



MONTREAL CELEBRATES ITS 375th BIRTHDAY...

In 1642, the first French colony was founded in Canada. It was located on a point of land that would one day, become one of the most beautiful and historical cities in the world. Today, we call it Montreal. The year 2017 marks its 375th birthday.

The city's rich and fascinating history is explored in five hour-long documentaries. We delve into its Aboriginal, French and British roots, supported by nearly one thousand photographs, paintings and maps drawn from major public archives and private collections.

For the first time, Montreal's architects, artisans and historians come together to create a vast panoramic portrait of Canada's very first metropolis.

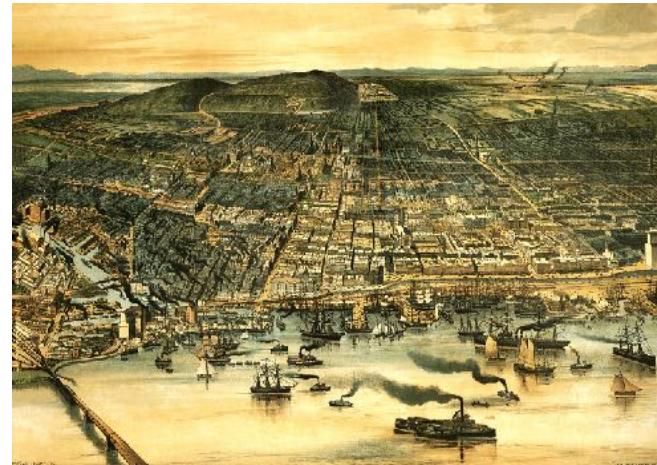
- **GENRE:** Docuseries
- **DURATION:** 5 x 60 min
- **VERSION:** French & English
- **FORMAT:** HD
- **PRODUCER:** Les Films Perceptions
- **AVAILABLE RIGHTS:** Worldwide

A BIOGRAPHY OF THE CITY OF MONTREAL IN FIVE PARTS...

Documentary 1

THE RIVER AND ITS ISLAND

In May 1642 the French officer Paul de Chomedey, sieur de Maisonneuve, founds, with Jeanne Mance, one of the great port cities of North America. Following the collapse of New France, waves of immigrants arrive from the British Isles. John Molson brews beer and develops the steamboat. After a golden age as a cereal exporter, the great port and its city slide into a long decline.



Documentary 2

MAISONNEUVE, CRADLE OF INDUSTRY

At the dawn of the 20th Century, industrialists and real estate developers attract a vast working class to the east side of the island of Montreal by offering cheap housing and industrial jobs. Mostly French Canadian laborers make trains, airplanes, tanks and even submarines. The brothers Oscar and Marius Dufresne, enriched by the immense shoe-manufacturing business founded by their parents, build a majestic residence for themselves – the Chateau Dufresne.

Documentary 3

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Around the Mountain. Indignant over the cutting of trees on Mount Royal, the city's English and French notables transform it into a park designed by the creator of New York's Central Park, Frederick Law Olmsted. Anglophones and Francophones build, around the mountain, their key institutions – universities, hospitals and a massive Oratory.

Documentary 4

LA MAIN : STREET OF IMMIGRANTS

Jewish, Chinese and Italian immigrants settle along Saint Lawrence Boulevard, also known as Montréal's Main Street, or "la Main." But Canada is not always welcoming, particularly in times of war. Racist government policies exclude, marginalize and unjustly imprison many. Following World War II, more enlightened policies permit inclusion and integration.

Documentary 5

DOWNTOWN, THE AGE OF LIGHTS

Electric lighting and American culture give Saint Catherine Street a vibrant nightlife filled with exotic cabarets. Tourists gamble, prostitution is rife, police are on the take. But a whistleblower, Pacifique Plante, exposes the system and triggers a public inquiry. The star prosecutor, Jean Drapeau, becomes mayor of Montreal and reshapes the city into a modern metropolis.

