

Press release
Monaco, February 12th 2020

Experience the Canadian Arctic at the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco [Art exhibition from March 1 to April 30]

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and the Oceanographic Museum are inviting you to celebrate the wonder of the Canadian Arctic through Cory Trépanier's INTO THE ARCTIC exhibition.

MONACO, EUROPE — On March 1, 2020 the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco opens its doors to INTO THE ARCTIC, an art exhibition featuring the paintings and films of Canadian artist Cory Trépanier. Presented with the support of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, it highlights the beauty, remoteness, and fragility of Canada's changing North. INTO THE ARCTIC will be on display until April 30, 2020.

Over the course of more than a decade, Trépanier has travelled 60,000 km, through 6 National Parks, and 16 Inuit communities to capture the spectacular landscapes of the Canadian Arctic. Armed with perseverance and an unwavering dedication to his vision, he has created over 100 oil paintings and three documentary films during the course of his art-fuelled expeditions.

Into The Arctic premiered at the Embassy of Canada in Washington, D.C. in January 2017. The exhibition subsequently toured to six venues in the U.S. and three in Canada. After its European premiere in Monaco it is scheduled for display in Houston, Texas with additional venues to follow in North America.

“Exploring and painting the Canadian Arctic has been challenging and awe-inspiring, bringing me face-to-face with some of the planet's greatest natural wonders. After many years of solitary development, I am humbled to learn that others are being moved by my canvases. And that the exhibition is inspiring conversation about the North, the Inuit, the power of nature, and the importance of humanity's role in protecting it” said Trépanier.

As Trépanier explored the far reaches of Canada's North during his fourth expedition, little did he know that an invitation would come later to present the first public screening of the film he was making, Into The Arctic: Awakening, before HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco in 2018.

Both of their stories offer shared parallels — HSH Prince Albert II's great-great-grandfather Prince Albert I had been a pioneer in oceanography and scientific exploration of the Arctic. That passion for exploration and pursuit of environmental advocacy has been exemplified by His Serene Highness through his life and the work of his foundation in the preservation of our oceans and poles. HSH Prince Albert II has also travelled to the Arctic, even visiting a community in Canada Eastern Arctic where Trépanier painted.

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"We have no choice: we must protect Arctic ice, enable it to continue to act as an essential temperature regulator for the planet, avoid the catastrophic rise in sea levels that would result from the ice melt, and stop the disappearance of permafrost releasing irreversible quantities of greenhouse gases back into the atmosphere. It is a duty to ourselves and to all of humanity - to our children, of course, but also all those who are already suffering the dramatic effects of these developments." - HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco.

The Oceanographic Museum is thrilled to share this unprecedented collection of over 50 oil paintings, three documentary films, and the centrepiece Great Glacier, at almost 5 metres wide is one of the largest oil paintings ever created of the Canadian Arctic. The canvas presents the striking scene where the Coronation Glacier meets the ocean, flanked by mile high mountains rising up on each side. These works are a natural echo to those of Louis de Tinayre, an explorer and painter who collaborated with Prince Albert I during his seafaring campaigns for twenty years and some of whose paintings are part of the permanent exhibition at the Oceanographic Museum. Louis de Tinayre painted more than a hundred of these and they constitute a historic testimony to the life of the crew, the scientific work carried out and the landscapes and men encountered during the expeditions. By welcoming the painter Cory Trépanier, the Oceanographic Museum is continuing to unite Art and Science.

We would like to thank the Royal Canadian Geographical Society and Canadian Geographic for their continued support. RCGS/CANGEO is one of Canada's oldest and largest educational, non-profit organizations, dedicated to promoting and enhancing public awareness for Canadian geography and heritage. It is also presented in part by Hatch, a professional services, engineering, and technology consultancy serving the mining, energy, digital, investments, and infrastructure sectors for more than 65 years. This tour is produced by David J. Wagner, LLC.

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About Cory Trépanier

Trépanier's oil paintings and passionate films are conceived through extensive exploration into some of the most wild and changing places on our planet. "There's a timely and critical message that must be heard - that in order to protect the Inuit and the wonder of their land, we need an Arctic Awakening. May this collection move you to conscientiously consider today's decisions in the light of an uncertain tomorrow."

Each artistic expedition is not without its own set of challenges, there was the knee-punishing trek on Ellesmere Island with a 120lb backpack; enduring hordes of mosquitoes while painting at the edge of one of the highest waterfalls in the world above the Arctic Circle; being surrounded by Arctic wolves; and being stranded on the Kluane ice fields when an unrelenting storm rolls in. Each voyage offers striking landscapes, and adrenaline... lots of it.

Through painting and film, Cory preserves one of the most fragile, and spectacular regions of our planet and shares the wonder of the North, and its people, with others far away. To learn more, acquire paintings, videos, prints or Cory Trépanier's upcoming coffee table book, visit www.corytrepanier.com.

About Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation

Inspired by his own observations and in the light of the alarming scientific evidence, H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco made a personal commitment by launching, in 2006, his Foundation to act against the environmental dangers threatening our planet and making populations vulnerable.

The Foundation focuses its efforts on three principal domains of action: climate change, biodiversity and water resources, and funds initiatives in the fields of research and studies, technological innovation and socially aware practices.

In order to take action for the protection of nature, the Foundation supports projects in three main geographical regions: the Mediterranean Basin, the Polar Regions and the Least Developed Countries. The Foundation achieved to conduct, since its creation in 2006, over 500 projects worldwide.

About the oceanographic Museum

Set against the mythical Rock of Monaco, the Oceanographic Museum is the "flagship" of the Oceanographic Institute (Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation) and raises awareness among more than 650,000 visitors per year. Beyond its remarkable architecture, it stands out for its world-renowned aquarium, its exhibition events and the alliance of art and science. A place of culture and exchange of ideas, where experiences in the protection of the Ocean are shared, the Oceanographic Museum organises and hosts international conferences. In 2019, a rescue Centre dedicated to marine species was added to the original building, strengthening its capacity for action and awareness.

The INTO THE ARCTIC Tour is produced by David J. Wagner, L.L.C., David J. Wagner, Ph.D., Curator/Tour Director.

For tour updates, visit : <http://www.intotheartctic.ca/exhibitiontour/>

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