



CIRM (and Montreal) as seen by Nik Luka

“Montreal is situated at the intersection of so many people, activities, and national and cultural projects, that it’s fascinating to observe. It’s worth bringing together people that are interested in understanding that. Universities are plentiful in Montreal, but they tend to be inward-facing fortresses, so it’s important to find ways to promote dialogue and interaction between these actors. Centres like CIRM are so important to build links with diverse sectors, our local communities, and within our social and cultural space.”

As his first semester as interim director draws to a close, Urban Planning and Architecture professor Nik Luka sat down for an interview to discuss his vision for CIRM, his new mandate and, of course, the metropolis. [Click here](#) to read more!

New Members and Resident Scholars

Following the approval by its Board of Directors, CIRM now counts two more members, Hillary Kaell (School of Religious Studies and Department of Anthropology, McGill) and Simon Lafontaine (Canadian Centre for German and European Studies), as well as two new resident scholars, Brant Moscovitch (Ph.D. History, Oxford) and Alexandre Maltais (School of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture, Université de Montréal). Welcome to everyone!

[Find out more](#)

Online Publication of the 2019–2020 Annual Report

Although the last academic year ended in a state of (health) emergency, it nevertheless confirmed CIRM's ability to bring together researchers and stakeholders from the community, cultural, governmental, and economic sectors in Montreal. Our latest annual report bears witness to the centre's many activities throughout this period. In addition to a reminder of our mission, you will find an account of our events, partnerships, and current projects.

[Access report \(in French\)](#)

Joining the Regional Forum for Social Development on the Island of Montreal

Since September 17, CIRM is pleased to be a member of the Forum régional sur le développement social de l'Île de Montréal (FRDSÎM). We look forward to collaborating in the Forum's work and, through the expertise of our team and members-researchers, to supporting the organizations associated with the FRDSÎM and to contributing to the social development of the city.

[Read full article](#)

Unveiling of Montréal in Common's Project Guide

The Montreal Urban Innovation Lab has compiled the 13 winners of the Smart Cities Challenge in a booklet presenting this community of innovation, driven by a desire to rethink the city. To find out more about this key project of CIRM's, with its Data for Society Hub and the Montreal Observatory of Social Issues, you will find a brand new detailed section on our website. It will be improved periodically as the team's work progresses.

[Discover](#)

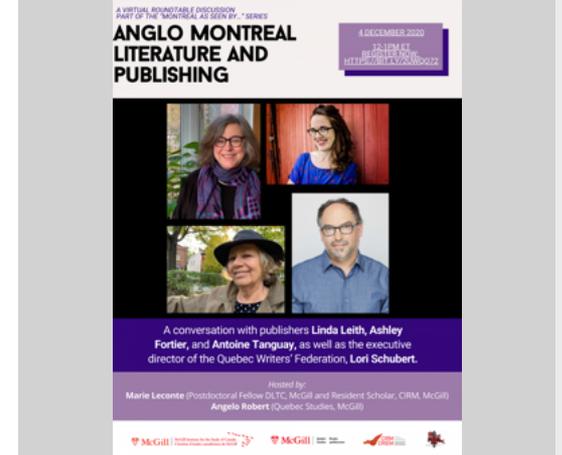
Upcoming Events

Anglo Montreal literature and publishing

Friday, December 4 from 12:00p.m. to 1:00p.m.

Marie Leconte (Resident scholar, CIRM) and Angelo Robert (Student, Quebec Studies, McGill) will host this conversation with editors Linda Leith, Ashley Fortier, and Antoine Tanguay, as well

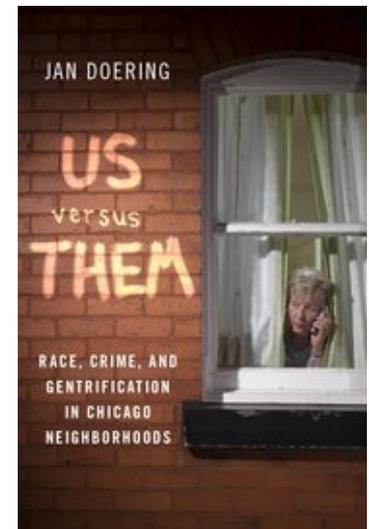
as the executive director of the Quebec Writers' Federation, Lori Schubert. **Registration is mandatory.**



Race, Crime and Gentrification: Neighborhood Life in Chicago versus Montreal Realities

Wednesday, December 9 from 11:00a.m. to 12:30p.m.

The seminar moderated by Philip S. S. Howard (Integrated Studies in Education, McGill) with author **Jan Doering** (CIRM / Sociology, McGill) will focus on the complex interplay between crime, race, and gentrification in racially diverse neighbourhoods in Chicago. Many academic and community experts will take part in this comparative discussion about the Montreal realities. **Registration is mandatory.**



Source: Oxford University Press

Rethinking the City in Times of Pandemic **Winter 2021**

The webinar series led by **Magda Fahrni** (CIRM / History and Feminist Studies, UQAM) and **Daniel Weinstock** (CIRM / Law and political science, U. McGill) will be back in 2021 to continue the reflection on urban space in the light of the health crisis. What if the current upheavals were an opportunity for innovation? Dates and topics of the next webinars will be announced later. **Find out more about the series.**



Source: Archives of the University of Calgary

Webinar The Funding Landscape of Artificial Intelligence

Thursday, February 21 from 12:30p.m. to 2:00p.m.

CIRM is inviting you to discover the latest research from its Professor of Practice during this special webinar. Accompanied by various experts on open government, public policy, and public procurement, Ana Brandusescu will address specific questions on public sector funding, the AI ecosystem, and the tech innovation economy. More details to come!



New: Our virtual events can now be viewed on demand via the **Multimedia** section of our website.

“The Urbanologist” Blog

Montreal as an Island



“These days, we tend not to think too much about the practical geographical fact of the city Montreal as an island in the St. Lawrence River”, writes our associate member [Victoria C. Slonosky](#) (CIRM / Geography, McGill) in a post on how insularity has punctuated the lives of Montrealers throughout history. [Go to post.](#)

De Madrid à Montréal : recherche sur l’habiter urbain dans un contexte de confinement

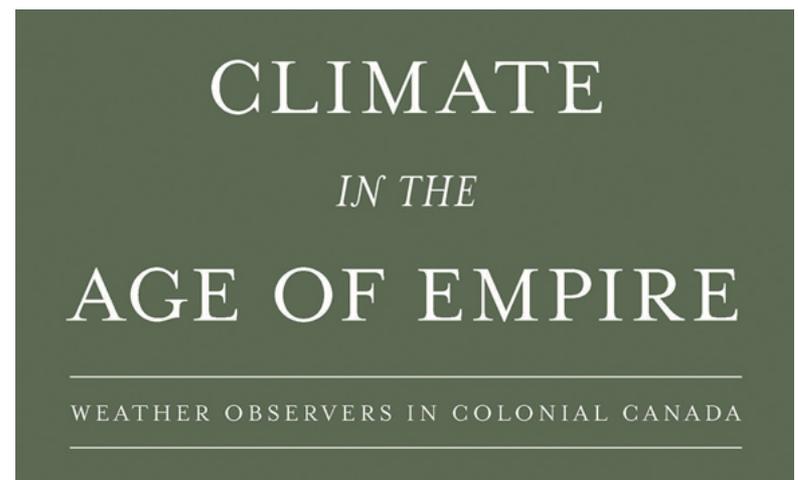


Against the backdrop of cancelled and reinvented colloquia, our international member [Carmen Mata Berreiro](#) (CIRM / French Philology, Autonomous University of Madrid) presents her work on Montreal as a space of affect and thought in the writing of female novelists from Quebec whose representations “make the city exist”. [Go to post.](#)

Reading Corner

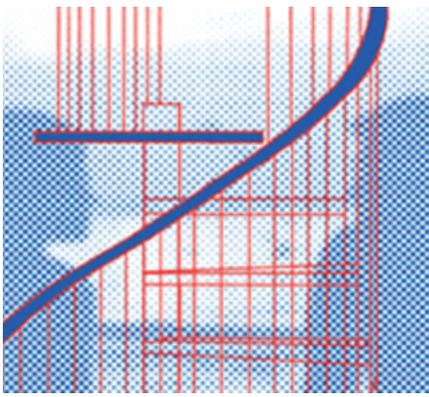


[Pascal Brissette](#) (CIRM / Literature, McGill) offers an analysis of the mental map and memory of the stagecoach days depicted in the novel *Griffintown* by Marie-Hélène Poitras, published by Alto in 2012. [Read it here.](#)



[Victoria C. Slonosky](#) (CIRM / Geography, McGill) highlights the research findings of her book and the surprising discovery that the idea of human-caused climate change has been around since the 18th century. [Read it here.](#)

Reminders



Call for Papers for the Conference *1971–2021: 50 ans de corpus montréalais*

You have two months left to submit a paper proposal for this international conference to which CIRM is contributing as a partner. The event which will take place in September 2021 aims to bring together researchers — from all disciplinary fields — interested in the diversity of the French language and the use of oral language corpuses. [Further information.](#)



Launch of the *Construire* Digital Notebook

The first issue in the *Shaping Neighbourhoods: Experience and Innovation* series, in collaboration with the [Quartier de l'innovation](#), tries to answer the question: “Why has place-making become necessary today?” In an era where neighbourhoods are built as quickly as they are demolished, it has become essential to think about the architecture of these spaces, and to reinvent them. [Follow this link!](#)

Bulletin Board

Call for applications: **Research assistant position**

— submitted by Ana Brandusescu

- Project *Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the Rest of Us*
- McGill students or alumni
- Deadline: December 15, 2020

Call for ideas: **Participatory budget of the City of Montreal**

- \$10 M to realize projects proposed and chosen by the population, so that together we may create a greener, more resilient and more inclusive city
- December 2020: online ideation workshops
- January 8, 2021: end of the gathering of ideas

Call for papers: ***Representations of epidemics and pandemics in verbal and visual art***

— submitted by Lícia Soares de Souza

- Thematic issue of *Léguas e Meia*
- Deadline: February 10, 2021

Publication: ***“The Significance of Mobility in Alfred Schutz’s Theory of Action”***

— submitted by Simon Lafontaine

- Theoretical/philosophical paper
- Published in *Human Studies*

CIRM invites its members and partners to **submit** any call for papers or contributions, events, and book launches, related in whole or in part to Montreal and its issues, that they would like to see featured in this section.

Highlight

Which post has received the most reactions on our social media in the last few months? On **Twitter**, it was the live tweets from the first webinar in the *Rethinking the City in Times of Pandemic* series.

Click here to view the video recordings, and don't forget to subscribe to our various accounts to not miss anything!



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