

ACTIVITY SHEET



UNDERSTANDING AND BUILDING OUR WORLD AND OUR STORIES TOGETHER

At the McCord Stewart Museum, we use objects, stories, and shared experiences to help our visitors better understand the world around them, no matter their age or background. With our participatory approach and civic perspective, we prioritize observation, questions, and dialogue in our activities.

BECOMING MONTREAL

The 1800s Painted by Duncan

GUIDED TOUR AT THE MUSEUM

Length: 60 minutes

Target audience: 2nd cycle of Secondary school – Cegep – University – Adult – Senior

Educational areas: Social sciences, Art history, History, Visual arts, Heritage, Urban studies.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

On the guided tour, visitors journey into Montréal's past as they delve into the striking watercolours of James Duncan (1806–1881), who followed the colonial city's evolution in the fifty years he painted there, from 1830 to 1880, and created panoramic views that predate photography. His works are part of Montréal's living memory.

The exhibition turns a spotlight on the artist's different gazes, which, together, provide a vivid impression of Montréal and of the realities of the people who lived there. Through Duncan's works, visitors discover the island in its entirety and reflect on its development from exceptional vantage points such as Mount Royal and Île Sainte-Hélène. They become witnesses to events that made 19th-century headlines and wander through the city streets and into the daily lives of Montrealers. A unique immersion into a city that's since vanished!

Participants will be exposed to an art installation featuring flashing lights that may affect people vulnerable to photosensitive epilepsy. Please let us know if this could pose a danger to your group.

STRATEGIES

Observation – Comparison – Reflection – Analysis – Analysis

ATTITUDE DEVELOPE

Critical thinking