

Galerie d'art Louise et Reuben-Cohen

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Press release

For immediate release

THE IMAGINED REALITY OF SERGEÏ PARAJANOV (1924–1990)



Sergeï Parajanov, Sketch for the film *Confession*, 1980s. Photo credit: Parajanov Museum.

MONCTON, October 26 2011 – An exhibition titled *Parajanov: Imagined Reality* will be presented at the Louise and Reuben Cohen Art Gallery from November 4 to December 16. On loan from the Parajanov Museum in Yerevan, more than forty works by Armenian artist, Sergeï Parajanov will be on display, along with a looped projection of what is arguably his signature film, «The Color of Pomegranates (Sayat Nova)» (1968). The opening will be held on Friday, November 4, at 7 PM. The event will feature music and performances directed by Sylvia Kasparian, artistic director of the Moncton Armenian Festival, interpreting Parajanov's life and work through sound and movement.

Sergeï Parajanov (1924-1990) is a filmmaker and artist whose work is an ongoing legacy to cotemporary cinema. Presented as part on the 4th edition of the Moncton Armenian Festival, the exhibition features the artists' visual art along with his cinematographic production. These pieces, produced at different stages in his life, including long periods of incarceration, illustrate the creative impulse of the artist. Constructed of found objects and images, his compositions say as much about the artist himself as of the freedom of his imaginative mind.

During the Armenian Festival, four of Parajanov's major films will be presented in the gallery's amphitheater. "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors" (1964) will be presented on Saturday, November 5, at 3 PM, and "The Legend of Suram Fortress" (1984), at 7 PM. Then "Achik Kerib" (1899), will be presented on Sunday, November 6, at 3 PM, and "The Color of Pomegranates (Sayat Nova)" (1968), at 7 PM. A retrospective of Parajanov's cinematographic work will also be presented during the International Francophone Film festival in Acadie (FICFA), November 17 to 26. (Please note that the films will be presented in the original version with English subtitles during the Armenian Festival and with French subtitles during the FICFA). "Parajanov: A Requiem" (1994), a documentary by Ron Holloway in which the artist himself talks of his life and work and expands on his artistic expression, will be presented at noon, on Wednesday, November 2, at the Université de Moncton's visual art department. ("Parajanov: A Requiem" will be presented in the original version with English sub-titles).

The Louise and Reuben Cohen Art Gallery is located at 405 Université Avenue, in the Clément Cormier building on the Université de Moncton campus. Gallery hours are 1 PM to 4:30 PM, Tuesday to Friday, and 1 PM to 4 PM on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free. For up-to-date information on Galerie d'art Louise et Reuben-Cohen activities, please join us on Facebook. For more information on the Louise and Reuben Cohen Art Gallery and its activities, please contact us at (506)858-4088 or by email at galrc@umoncton.ca. For the Moncton Armenian Festival's full program, please visit www.festivalarmenien.com.