

**communiqué /press release****For immediate release****FOUR PHOTOGRAPHERS VISIT QUÉBEC:****SIPPRELL, MOSER, VOLKERDING, KAWAMATA**

From 10 May to 15 October 1995

**Montréal, 8 May 1995** — As part of a series of exhibitions dedicated to photography, the Canadian Centre for Architecture presents **Four Photographers Visit Québec: Sipprell, Moser, Volkerding, Kawamata** in the octagonal gallery, from 10 May to 15 October 1995.

Focusing on the theme of travel as a source of inspiration, the exhibition presents the personal vision of four photographers who visited Québec between the 1920s and today. These artists from elsewhere turn their attention to architecture and its environment, offering a view of Québec society from the perspective of their own culture. The twenty-six works in the exhibition— all taken from the CCA's Photographs Collection — bring together the distinctive approaches and unique observations of each of these photographers.

Born in Canada, but having emigrated to the United States at the age of ten, Clara Sipprell (Tillsonburg, Ontario 1885–Manchester, Vermont 1975) was moved by the life of the small communities along the Saint Lawrence and in the Gaspé peninsula that she visited in the late 1920s. Her photographs, where the architecture dissolves into the surrounding landscape, celebrate the romantic myth of a bygone Québec in harmony with nature.

In contrast, the photographs of Lida Moser (born in New York in 1920) – commissioned by *Vogue* magazine in 1950 – document in a direct and expressive manner the vernacular architecture of urban and rural Québec before the Quiet Revolution. Impressed by the distinctiveness of the culture and society she discovered, Moser presented to American readers her experience of a Québec rich in differences. Through its generosity and sensitivity, her distinctive work communicates the artist's interest in people and their milieu, her appreciation of their arts and traditions, and her passion for life.

More introspective is the approach of Laura Volkerding (born in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1939), who draws her inspiration from the artisan's world. Invited in 1987 to photograph aspects of the construction of the new CCA building, Volkerding also captured the interiors of Québec workshops specializing in the restoration of architectural elements and stonework – thus enriching a project she had already begun in Europe and the United States. Showing tools and materials, the images convey both the mystery surrounding and the respect connected with these places of expertise.

The work of Tadashi Kawamata (born in Mikasa, Japan, in 1953) constitutes a reflection on the ephemeral nature of human constructions. In 1991 he came to Montréal to continue his "Field Work" series, in which he would build small makeshift structures at different sites in the city from material he found here. The permanence of such temporary architecture is ensured by the photograph that becomes the sole trace of these fugitive acts.

The exhibition reflects viewpoints that, through different approaches and in different ways, express the values and concerns of foreign artists.

**Four Photographers Visit Québec: Sipprell, Moser, Volkerding, Kawamata** is organized by Louise Désy, Curatorial Assistant with the CCA's Photographs Collection. It will be presented as part of the "Mois de la Photo à Montréal" programme in September 1995.

<p><b>ADDRESS:</b></p>	<p>1920 Baile Street, Montréal, Québec, Canada H3H 2S6</p>
<p><b>OPENING HOURS: Museum and CCA Bookstore</b></p>	<p>October to May: Wednesday and Friday, 11 am to 6 pm; Thursday, 11 am to 8 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm</p> <p>June to September: Tuesday to Sunday, 11 am to 6 pm; Thursday, 11 am to 8 pm</p>
<p><b>ADMISSION:</b></p>	<p>Adults: \$5, students and seniors (with cards): \$3; groups rates for 10 persons or more: \$4 and \$2, respectively (reservations for groups are required)</p> <p><b>Free admission:</b> Friends of the CCA; holders of ICOM, CMA, and SMQ cards; children 12 and under; students (Thursday); the general public (Thursday from 6 pm to 8 pm)</p> <p>Guided tours of the CCA (all year) and the CCA Garden (June to September) are available</p>
<p><b>INFORMATION:</b></p>	<p>(514) 939-7026</p>