



# HISTOIRES DE VIE MONTRÉAL MONTREAL LIFE STORIES

www.lifestoriesmontreal.ca

## NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 9

MARCH 2010

### A Snapshot of February



#### CONFERENCE GIVEN BY ROBERT PETIT

by Rémy Chhem

Last February 6, at the Centre des loisirs de Saint-Laurent, Robert Petit was invited to give a conference by the Cambodian Working Group. The lawyer came to share his experiences as an international co-prosecutor for the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), from 2006 to 2009. These proceedings were put in place in order to judge “the historical leaders and the most responsible” for the genocide, for the time period between April 1975 and 1979. During this conference, Robert Petit explained the arid process which led to the judgment against Kang Kek Ieu alias “Douch”, former director of the Tuol Sleng (S-21) prison and against four other ex high Khmer Rouge leaders : Khieu Samphan, Nuon Chea, Ieng Sary and Ieng Thirith.

Congratulations to the Cambodian Working Group for organizing this conference which allowed us to better understand the complex mechanisms of justice.

For more information on the CEE: [www.eccc.gov.kh](http://www.eccc.gov.kh)

To download the Robert Petit conference given earlier this year at McGill University: <http://bcooltv.mcgill.ca/ListRecordings.aspx?CourseID=3100>



#### PLAYBACK THEATRE PERFORMANCE FOR HAITI

by Ariel Appel

The Living History Theater Ensemble’s special Playback Theater performance on February 7 was an incredibly powerful reaction to the displacement from the earthquake in Haiti in January. The actors and actresses incorporated as many members of the audience as possible to interact in a dialogue, sharing stories and thoughts about the recent events and watching them unfold through acted scenarios. Through a series of different exercises, the acting group, the performance mediator, Nisha Sajjani, and a visiting Haitian musician as well as the group’s long-standing musician asked the audience to tell a story, recount a reaction or share any sentiment regarding the earthquake or related issues, which the group would then reinterpret into movement, dialogue and music. After each short performance a discussion would follow. It was quite a unique performance as it provided an outlet for thoughts that often do not have a forum to be discussed in.

#### HIGH SCHOOL CLASS STUDIES PINOCHET DICTATORSHIP

Since a few weeks now, students in their last year of high school at École internationale de Montréal are participating in a project that joins pedagogy, life story interviews and the conception of an exhibit. Under Vanaka Chhem-Kieth and Manuel Abellan’s supervision, both members of the Cambodian Working Group, as well as under Annie Girard, their teacher, the students are responsible for all phases of the production of an exhibit which will be structured around interviews done with people who experienced Augusto Pinochet’s dictatorial regime in Chile. The interviews are already underway! You will soon be able to know more about this project by consulting the Blog section of the Life Stories Montreal website:

[www.lifestoriesmontreal.ca/blogs](http://www.lifestoriesmontreal.ca/blogs)

#### WELCOME TO INTERNS!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new interns:

Stéphanie Brown, Jackson Davidow, Aurélie Dubois-Prud’homme, Juliette Dupré, Erica Fagen, Valli Fraser-Celin, Annie Fréchette, Lynsey Grosfield, Collin Heap, Jake Heller, Gayatri Kumar, Geneviève Lalonde, Jessica Landry, Andrée-Anne Lavergne-Frenette, Charline Martin-Ramelli, Celeste Pang et Kaitlin Prest.

Welcome to all of you!



#### CONGODRAMA

Congratulations to Ally Ntumba, our resident artist, as well as to his team who presented their second series of performances of the play CongoDrama, this past February 27th and 28th !



### Something to see on CitizenShift and Parole citoyenne!

We invite you to regularly visit the Montreal Life Stories dossier on the CitizenShift (English) and Parole citoyenne (French) platforms. You will find there, each month, new digital stories, short films, radio programs, etc.

Spread the word!

<http://parolecitoyenne.org/histoires-de-vie>  
<http://citizenshift.org/displaced-violence-life-stories>

# MARCH 2010

## This month...

- } Monday, March 8th, 6-8pm  
**LISTENING TO ARTISTS**  
CHORN, LB-1042, Concordia
- } Monday, March 15th, 7-9pm  
**I WAS THERE**  
**STORIES OF WOMEN**  
**IN CONFLICT ZONES**  
SCREENING—DISCUSSION  
*Montreal Human Rights Film Festival*  
Simon-Bolivar Cultural Centre  
394 De Maisonneuve blvd. West
- } Thursday, March 18th, 5-7pm  
**INTERNS HAPPY HOUR**  
Brutopia, 1215 Crescent street

Monday	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Sat.	Sun.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 <b>LISTENING TO ARTISTS</b>	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 <b>SCREENING — DISCUSSION</b>	16	17	18 <b>HAPPY HOUR</b>	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

## Not to be missed in March!



*“J’y étais.” “I was there.”*

Histoires de femmes en zones de conflit

Stories of Women in Conflict Zones

### SCREENING—DISCUSSION

Monday, March 15th, 7 to 9pm  
Simón-Bolivar Cultural Centre, 394 De Maisonneuve blvd W.  
(Place-des-arts metro)  
Free admission—Welcome to all!  
Montreal Human Rights Film Festival

*They are from Colombia, Rwanda, Haiti or Cambodia.*

*They have lived in a conflict zone.*

*This short-film is a tribute to their story.*

### LISTENING TO SURVIVORS

You are invited to participate in our “LISTENING TO SURVIVORS” workshop series. Each participant chooses one recorded interview and listen to it, on headphones, for one hour before sharing their impressions in small groups.

This month:

#### LISTENING TO ARTISTS

**Monday, March 8th, 6 to 8pm, COHDS LB1042**

Participants will choose one interview conducted by the Oral History and Performance working group and listen for one hour. We will then discuss the relationship between their life story and their art.

### DVDs WANTED!

You borrowed some interviews to watch three weeks ago or ... three months ago? It's time to bring them back!

If you have any borrowed DVDs in your possession, please contact Paul Tom to let him know and to establish a return date:  
entrevue@alcor.concordia.ca

Thank you for your collaboration!

