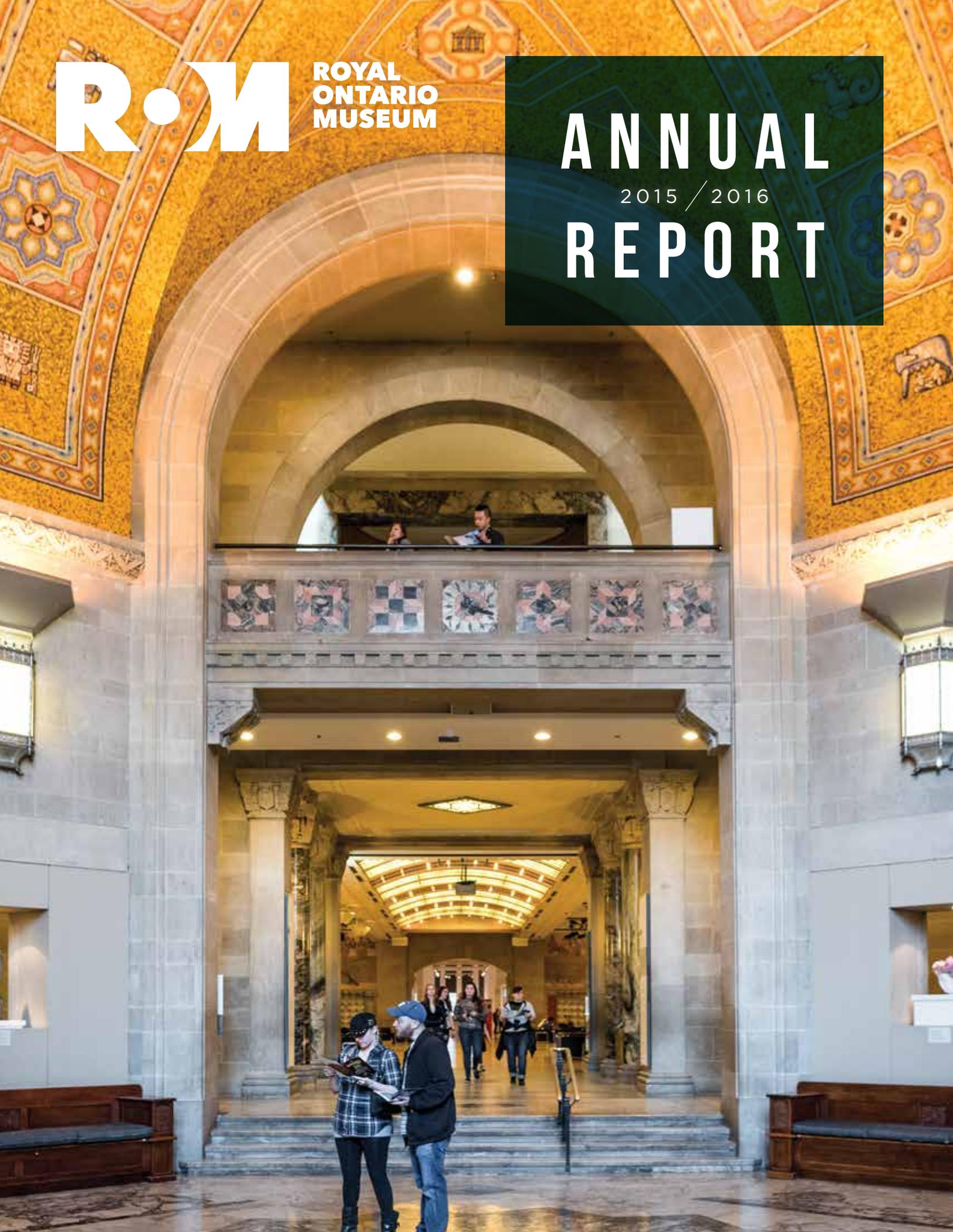




ROYAL
ONTARIO
MUSEUM

ANNUAL 2015 / 2016 REPORT





MAYKNOW

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MUSEUM OF PPLASOLOGY

MUSEUM



ANNUAL 2015 --- 2016 REPORT

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Welcome



The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) has always been a place of discovery, learning, and inspiration. Our world-renowned collections and acclaimed exhibitions explore subjects that exhilarate visitors from around the globe. This year, more than one million visitors passed through our doors and enjoyed a ROM experience, the most in the Museum's history.

One of the reasons the ROM attracts such an impressive number of people is its ability to spark curiosity and stimulate a thirst for knowledge in visitors of all ages. We are one of the few museums in the world with encyclopedic collections spanning art, culture, and nature. Additionally, the ROM is a global research institution with internationally recognized curators conducting field research in 27 countries. Over the course of the past year, their findings have been published in nearly 100 academic journals.

As you will see in the following pages, 2015–2016 was also a banner year for exhibitions at the ROM. The stunning *Pompeii: In the Shadow of the Volcano* received both popular and critical acclaim, mesmerizing 275,000 visitors with the dramatic story of an ancient city frozen in time. *Viva Mexico! Clothing & Culture* celebrated the ROM's Mexican textiles and costume collection and opened a window onto Mexico's colourful history and vibrant culture. *Generations: Annu Palakunnathu Matthew* explored the many layers of family history through photography, while the popular *Wildlife Photographer of the Year*, shared important messages about biodiversity through award-winning images from around the world, including those of three Canadian photographers.

The ROM is also proud of the role it plays in inspiring the next generation of scientists, artists, world leaders, and curiosity seekers. We continue to offer access to our collections and an array of dynamic programs that promote youth engagement with the

cultural and natural world. One of the most innovative examples is our annual Game Jam Weekend, a workshop for computer game developers. Back by popular demand, this program encourages young gamers to use the natural world as a source of inspiration for game development. It also strengthens the ROM's relationship with youth innovators and entrepreneurs. *Clash of Talons*, a new computer game featuring birds of prey marketed by Last Hour Games, grew out of this year's ROM Game Jam event.

Committed to meeting the diverse needs and abilities of our visitors, the Museum has continued to remove barriers to entry, seeking to ensure that the ROM experience is enriching for all our audiences. Our ROMCAN partnership with 46 non-profit community organizations helped eliminate financial, social, and cultural barriers, facilitating 75,000 free visits to our galleries in 2015. In recognition of this initiative, the ROM received the 2015 Ontario Tourism Award of Excellence for Accessible Tourism.

The ROM enters the new year with tremendous momentum. I hope you visit often to discover our dynamic programs, engaging exhibitions, and thought-provoking research—or come simply to be inspired by the wondrous objects in our collections. We look forward to seeing you soon at your Museum.

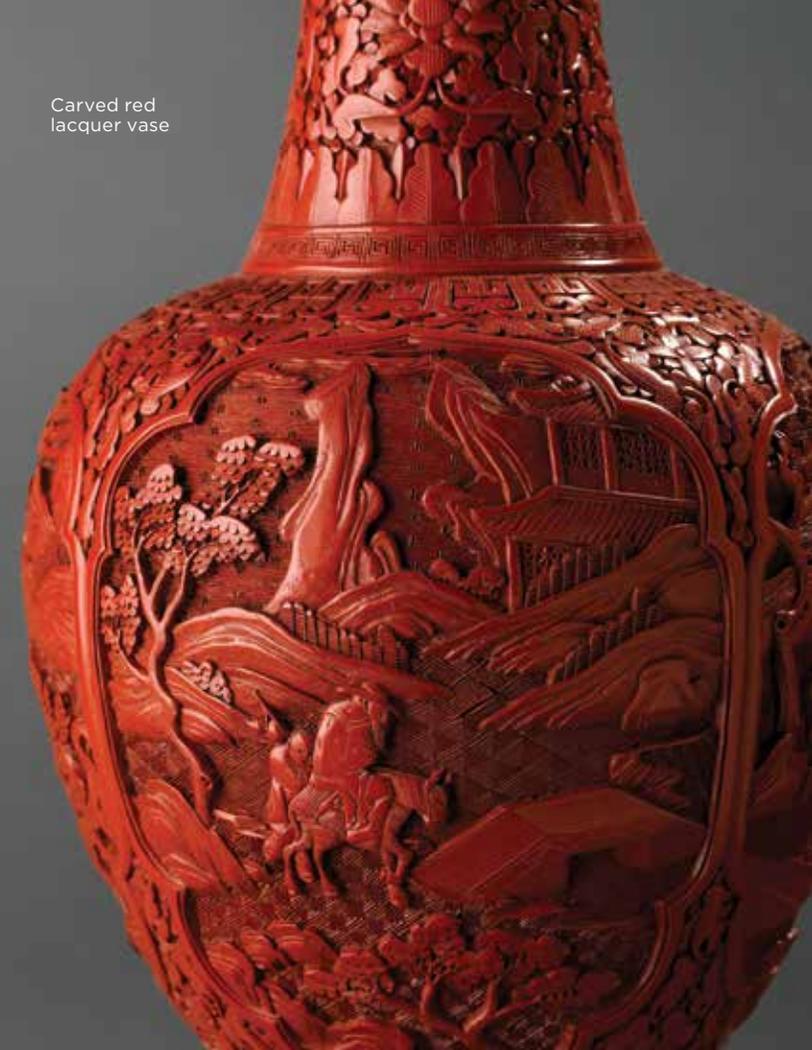
JOSH BASSECHES
DIRECTOR & CEO
ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

BONNIE BROOKS
CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

This page: Tom Sandler. Opposite page, clockwise from left: *Six Black Feet Chiefs*, Paul Kane Fort Pitt, Saskatchewan River, 1849-1855, 65.5 cm x 78.5 cm. One of a pair of vases, carved red lacquer, China, Qing, Dynasty-Republic; Late 19th-early 20th century. *Wiwaxia corrugata*, probable mollusc, Walcott Quarry, Burgess Shale, British Columbia, Canada. *Turtle Flight* © David Doublet (USA). Finalist, Amphibians and Reptiles.



Six Black
Feet Chiefs



Carved red
lacquer vase



Fossil of
*Wiwaxia
corrugata*



Turtle Flight,
*Wildlife Photographer
of the Year*

ROM GOVERNORS

Your ROM



The ROM is very fortunate to have an extensive community of committed donors, patrons, corporate partners, and volunteers, who are instrumental in making the Museum an essential destination for learning, inspiration, and understanding.

We are pleased to share that our Love the ROM Centennial initiative surpassed its fundraising goal of \$15 million, coming to an official close on June 30, 2015. Thanks to your incredible generosity, we raised \$23.8 million to support the ROM's mission to promote learning and create new knowledge for a better shared future.

In addition, to honour the ROM's Centennial, the Currelly Legacy Society achieved its goal of welcoming 100 new members. Named after the Museum's first director, this group of individuals have each committed to leaving a future bequest or promised gift to the ROM. The Museum now has 228 known legacy intentions, valued at just over \$32 million.

With your support, the ROM Governors raised \$12.4 million and granted more than \$10.6 million to the Museum last year. These funds enabled world-class exhibitions such as *Pompeii: In the Shadow of the Volcano*; pioneering research including our Blue Whale Recovery Project; and public programs like ROM Summer Club for kids.

Another highlight of the year was the opening of a preview space for the future *Dawn of Life Gallery*. We continue to raise funds for this exciting project and this tantalizing sneak peek animates spectacular fossils slated for the gallery that tell the story of life on Earth—from its earliest beginnings to the first dinosaurs—generating interest from members of the public and the media.

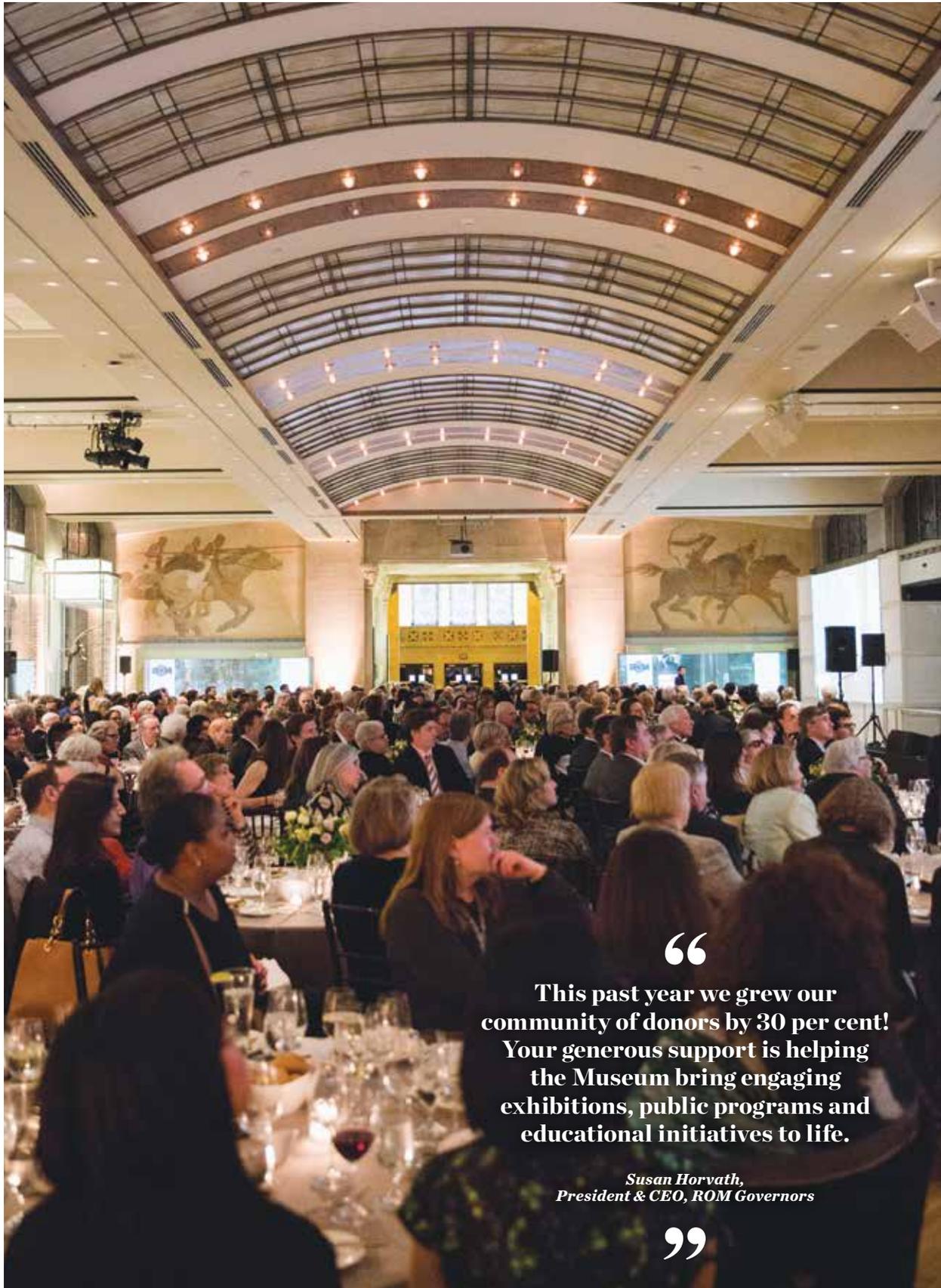
We are grateful to all the members of our Royal Patrons Circle and Young Patrons Circle, who, together with our Annual Fund donors, contributed \$2.3 million in support of the ROM—your most generous year to date! We were also delighted to have more supporters join our Museum family, increasing our number of donors by 30 per cent.

As leaders of the Museum's philanthropic foundation, it was our privilege to honour our generous supporters and volunteers at the annual Chairs' Reception on May 4, 2016. This memorable evening recognized Donor of Merit Award recipient Richard M. Ivey and Lieutenant Governor's Distinguished Service Award recipients Martha J. Hogarth and W. Robert Farquharson—all of whom have provided extraordinary service to the ROM.

Thank you again for your thoughtful leadership and passionate support of the ROM.

SUSAN HORVATH
PRESIDENT & CEO
ROM GOVERNORS

ROBERT E. PIERCE
CHAIRMAN
ROM BOARD OF GOVERNORS



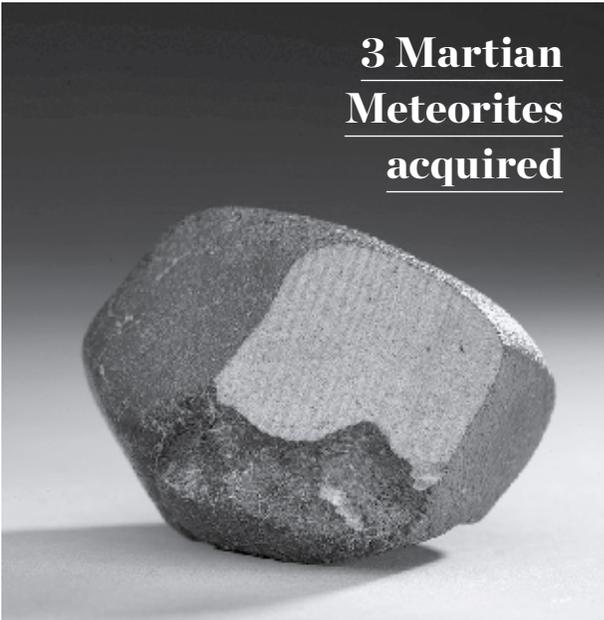
“

**This past year we grew our
community of donors by 30 per cent!
Your generous support is helping
the Museum bring engaging
exhibitions, public programs and
educational initiatives to life.**

*Susan Horvath,
President & CEO, ROM Governors*

”

**3 Martian
Meteorites
acquired**



95,175



**STUDENTS
VISITED
THE ROM**

100,000
ROM
Members

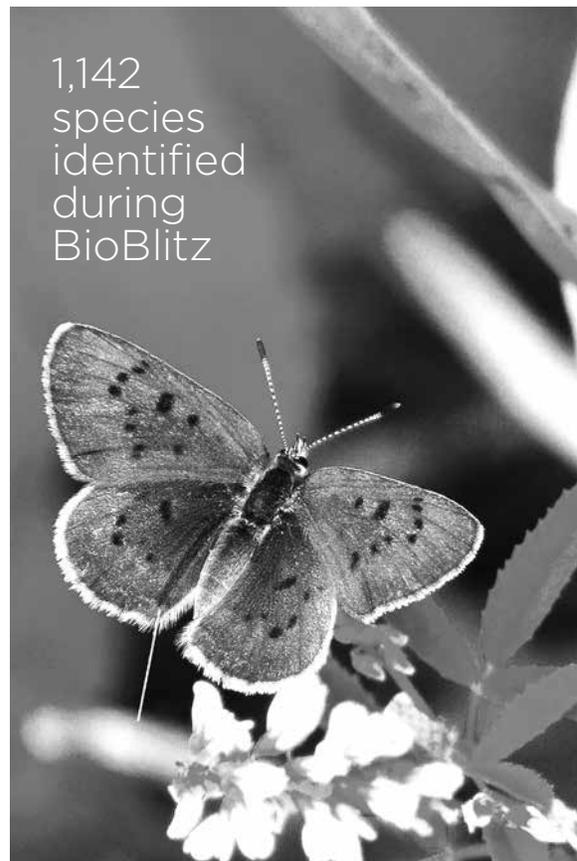


**1.1 million
visitors**

**ROM RESEARCH
CONDUCTED IN
27 COUNTRIES
AND 5 PROVINCES**



1,142
species
identified
during
BioBlitz



274,695

**PEOPLE VISITED
THE ACCLAIMED
POMPEII
EXHIBITION**





508
MILLION-YEAR-OLD
FOSSIL NAMED

97 + 5

academic
articles

books written
by ROM experts



62

SYRIAN REFUGEES WERE
WELCOMED ON THE FIRST
CANADIAN HERITAGE TOUR

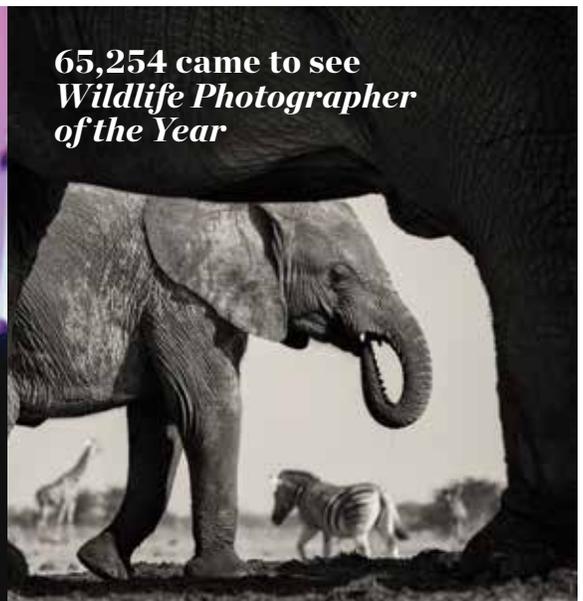


NOW Magazine's
People's Choice Award
for Best Museum



The Young Patrons Circle and
Royal Patrons Circle donated
\$1,836,453

3,306 DONORS TO THE ROM



65,254 came to see
*Wildlife Photographer
of the Year*

EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

2015-2016 EXHIBITIONS

CHAMPLAIN ON
OUR DOORSTEP

DAWN OF LIFE
PREVIEW GALLERY

DECLARATION:
REPATRIATION

GENERATIONS:
ANNU PALAKUNNATHU
MATTHEW

KIRWIN COLLECTION
EXHIBITION

MADE IN CHINA: CULTURAL
ENCOUNTERS THROUGH
EXPORT ART

POMPEII: IN THE SHADOW
OF THE VOLCANO

PUNCH & POINT:
HISTORICAL EDITORIAL
CARTOONS OF
J.W. BENGOUGH
AND SAM HUNTER

¡VIVA MEXICO!
CLOTHING AND CULTURE

WANDERINGS OF AN ARTIST

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER
OF THE YEAR

1

Pompeii: In the Shadow of the Volcano

*Exhibition Patrons
Maira & Alfredo Romano,
Air Canada Cargo
Media Partners Toronto Star, CTV
Garfield Weston Exhibition Hall*

JUNE 13, 2015, TO JANUARY 3, 2016

The ROM's incredible exhibition unveiled more than 200 objects excavated from this ancient city buried under metres of volcanic ash from the Mount Vesuvius eruption in 79 AD. The exhibition revealed the fragility of life in the face of natural disaster. Almost 2,000 years ago, the once-thriving city suddenly—and completely—vanished from sight until excavations began in 1748. The exhibition, seen by 274,695 visitors, featured stunning gold and silver, exquisite mosaics and jewellery, objects of everyday life, and iconic body casts, all telling the story of Pompeii, its people, and its astonishing legacy—an ancient city frozen in time.

*Organized in partnership by the
Royal Ontario Museum, and the
Montreal Museum of Fine Arts,
in collaboration with the Superintende-
nce for Archaeological Heritage
of Naples, and the Soprintendenza
Speciale di Pompei, Ercolano e Stabia.*

Portrait of
a Youth
Marble
162 cm

2



3



4



2

Generations: Annu Palakunnathu Matthew

Co-Presented as a primary exhibition in the 2015 Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival Third Floor Centre Block

MAY 2 TO OCTOBER 18, 2015

Annu Palakunnathu Matthew's photograph exhibition presented a blend of still and moving imagery, exploring how family photographs shape identity. The exhibition studied not only the connection between the past and present, but also the silences and absences in family photos that cloud our memories.

3

¡Viva Mexico! Clothing and Culture

Presented by Mexico Tourism Board Patricia Harris Gallery of Textiles & Costume

MAY 9, 2015, TO MAY 23, 2016

From the iconic to the innovative, this evolution of fashion boldly reflected the history of Mexico, where the textile arts reach back over many centuries. More than 150 historic and contemporary pieces from the ROM's collection of Mexican textiles helped tell the story of Mexico's rich culture.

4

Wildlife Photographer of the Year

Presenting Sponsor Quark Expeditions Media Partner Canadian Geographic Third Floor Centre Block

NOVEMBER 21, 2015, TO MARCH 20, 2016

On tour from the Natural History Museum in London, this annual photography competition celebrated nature and wildlife through 100 photographs, selected from thousands of submissions by photographers of all ages from around the world. This year Ontario photographer Don Gutoski was selected as the competition's overall winner for his image *A Tale of Two Foxes*. *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* is developed and produced by the Natural History Museum, London.

SEE [PAGE 20](#) FOR MORE ON OUR EXHIBITIONS.

ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS



1 **Scheelite Gems**

Two rare scheelite gemstones were acquired by the Department of Natural History, Mineralogy, this year: an 81.59-carat, trigonal fancy-cut gem and a single large orange octahedron crystal with a large transparent window at the tip. Both specimens are from the famed Mount Xuebaoding, Pingwu, Sichuan Province in China.



2 **Woodblock Prints**

Three Japanese woodblock prints joined the ROM's significant collection of Japanese art this year. Produced in the late Edo Period/early Meiji Period by internationally renowned artists Utagawa Kuniyoshi, Kobayashi Kiyochika, and Tsukioka Yoshitoshi, the pieces reflect a tranquil yet modern Japan in the mid- to late 1800s.



3 **Dinosaur Skull Bones**

New fossils from the bonebed of *Medusaceratops lokii* (Judith River Formation, Kennedy Coulee, Montana) joined the ROM's dinosaur collection. This set of ceratopsian skull bones will allow one of the world's oldest known horned dinosaurs to be re-described and re-assigned to the correct subfamily, thereby contributing significant new information to understanding the early evolution of *Ceratopsidae*.

4 **Worn (a black mourning dress)**

Created by contemporary African Canadian artist Karin Jones, "Worn" evokes the Victorian mourning dress and all its connotations of constraints. Fashioned of synthetic African hair, hand braided and sewn, it is a stunning piece whose title likewise eloquently and poignantly bespeaks the racial and gender chauvinism experienced by women of African descent world wide.

5 **Maué Headdress**

Composed of several thousand brilliantly coloured feathers, this headdress made by the Amazonian Maué Indians is very rare and extremely well-crafted. Dating from the 1820s, it gives the ROM's current featherwork collection a new perspective, representing the height of Amazonian material culture.

Louise Hawley Stone was a dedicated ROM volunteer, donor, fundraiser and Board member. In 1997, she established a charitable trust of nearly \$50 million for the Museum. Today, the Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust provides a steady income for the ROM to purchase new acquisitions and fund publications related to the ROM's collections.

5

Maué
headdress,
Amazonian
Maué Indians,
c. 1820,
featherwork



THESE ACQUISITIONS WERE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE LOUISE HAWLEY STONE CHARITABLE TRUST AND THE MONA CAMPBELL ENDOWMENT FUND. SEE [PAGE 34](#) FOR MORE ON OUR ACQUISITIONS.

PROGRAMS, EVENTS & EDUCATION

Programs

The Museum offers a wide variety of programming tailored to specific audiences, including children, adults, and seniors, as well as families and tourists. Programs include in-depth lectures led by ROM experts, as well as programs like the very popular **Friday Night Live** presented by Ford of Canada, which continues to enjoy success, attracting a young and engaged audience to the Museum.

Events

Themed **Big Weekends**, such as **Digging the ROM: International Archaeology Weekend** and **Dinos Rule the ROM**, were monthly festivals jam-packed with lively, interactive, and engaging family-friendly activities that highlighted our galleries, exhibitions, and research. **ROM Summer Fridays** and **ROM Winter Fridays** offered enhanced visitor experiences, including meeting experts in the galleries and enjoying live music. Specialty programming for **ROM for the Holidays**, **Family Day Weekend**, and **March Break** transformed the Museum, with family-friendly programming during peak visitation periods.

Education

The ROM is one of the largest co-curricular educators in the Province, welcoming almost 100,000 students to the Museum last year. These visits help introduce new ideas to young minds, with guided tours, hands-on labs, and interactive activity guides. ROM programs are linked to the Ontario school curriculum, allowing teachers to augment in-class lessons with Museum visits, thus students can build on what they're learning at school with an immersive experience. Our **School Visits Bursary Program**, along with the **Travelling EduKits** and **Travelling Exhibitions**, allow the Museum to reach out to even more students across the country.

ROM GOVERNORS' HIGHLIGHTS

Philanthropic Support

The ROM Governors are responsible for all philanthropic activities in support of the Museum's highest priorities. Their work enables the ROM to better serve its diverse and ever-changing communities, by fostering long-term sustainable relationships of exceptional value—to both the institution and its donors. ROM Governors is supported by an independent board that provides leadership in a wide range of philanthropic activities supporting ROM programs, research, collections, galleries, exhibitions, and outreach programs.

Celebrating Your Generosity

The ROM thanks and acknowledges all the supporters who have generously contributed to the Museum's many exciting projects. Please refer to pages 51-69 for a list of our donors, sponsors, and patrons.

SPECIAL EVENTS

PROM X

MARCH 28, 2015

Hundreds of Young Patrons Circle members and guests enjoyed the 10th and final PROM. Inspired by the work of Douglas Coupland, PROM X paid homage to one of Canada's most celebrated contemporary artists, writers, and thinkers.

Chairs' Reception

MAY 7, 2015

An evening celebration of the philanthropic leadership of our Lieutenant Governor's Distinguished Service Award Recipients: Salvatore (Sal) M. Badali, Jennifer Ivey Bannock, and Harriet Walker. The ROM family also honoured BMO Financial Group with the Donor of Merit Award and enjoyed a preview of the future *Dawn of Life Gallery*.

A Night in Pompeii

JUNE 9, 2015

A private preview of the Canadian premiere of the *Pompeii: In the Shadow of the Volcano* exhibition. Chaired by ROM Governor Jennifer Ivey Bannock, this exquisite dining experience featured Pompeian entertainment.

Fact or Fiction

NOVEMBER 2, 2015

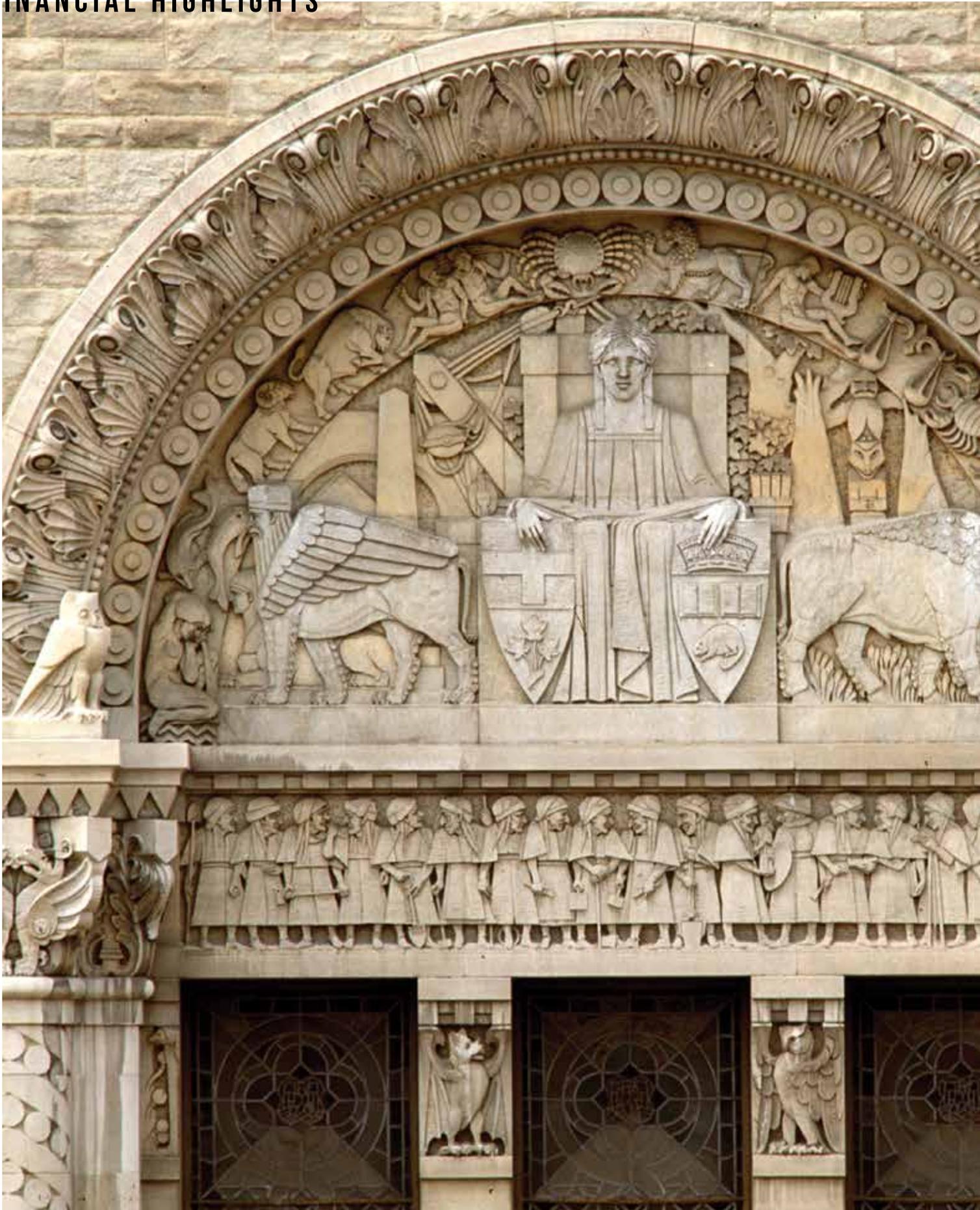
The ROM's signature guessing game returned as an exclusive event offering for Patrons, who engaged with Museum experts to discover the true nature of mysterious objects from the vaults.

Photo: Roger Yip.



Children enjoying the James and Louise Temerty Galleries of the Age of Dinosaurs.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS





Exhibitions

Exhibitions at the Museum take many forms, from large feature exhibitions like *Pompeii: In the Shadow to the Volcano*, *iViva Mexico! Clothing and Culture*, and *Wildlife Photographer of the Year*, to special exhibitions like *The Dawn of Life* Preview Gallery, to the Travelling Exhibition program that brings the ROM's collections, research, and expertise to communities who cannot readily visit the Museum. Here are some of the ROM's calendar of 2015–2016 exhibitions.



POMPEII: IN THE SHADOW OF THE VOLCANO

Exhibition Patrons Moira & Alfredo Romano, Air Canada Cargo

Media Partners Toronto Star, CTV

Garfield Weston Exhibition Hall

Curator Paul Denis (with assistance from Kate Cooper, Katherine Dunnell)

JUNE 13, 2015, TO JANUARY 3, 2016

This exhibition was enjoyed by more than 274,000 people who viewed over 200 objects excavated from the ancient city of Pompeii prior to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius almost 2,000 years ago, revealing the fragility of life in the face of natural disaster. Buried under metres of volcanic ash, the once-thriving city suddenly—and completely—vanished from sight in the year 79 AD and remained buried for almost 1,700 years until excavations began in 1748. The popular exhibition featured stunning gold and silver, exquisite mosaics and jewellery, objects of everyday life, and iconic body casts, all telling the story of Pompeii, its people, and its astonishing legacy—an ancient city frozen in time.

Organized in partnership by the Royal Ontario Museum and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, in collaboration with the Superintendenza for Archaeological Heritage of Naples and the Soprintendenza Speciale di Pompei, Ercolano e Stabia.

EXHIBITIONS

TRAVELLING EXHIBITIONS

Travelling exhibitions bring the ROM's collections, research, and expertise to institutions whose communities cannot readily visit the Museum, circulating them to provincial museums, art galleries, and science centres. A travelling exhibition consists of display cases with objects, as well as contextual information on panels (e.g. images, maps). This year, 18 venues hosted exhibits in Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec. Popular travelling exhibitions included *Canada at Play*, *Hands on Nature*, *Egypt Gift of the Nile*, *Northern Owls*, *Bats of Ontario*, *Iroquois Beadwork*, *Seeds in Disguise*, and *Fakes & Forgeries*.

TRAVELLING PLANETARIUM

The ROM's Starlab is a mobile planetarium that projects the galaxy in an enclosed, inflatable dome, recreating the night sky. It offers an opportunity for communities across Ontario to learn more about the wonders of space. Travelling Planetarium teachers from the ROM visited 10 locations across Ontario this year, including schools, community centres, libraries, and community museums, reaching a total of 3,775 people.

GENERATIONS: ANNU PALAKUNNATHU MATTHEW

*Co-Presented as a Primary Exhibition in the 2015 Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival
Third Floor Centre Block
Curator Dr. Deepali Dewan
MAY 2 TO OCTOBER 18, 2015*

Annu Palakunnathu Matthew's photo-based exhibition presented a striking blend of still and moving imagery, exploring the powerful appeal of family photographs and how they shape identity. The exhibition studied not only the connection between the past and present, but also the silences and absences in family photos—where memory and fabricated histories become blurred.

¡VIVA MEXICO! CLOTHING AND CULTURE

*Presented by Mexico Tourism Board
Patricia Harris Gallery of Textiles & Costume
Curators Chloë Sayer (Guest Curator),
Dr. Alexandra Palmer
MAY 9, 2015, TO MAY 23, 2016*

More than 150 historic and contemporary pieces from the ROM's world-renowned collection of Mexican textiles told the story of Mexico's rich culture. This evolution of fashion boldly reflected the history of Mexico, where the textile arts reach back over many centuries. From the iconic to the innovative, the exhibition included complete costume ensembles, *sarapes*, *rebozos*, textiles, embroidery, and beadwork.

Research for this exhibition was kindly supported by the ROM's Burnham Brett Endowment Fund, Veronika Gervers Research Fellowship, Kircheis Family Endowment Fund, and Gwendolyn Fraser Fund.

“

“¡Viva Mexico! Clothing & Culture creates awareness of Mexico in Canada, helping contrast the country's past with its modern and sophisticated present.”

Mauricio Toussaint, Ambassador, General Consul of Mexico in Toronto.

”

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

*Presenting Sponsor Quark Expeditions
Media Partner Canadian Geographic
Third Floor Centre Block
Curators Dr. Doug Currie and Mark Peck
NOVEMBER 21, 2015, TO MARCH 20, 2016*

The ROM hosted the compelling *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* exhibition on tour from the Natural History Museum in London. This acclaimed annual photography competition celebrates nature and wildlife through 100 photos, selected from thousands of submissions by photographers of all ages from around the world. This year Canadian photographer Don Gutoski was selected as the competition's overall winner for his image *A Tale of Two Foxes*. *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* is developed and produced by the Natural History Museum, London.

Clockwise from left: Tanagra figurine of standing woman terracotta, c. 250-225 BC, Greece. Annu Palakunnathu Matthew, *Annu, Re-Generation*, 2015. Still life from photo animation. *Sarape*, 1940-1960, Mexican Pictorial. *Sarape* with riders on horseback. Wool, tapestry woven on treadle loom. Don Gutoski, *A Tale of Two Foxes*, 2015.



“

Wildlife photography is one of the most popular activities our Polar Adventure passengers engage in and we're delighted to participate in the promotion of this sustainable, creative way of interacting with, and honouring, some of the world's most rare and elusive creatures.

*Andrew White, President,
Quark Expeditions*

”



EXHIBITIONS

DECLARATION: REPATRIATION

Roloff Beny Gallery
Curator Ken Lister

JUNE 5 TO JULY 5, 2015

This exhibition from Toronto-based arts-activist performance group Article 11 presented a opportunity to celebrate the creative process of indigenous artists as they collaborated on new approaches to original artistic works.

This program was made possible through a partnership between the Royal Ontario Museum and the Toronto Arts Council (TAC) as part of TAC's Animating Historic Sites and Museums Program.

CHAMPLAIN ON OUR DOORSTEP

Sigmund Samuel Gallery of Canada
Curator Dr. Arlene Gehmacher

JUNE 16 TO NOVEMBER 1, 2015

In 2015, Ontarians celebrated the 400th anniversary of francophone presence in the province. The ROM presented an original second edition of Samuel de Champlain's 1613 *Voyages* journal, in which he shared his thoughts on life in the North American colonies.

WANDERINGS OF AN ARTIST

Daphne Cockwell Gallery of Canada:
First Peoples
Curator Ken Lister

AUGUST 8, 2015, TO AUGUST 21, 2016

Featuring artworks from ROM Press' Paul Kane publication, *Wanderings of an Artist Among the Indians of North America*, this installation provided historical context on the contemporary issue surrounding spearfishing among the Ojibwe of northern Wisconsin.



MADE IN CHINA: CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS THROUGH EXPORT ART

Herman Herzog Levy Gallery
Curators Dr. Wen-chien Cheng and Jianfei He

SEPTEMBER 5, 2015, TO AUGUST 1, 2016

Artifacts from the ROM's Chinese, European, and Natural History collections, including works on pith, paper, lacquer, and porcelain, placed the globally recognized trademark "Made in China" in a historical context. The exhibition examined the interrelationship between the East and the West during the 18th and 19th centuries.

KIRWIN COLLECTION

Vale Gallery of Minerals
Teck Suite of Galleries: Earth's Treasures
Curator Dr. Kim Tait

OPENED SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

This display features more than 22,000 mineral and ore specimens from around the world amassed over the past 40 years by geologist Douglas Kirwin. It is a veritable geological library, telling the Earth's complete four-billion-year-old story.

This collection was made possible with the generous support of BMO Financial Group, Yamana Gold Inc., Douglas Kirwin, Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust, Hatch, Rock of Ages Gala 2011, the Bogden Family, Scott and Ellen Hand, Francine and Robert Ruggles, Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada, Christopher Wansbrough, AMC Consultants, and Women in Mining Toronto.

DAWN OF LIFE PREVIEW GALLERY

Rotunda, Level 2
Curator Dr. Jean-Bernard Caron

OPENED SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

In anticipation of the new *Dawn of Life* Gallery, which will be home to the Museum's world-renowned collection of Burgess Shale specimens, this display features some of the spectacular pieces introducing how the gallery will be presented and interpreted.

PUNCH & POINT: HISTORICAL EDITORIAL CARTOONS OF J.W. BENGOUGH (1851-1923) AND SAM HUNTER (1858-1939)

Wilson Canadian Heritage Exhibition Room
Sigmund Samuel Gallery of Canada
Curator Dr. Arlene Gehmacher

DECEMBER 5, 2015, TO
SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

Featuring historic editorial cartoons from the ROM's collections, this exhibition offered visitors an opportunity to read editorial cartoons from a young, confederated Canada.

THE FRANKLIN NETWORK OUTREACH PROJECT

Lead Exhibition Patron The W. Garfield Weston Foundation
Developing Partner Royal Ontario Museum, Parks Canada
Samuel Hall 🍷 *Currelly Gallery*

OPENED MARCH 24, 2014

In partnership with Parks Canada, the Franklin Exploration Outreach Program launched an interactive display that has been displayed in ten museum partners across Canada, connecting visitors across Canada to this exciting Arctic investigation.

Album of pith paper paintings showing insects and plants. 19th century. ROM East Asian Collection. 990.100.1 Gift of Professor Peter Brock. 34 x 29 cm



Aquamarine
Pashar Valley,
Pakistan
5 x 5 cm



Collections & Research

ROM curatorial research continued to have a global impact on human knowledge and scientific advancement in 2015. ROM curators conducted field research in 27 countries outside Canada, and in five Canadian provinces. ROM research was published in 97 peer-reviewed journals and five books. In addition, ROM research was shared in 39 academic conference papers delivered in 11 countries, and in 19 invited lectures in six countries.

In February, the annual ROM Research Colloquium and Vaughan Lecture welcomed more than 300 visitors who heard 16 unique reports, directly from ROM researchers. This year's Vaughan Lecture, *A Life in the Past Lane: Four Decades Down and a New Dawn to Come*, was delivered by ROM Assistant Curator, David Rudkin.

DAWN OF LIFE PREVIEW GALLERY

This past December, the ROM's new *Dawn of Life Preview Gallery* opened. The preview exhibition animates spectacular fossils slated for the permanent gallery that tell the story of life on Earth — from its earliest simple beginnings to the first dinosaurs. ROM Curator Dr. Jean-Bernard Caron gave a ROM Daytime talk in September highlighting world-renowned Canadian fossil sites and the key role that the ROM plays in revealing the diversity of life on Earth and how it evolved.

The planned gallery will be home to the ROM's world-renowned collection of Burgess Shale specimens, which will play an integral role in how the new gallery will present and explain Earth's earliest life.

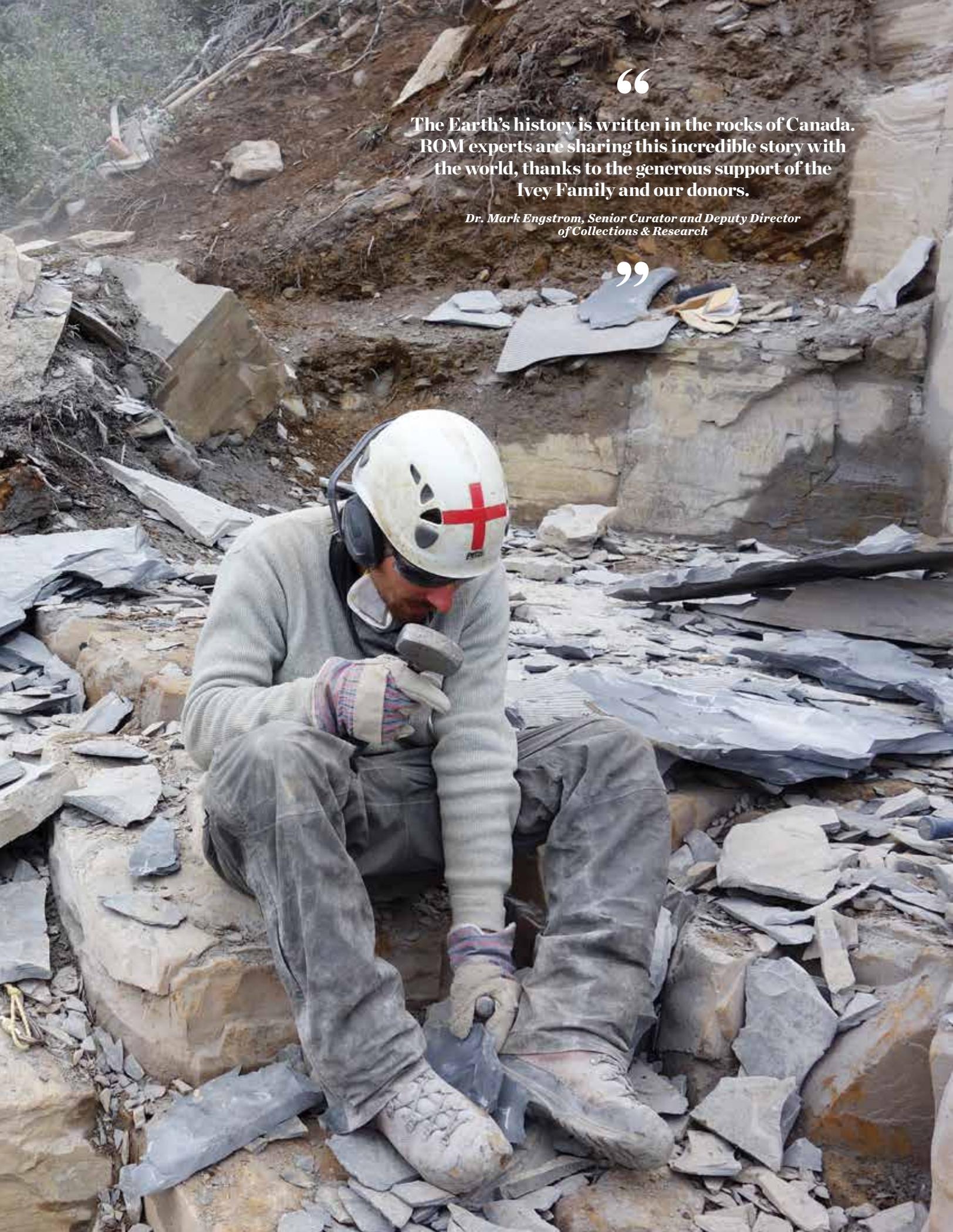
PhD candidate Cédric Aria (right) and Arvid Aase (left) at the 508-million-year-old Marble Canyon fossil site, in Kootenay National Park, British Columbia.

“

The Earth's history is written in the rocks of Canada. ROM experts are sharing this incredible story with the world, thanks to the generous support of the Ivey Family and our donors.

*Dr. Mark Engstrom, Senior Curator and Deputy Director
of Collections & Research*

”



COLLECTIONS & RESEARCH

PUBLISHED ACADEMIC PAPERS

In 2015, ROM original research was published in more than 97 academic papers published in renowned journals including these:

AFRICAN ARTS

AMERICAN MINERALOGIST

ANIMAL GENETICS

ARCHIVES OF ASIAN ART

ASIAN HERPETOLOGICAL RESEARCH

BIOCHEMISTRY AND BIOPHYSICS

BMC EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

BULLETIN OF ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF EARTH SCIENCES

CLADISTICS

CURRENT BIOLOGY

EVOLUTION

FRESHWATER FISHERIES ECOLOGY

HYDROBIOLOGIA

ICARUS, MOLECULAR ECOLOGY

JOURNAL OF ANATOMY

JOURNAL OF EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

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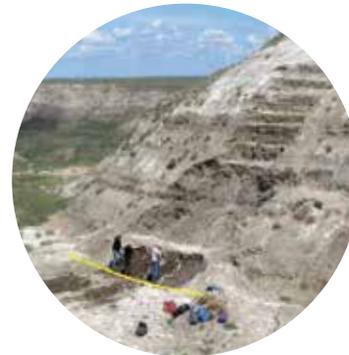
ZOOKEYS



THE BLUE WHALE

The 2014 recovery of two blue whale skeletons and tissue in Newfoundland made international headlines, and Dr. Mark Engstrom, Dr. Burton Lim, and Jacqueline Miller were at the very forefront of the discovery. In 2015, ROM mammal technician Jacqueline Miller led a team of staff and volunteers in the preparation and packaging of the blue whale heart—destined for the laboratory of Gunther von Hagens in Germany, founder of *Bodyworlds*. The massive, 180-kg heart will be plastinated (a first for a blue whale heart) and prepared for a future exhibition.

This project is generously supported by the Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust, Nita and Donald Reed and Jean M. Read.



THE HORNED WENDICERATOPS

The announcement of *Wendiceratops pinhomensis*—a new species of horned dinosaur had a significant impact in 2015, with coverage in more than 35 online and print publications around the world. Research by Dr. David Evans, James & Louise Temerty Endowed Chair, Vertebrate Palaeontology, is helping scientists understand the early evolution of skull ornamentation in an iconic group of dinosaurs characterized by their horned faces. Dr. Evans' research has been recognized internationally, the discovery listed in *Discover* magazine's Top 100 Science Stories of 2015.

Wendiceratops is one of the oldest members of the horned dinosaur family *Ceratopsidae*, which includes the famous *Triceratops*. *Wendiceratops* lived during the Late Cretaceous Period, 79 million years ago, in what is now the Milk River badlands of southern Alberta.

NEW ACQUISITIONS

More than \$12,139,915 was generously granted by the Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust and The Mona Campbell Endowment Fund to make acquisitions (supporting collections research) in both Natural History and World Cultures collections. Fossils, gems, textiles, ceramics, photographs, paintings, and contemporary installation works were acquired from regions in North and South Americas, Continental Europe, Africa, Asia, and Southeast Asia.