

PLATES, HEADLIGHTS AND DRAGON HORNS RING IN THE AUTOMOBILE

Montréal, May 31, 2012 – As part of the **Grand Prix du Canada**, the **Château Ramezay - Historic Site and Museum of Montréal** presents the exhibition *Plates, Headlights and Dragon Horns Ring in the Automobile*. From **June 7 to June 11, 2012**, high-speed race car fans and history enthusiasts are invited to discover the impact of the automobile's arrival and the upheaval caused by this "horseless carriage."

When it appeared in the late 19th century, the automobile did not receive widespread acceptance: its appearance disturbed the established order. With its roaring engine and smelly oil, it caused a commotion and scared horses as it went by. Nevertheless, it inexorably came to permeate many aspects of daily life: smiths became mechanics and general stores became sellers of car parts and accessories.

The exhibition *Plates, Headlights and Dragon Horns Ring in the Automobile* immerses visitors in the motoring world. Learn how humans adapted to the "machine." The exhibition presents not only the automobile pioneers and the difficulties encountered by the first drivers, but also the advent of motoring and the development of appropriate legislation. The exhibition also presents the car as a form of expression as well as the world of children's games copied from the motoring world.



Dragon horn ring
©Collection Guy Thibault
Photographer: Lucien Lisabelle

From the foot warmer to the driver's helmet and the anti-theft lock for the spare tire, the miniature race track, the portable gramophone and the porcelain licence plate – over 60 artifacts are witnesses of motoring as a way of life.

This exhibition is presented in collaboration with and thanks to Guy Thibault's collections.

The Château Ramezay – Historic Site and Museum of Montréal, a non-profit organization, safeguards and makes accessible a collection that reflects and attests to the history of Montréal and Québec. It was the first building in Québec to be classified an historic monument and is the province's oldest private historical museum.

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Source:

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