



For immediate distribution  
**PRESS RELEASE**

## **D'ARTAGNAN, AL CAPONE AND THE OTHERS – WEAPONS AND LEGENDS AN EXHIBITION THAT MAKES A BANG!**

**Montreal, February 25, 2015** – Beginning February 25, 2015, the Stewart Museum presents *D'Artagnan, Al Capone and the Others – Weapons and Legends*, an entertaining exhibition featuring real and fictional characters that marked from our collective imagination accompanied by one hundred weapons and other objects from the Museum's collection. Legendary figures from classic or contemporary literature and cinema as **Don Quixote, Lucky Luke, Blackbeard, James Bond and Che Guevara** – all are brought back into action with their weapon of choice.



Portrait of Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow, about 1933, Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York World-Telegram & Sun Newspaper Photograph Collection, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington.

### **25 great characters under one roof**

Showing until November 1, 2015, the exhibition takes visitors from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, inspiring thought about the relationship between weapons, violence and justice. Divided into six zones – **knights, cowboys, spies, gangsters, pirates and revolutionaries** – the exhibition allows young and old to reconnect with scoundrels and heroes known for their prowess with weapons. Popular film and sound clips as well as literary excerpts help to tell their stories.



Promotional postcard for the film *Les trois mousquetaires*, 1921, directed by Henri Diamant-Berger, published by Pathé Consortium Cinéma, Paris

Visitors are immersed in a world where feats of arms, historical reality and anecdotes are interwoven to shed light on these influential figures and their relationships with their weapons. "It's the first time the Stewart Museum has presented in a single exhibition such a large number of weapons from its outstanding collection of more than 10,000 military objects from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Featuring legendary figures of history, literature and film, it's a fun and exciting exhibition that both parents and children will enjoy," says Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Stewart Museum



Al Capone Mugshot, 1931, Bertillon photographs, U.S. Dept of Justice, Daily Herald Archive/National Media Museum / Science & Society Picture Library

## Weapons that made history

The weapons chosen, several of them never exhibited before, are true works of art that have stood the test of time. In the **knights** zone, pieces of armour such as the morion (helmet), remind us of Don Quixote, while a 17<sup>th</sup> century musketeer type of sword makes reference to D'Artagnan. On display in the **cowboys** zone, are the *Colt Thunderer* revolver and the famous *Colt Pocket*, straight out of the Lucky Luke cartoons. The **spies** section has 007's *Walther PPK* as well as a Gyrojet pistol, made famous in the film *You Only Live Twice* (1967).



Cup hilt rapier, about 1600, Europe  
© Stewart Museum

The **gangsters** zone features a *Thompson* submachine gun from the Al Capone era and a Molson's bank gun from the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In the **pirates** zone, visitors have a chance to see a four-barrelled "duck's foot" pistol and a rare knife and fork pistol set. Finally, the **revolutionaries** zone has a beautiful Turkish rifle made of precious materials, worthy of Lawrence of Arabia, and a crossbow reminding us of the Swiss hero William Tell.

## Epic cultural activities for all ages

Children aged 4 to 12 visiting *D'Artagnan*, *Al Capone and the Others* will have fun and discover their favourite heroes during a treasure hunt that ends in a reading corner full of adventure storybooks. There is also a cinema for visitors of all ages at the conclusion of the exhibition showing three films about legendary heroes: *The Mark of Zorro* (1920), *Peter Pan* (1953) and *IXE-13* (1972). Showtimes are listed on the Museum website.

On weekends, guide-interpreters will read stories and run workshops. The Museum offers these special activities throughout the week of Spring Break, from February 28 to March 8, 2015, except Monday and Tuesday when the Museum is closed.

There will be a movie night on March 26 at 7 p.m. with a showing of Jacques Godbout's 1972 film *IXE-13*. André Dubois, who stars as "Canadian master spy" *IXE-13*, will be on hand for the event to give a short talk. The Stewart Museum is hosting a lecture by historian Laurent Busseau on September 23 at 1:30 p.m. He will talk about the "leading figures of prohibition in Montreal". The event, held in partnership with *Les Belles Soirées de l'Université de Montréal*, will be followed by a tour of the exhibition and a presentation by Collections Assistant Khan Rooney about some of the weapons on display.

Other activities offered during the exhibition include outdoor family events in the summer and theme days. All programming details will be available online at [stewart-museum.org](http://stewart-museum.org).

## About the Stewart Museum

The Stewart Museum, a private, non-profit history museum, was founded in 1955 by philanthropist David M. Stewart. The institution holds a unique collection of nearly 27,000 artefacts, archival documents and rare books that show the European presence in New France and North America up to the present. The Museum's main mission: to conserve and exhibit these objects, which relate to the voyages, scientific advances, feats of arms, beliefs and daily life of our ancestors. This Montreal organization is located at Parc Jean-Drapeau, in the arsenal of the British fortified depot on Île Sainte-Hélène, a 19<sup>th</sup> century military construction registered in the *Répertoire du patrimoine culturel du Québec*.

The Stewart Museum is open from Wednesday to Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

-30 -

**Contact:** Myriam Perron

Communication Advisor

514 861-6701 ext.231

[mperron@stewart-museum.org](mailto:mperron@stewart-museum.org)

Press kit available on Dropbox: <http://bit.ly/1w10FUx>

**Interview possibilities with:** André Dubois, the actor who portrays IXE-13 and co-spokesperson for the exhibition, Khan Rooney, Collections Assistant and co-spokesperson for the exhibition, Sylvie Durand, Head, Programs, as well as Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Stewart Museum.

**Merci à nos partenaires :**



Gallimard

