free

**Save money when you buy a ticket online*

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Parking, Bookshop-Boutique, Wi-Fi access, free
wheelchairs, self-service cloakroom and Baby
Changing Room

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR [NEWSLETTER](#)

An excellent way to stay up to date on news, events
and activities at the Musée!

FOLLOW US

