



## Community Calendar of Events

**Nov. 21 to 23 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 24 at 2 p.m.** – The Quebec Art Company presents the English version of Michel Tremblay's masterpiece of Quebec theatre, *Les Belles-Soeurs*, at Holland Elementary School, 940 Ave. Ernest-Gagnon. Tickets for reserved seats (\$25) can be ordered online at quebecartcompany.com.

**Nov. 21 to Dec. 23** – The **Marché de Noël allemand / German Christmas Market** comes to life in the heart of Old Quebec! More than just a market, it is a small Christmas village designed to recreate as faithfully as possible the festive atmosphere of the major European Christmas markets. You can find it at Place D'Youville, Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, the Jardins de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, Rue Sainte-Anne and Place d'Armes. For details, visit [mnaq.ca/en](http://mnaq.ca/en).

**Friday, Nov. 22 at 5:30 p.m.** – The Eastern Québec Learning Centre invites you to join them for an **Alpine cuisine workshop**. Discover traditional recipes and support the **Community Christmas Hamper Campaign**. Contribute \$30 for a meal and enhance your cooking skills. Register and pre-pay online at [tinyurl.com/59j3p2a3](http://tinyurl.com/59j3p2a3).

**Sunday, Nov. 24 at 2:30 p.m.** – Priscilla-Ann Tremblay (contralto) and Jean-François Mailloux (pianist and tenor) present a *Récital Lyrique* with baroque works by Bach and Handel at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. Admission is free. For more information, visit [priscillaanntremblay.com/en](http://priscillaanntremblay.com/en).

**Thursday, Nov. 28** – The Eastern Québec Learning Centre is holding its annual **International Lunch**, a fundraiser for the **Community Christmas Hamper Campaign**. On the menu is butter chicken with rice, a typical Indian drink and gulab jamun (dessert). To pre-pay (\$35) and register for one of the two seatings at 11:15 a.m. or 12:30 p.m., visit [forms.office.com/r/Q57Sy5n5sn](http://forms.office.com/r/Q57Sy5n5sn).



**Thursday, Nov. 28 at 7:30 p.m.** – The Club Musical de Québec presents the **Israeli Chamber Project**, a group of musicians based in the United States and Israel, who perform on unique combinations of string and wind instruments, harp and piano. They will draw inspiration from Stravinsky's ballet *Petrushka* and other masterpieces, at the Palais Montcalm. On **Nov. 29** they will perform at L'Anglicane de Lévis. For details and tickets, visit [clubmusicaldequebec.com](http://clubmusicaldequebec.com).

**Friday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m.** – It's **CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHT** at Chalmers-Wesley United Church. This month's film is *Holiday Affair*, a 1949 American romantic comedy film starring **Robert Mitchum, Janet Leigh and Wendell Corey**. The parking lot side door opens at 6:30 p.m. with cartoons and newsreels of the day. The main feature begins at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 (cash only). There is a snack bar with soft drinks and popcorn. All are welcome.

**Nov. 29 to Dec. 8** – The **Salon des artisans de Québec** takes place at the Centre de foires at ExpoCité. For details, visit [groupeproexpo.com/artisans](http://groupeproexpo.com/artisans).

**Sunday, Dec. 1 at 3 p.m.** – *Aldo's Christmas*, an adaptation of British composer John Rutter's work, takes place at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. This mini-musical tells the heartwarming and humorous story of a donkey who dreams of joining the Cathedral Choir. The concert also features favourite carols sung by the choir, accompanied by organ, piano and other instruments that capture the warmth of Advent. Adult general admission tickets are \$30, benefactors \$50 (in support of the Cathedral's essential activities and operations in 2025, with charitable receipt), students and teens \$15, free for children 12 and under. Reserve your ticket online via Canada Helps.

**Monday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m.** – The **Morrin Centre** calls all poets and poetry enthusiasts to **Morrin in Verse**, the third of a series of open mic poetry soirées in the Library held on the first Monday of every month. Come to read your poetry or come to listen! For more information visit [morrin.org/morrininverse](http://morrin.org/morrininverse).

*Note: If there is a community event you would like to have publicized, please let us know by email at least two weeks in advance ([editor@qctonline.com](mailto:editor@qctonline.com)).*

**Dec. 3 to 14** – Théâtre La Bordée presents 10 performances of *Grosse-Île 1847*. This French-language play tells the story of the people who fled Ireland's famine and poverty in the holds of overcrowded ships. All the ships had to drop anchor at the Grosse-Île quarantine station where thousands of Irish migrants spent their final days. For details and tickets, visit [bordee.qc.ca/piece/grosse-ile-1847-reprise](http://bordee.qc.ca/piece/grosse-ile-1847-reprise).

**Saturday, Dec 7 at 10 a.m.** – The Eastern Québec Learning Centre invites you to join them for a **Festive Cookie Decoration Workshop**, a fun way to teach kids the joy of giving while supporting the **Quebec Community Christmas Hamper Campaign**. Let's spark the spirit of generosity together! All materials are included. The \$35 fee is for **one child per adult**. Register and pre-pay online at [forms.office.com/r/tCkBmBC0n3](http://forms.office.com/r/tCkBmBC0n3).

**Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m.** – L'Ensemble de musique sacrée de Québec, directed by **Richard Duguay**, presents *Une histoire de Noël* at Église de Saint-Augustin, 325 route 138, St-Augustin-de-Desmaures; with music by Bouzignac, Britten, Davelvey, Pärt, Rameau, Todd and Wilcocks. Tickets for adults and teens are \$35 at the door or \$30 in advance; free for children 12 and under. Call 418-878-2140 to reserve your seat.

**Sunday, Dec. 8 at 4 p.m.** – L'Ensemble de musique sacrée de Québec, presents *Une histoire de Noël* (see above) at the Monastère des Augustines, 77 Rue des Remparts, Quebec City. Tickets \$35 available at [monastere.ca/activite/concert-classique-de-noel-avec-lensemble-de-musique-sacree-de-quebec](http://monastere.ca/activite/concert-classique-de-noel-avec-lensemble-de-musique-sacree-de-quebec).

**Sunday, Dec. 8 at 9:30 a.m.** – The **Basilica-Cathedral Notre-Dame de Québec** celebrates its 350th anniversary. The date, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, was also chosen for the reopening of the Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris after the devastating 2019 fire.

Visit the **Voice of English-speaking Québec website** ([veq.ca](http://veq.ca)) for information about events in English for all ages.

Visit the **Morrin Centre website** ([morrin.org](http://morrin.org)) for information about more literary, artistic and educational activities for everyone.

## Place Royale 'Stayin' Alive' with Disco Ball Cement Truck party

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It was just 60 minutes into the four-hour dance party put on by EXMURO in front of their building in Place Royale on Nov. 9, but there were already over a thousand people in the town square that was transformed into a discotheque, thanks to the Disco Ball Cement Truck parked in front of Église Notre-Dame-des-Victoires.

The Disco Ball Cement Truck was first produced and shown in 2016 for the Fête des Lumières in Lyon. It has since travelled to Singapore, Madrid, Metz (France) and Montreal. The truck, created by French artist Benedetto Bufalino, was completely covered by mirrored facets resembling a disco ball. As the cement mixer turned, hundreds of glittering lights were projected onto the buildings surrounding the square.

With tunes pumping from Bufalino's disco playlist, people mingled, many dancing and others standing or walking around the unusual sparkling truck while drinking a hot or cold beverage from the cash bar on site. The scene was set up to look like a construction site with orange security barriers, given over to an evening of joyful dancing to upbeat tunes. "The atmosphere is incred-

ible," said Michelle Drapeau, assistant artistic director at EXMURO. "When we prepare such crazy projects, we never really know what to expect and having all these people showing up tonight just proves that we need events like these on a cold November night." Drapeau explained that organizers had volunteers stationed at all the entrances to the square who were clicker-counting participants, with crowds swelling as the night progressed. She said attendance "exceeded expectations" attributing the large turnout to their communications team creating a "neighbourhood block party" to reach residents of all ages. To get the word out, little disco ball keychains were hidden around the city for people to find, such as the one Drapeau wore as an earring.

Even though the event was "definitely for fun," Drapeau said there's "always a meaning when working with artists who are very much engaged in contemporary issues." Bufalino, she said, is interested in how urban environments affect our behaviour and our lives, "taking ordinary elements you'd find in the city and transforming them into something magical and fun – and that's exactly what he did with the cement mixer." Construction sites can be an "irritant" in the city. "But here it's turned

into a dance floor for the community to share a collective good time." Drapeau said the artist lined up a great variety of music for the event, including lots of disco classics like the Bee Gees' "Stayin' Alive," and even some slow songs.

Sophie Boulianne told the QCT she was very excited to attend the "amazing" outdoor event after hearing about it on Facebook. "The way that the lights were dancing on the buildings around the cement truck was unique and mesmerizing." Boulianne said she danced with her partner almost the whole time to the "groovy" playlist and enjoyed a microbrewery beer from La Barberie.

Drapeau said organizing this special event in cold, dark November was completely intentional to "bring joy and warmth" and "highlight the beauty of the cityscape." According to their website, "EXMURO goes beyond gallery walls to design, produce, and disseminate thought-provoking public art. Drapeau added, "We believe art can transport us to unknown realms, beyond the everyday." The Disco Ball might have been a one-night-only event, but EXMURO has more "bold" exhibitions and events planned throughout the year in public spaces. Visit [exmuro.com/en](http://exmuro.com/en) for details.



EXMURO co-executive director and artistic director Vincent Roy and assistant artistic director Michelle Drapeau stand in front of the Disco Ball Cement Truck in Place Royale.



The Disco Ball Cement Truck was parked in front of Église Notre-Dame-des-Victoires in Place Royale.