

**WITH *SISYPHUS*, VICTOR PILON CONTINUES HIS MARATHON
PERFORMANCE AT THE OLYMPIC STADIUM
UNTIL OCTOBER 27 – FREE ACCESS**



Sisyphus, a performance marathon by Victor Pilon, 2021. Photo Louis-Daniel Vallée

Montreal, October 11, 2021 – The multidisciplinary creator Victor Pilon offers the first solo performance of his career: *Sisyphus, a performance marathon*. Produced by Lemieux Pilon 4D Art, with the support of the Olympic Park and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA), and with the music of Montreal’s Dear Criminals, this emotional, mental, and physical performance, which summons the authenticity and absurdity of existence, is open to the public free of charge at the Olympic Stadium until October 27.

6 days a week, 7 hours a day, for 30 days, Victor Pilon tirelessly moves his mountain of sand with a simple shovel. Since September 28, he has moved equivalent of **144 tonnes of sand** from one mound to another and taken more than **360,000 steps** in the shoes of the legendary Sisyphus, whose perpetual struggle he embodies in all its beauty and suffering.

“Throughout the performance close connections happen with the people around me. Each member of the audience gives me energy to continue my quest. And, when I give the shovel to a member of the audience, an emotional bond is created when for a few moments, the person becomes Sisyphus” confides **Victor Pilon**.

“As the first museum activity to be held within the walls of the Olympic Stadium in 45 years, *Sisyphus* is the result of a long relationship between the Olympic Stadium and artist Victor Pilon. We invite all Montrealers to come and see this free artistic performance, where the East Hall becomes Tartarus for a moment, to welcome this original work,” says **Michel Labrecque**, president and CEO of Olympic Park.

“The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts is delighted to collaborate in the presentation—outside its walls—of Victor Pilon’s new creation, which reminds us that every life deserves to be lived to the fullest, in spite of the trials and tribulations we encounter along the way,” emphasizes **Stéphane Aquin**, Director, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

The origins of *Sisyphus*

The idea for this ambitious performance by Victor Pilon crystallized after a personal tragedy. Albert Camus's text *The Myth of Sisyphus* offered not only a way of working through this difficult time but also a philosophical underpinning for the performance. In this work, the punishment of Sisyphus is a metaphor for the human condition. For Camus, the awareness of absurdity can liberate man, free him from an illusory hope and make him understand the value of enjoying the present moment.

Sisyphus, a performance marathon by Victor Pilon

September 28 – October 27, 2021

Tuesday to Sunday, 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The performance is presented in the East Hall of the Montreal Olympic Stadium

4545 Pierre-De Coubertin Avenue (Pie-IX station)

Free admission. Proof of vaccination with QR code required.

sisyphe.ca

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About Lemieux Pilon 4D Art

Founded in Montreal in 1983-84, Lemieux Pilon 4D Art is a multidisciplinary company with more than 40 original productions to its credit. Internationally recognized for their mesmerizing fusion of dance, theatre, music, visual arts and film, Michel Lemieux and Victor Pilon are the dynamic duo who create unique hybrid productions that merge the real and the virtual, the performing arts and multimedia. Lemieux Pilon 4D Art's avant-garde productions are lauded throughout Quebec, across Canada and around the world. 4dart.com

About the Olympic Park

Created November 1, 2020, following the adoption of Bill 15, the Olympic Park (Société de développement et de mise en valeur du Parc olympique (SDMVPO)) replaces and modernizes the mission of the Régie des installations olympiques (1975-2020). The Olympic Park has a dual mandate to develop, manage, promote, and operate its facilities and to showcase its Olympic heritage and legacy. The Olympic Park manages five main assets: the Olympic Stadium, the largest amphitheatre in the country; the Montreal Tower, the tallest inclined tower in the world; the Sports Centre, Canada's leading aquatic center; the Esplanade and outdoor areas, the city's premier gathering place and event venue; and the largest underground car park in the country. A bold architectural creation by Roger Taillibert, the Olympic Park was built both to host the 1976 Summer Games and as the home of the Montreal Expos baseball club (1977-2004). Since its inauguration, it has hosted thousands of sporting, cultural, social, civic, and public events, shaping Quebec's event history, with over one hundred million visitors since its inauguration. Forty-five years after its construction, the Olympic Park is a site of undeniable heritage value, particularly in terms of history, emblematic architecture, and urban planning. parcolympique.qc.ca

About the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

Founded in 1860, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) is the oldest art museum in Canada and a leading museum in North America. Its collection showcases Quebec and Canadian heritage and international art from a critical and intercultural perspective, and comprises some 45,000 paintings, sculptures, graphic art works, photographs,

multimedia installations and decorative art objects dating from antiquity to the present. The MMFA's exhibitions span every discipline from archaeology to fine arts, to contemporary practices. Laid out over five interconnecting pavilions, the Museum complex includes over 80 exhibition galleries, the Bourgie concert hall, an auditorium and movie theatre, the Boutique and Bookstore, an in-house publishing department, a public sculpture garden and the Michel de la Chenelière International Atelier for Education and Art Therapy. A pioneering museum in the provision of art therapy, the MMFA works with the community, education, health and technology sectors to give all people exposure to art through inclusive and enriching experiences. mbam.qc.ca