MONTRE-MOI PAR OÙ ON COMMENCE. DIS-LE-MOI AU CREUX DE L'OREILLE(2020), Marc-Antoine Côté

This is the last stop on the Public Art, Science and Technology tour of Loyola Campus.

In front of the Applied Science Hub stands a massive aluminum sculpture, clad in a horizontally striated finish and rising 8.5 metres high. To some, it may resemble a body in motion; to others, a tree trunk with bark-like texture. Hollow inside, the sculpture features an arched opening tall enough to enter. If you can, walk or move inside. What do you notice? Does the artwork feel like an echo chamber? When you look up, do you see the sky?

This is Marc-Antoine Côté's work *Montre-moi par où on commence. Dis-le-moi au creux de l'oreille,* which in English translates to, "Show me where we start. Whisper it in my ear." On this tour, the work will be referred to as *Montre-moi.*

Montre-moi was installed in 2020 after being commissioned for the one percent for public art program specifically for the Applied Science Hub. Connected to the Richard J. Renaud Science Complex, the science hub houses multiple multidisciplinary research centres, including those focused on aquatic biology, microscopy, cellular imaging and nanoscience.

Sheathed with reflective glass, the Applied Science Hub is a four-storey cube whose windows mirror the surrounding environment. This quality echoes the metallic surface of *Montre-moi*, which is also reflective. When light strikes the sculpture, its form and shadows are cast onto the building, while the sculpture itself mirrors the view in return. In other words, there's a constant visual exchange between the sculpture, the building, and their immediate surroundings. Take a moment to pause this tour and explore the sculpture's exterior, the building's windows, and the shifting reflections they create.

This reflective quality is a characteristic of Côté's work, which has been featured in galleries and public art installations across Montreal, Ottawa and Sept-Îles. Based in Quebec City, Côté creates his pieces at Bloc 5, a foundry and artists' co-operative he

co-founded. A graduate of the École de sculpture in Quebec City, he has created numerous public works across Quebec, often working in metal to create large-scale sculptures like *Montre-moi.* His works frequently feature textured rivets, crevasses, cracks, or striated surfaces.

In a gallery or museum, art is typically cordoned off from visitors who are invited to experience it at a distance — behind glass or on plinths. If you can, we suggest touching the sculpture. What sensations arise when you feel its texture? We understand that engaging physically with an artwork is an unusual invitation, yet *Montre-moi* encourages an embodied experience, inside and out: the textured surfaces, the light that filters through, the openings above.

The experiential nature of *Montre-moi* is fitting beside a science faculty that encourages unconventional thinking, research and exploration. While not a direct reference to scientific inquiry, the sculpture invites a similar kind of engagement and curiosity. In this way, *Montre-moi* becomes a symbol for doing things differently within the university context, whether in teaching, research, study — or even the experience of public art.

This concludes the *Public Art, Science and Technology* tour of Loyola Campus. Continue the audio-guided tours with the *Public Art, Public Memory* tour of Loyola Campus.