

August 12, 2013**IMMEDIATE RELEASE****The Textile Museum of Canada presents *Farandole*, exhibition connecting high fashion and traditional Métis culture, from September 18 – November 14, 2013.**

TORONTO – Opening September 18, 2013, the Textile Museum of Canada presents *Farandole: Perspectives on Western Canadian Métis Culture*, combining contemporary visual art and haute couture to explore the reinvention of tradition through the work of artists Colette Balcaen of Manitoba and Pascal Jaouen of France.

The exhibition's title refers to a traditional French dance involving a chain formed as dancers hold hands, moving along in the leader's path, captured in the cyclical relationship of collaboration, appropriation, and inspiration at the heart of *Farandole*. Visitors will encounter exquisitely crafted beaded garments by French (Brittany) fashion designer and embroiderer Pascal Jaouen, and will become immersed in a room-sized embroidered textile installation by Franco-Manitoban visual artist Colette Balcaen. Jaouen and Balcaen worked closely with each other and with distinguished Manitoba embroiderers Jennine Krauchi and Jenny Meyer, and weaver Carol James, whose work represents some of today's most accomplished artisanal textile production.

Exploring the ongoing connections between Métis and francophone culture, the exhibition offers a unique look at the continuum of high end fashion and traditional costume, storytelling, beadwork, weaving and embroidery. An innovative examination of 21st-century identity, *Farandole* reinforces the Textile Museum of Canada's commitment to engaging experiences and creative practices that provide insight into our global context.

Farandole is circulated by the Alliance Française du Manitoba and presented in partnership with the Alliance Française de Toronto, with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council and Toronto Arts Council. An opening reception will be held at the Textile Museum of Canada on Wednesday September 18, 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Artist Colette Balcaen will be in attendance.

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For more information, visit www.textilemuseum.ca, or contact TMC Marketing & Communication at 416-599-5321 x2239 or marketing@textilemuseum.ca

Textile Museum of Canada

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Museum Hours

Open 7 days a week 11 am – 5 pm
Wednesdays 11 am – 8 pm

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