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Finding Aid - Société du 5 avril fonds (P170)

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Concordia University Libraries Special Collections

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Société du 5 avril fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Concordia University Libraries Special Collections
Title:	Société du 5 avril fonds
ID:	P170
Date:	1990-1997 (date of creation)
Physical description:	1.29 meters of textual documents 3 photographs.
Language:	French
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Société du 5 avril was founded April 5, 1990 when seven artistic enterprises, all tenants of the building at 4060 St. Laurent Blvd., were threatened with eviction by the building's owners who had decided to sell their spaces as part of a condominium development. The hastily formed group included Article, DARE-dare, Dazibao, La Centrale, Main Film, Skol and Vox Populi and was incorporated on June 6, 1990 under the name Société du 5 avril. Its purpose was to develop a centre for non-profit groups. The Société's mandate was to purchase, adapt and manage a centre for self-managed organizations in the visual and media arts. It aimed to provide greater visibility for its members as well as adequate permanent spaces; the Société would also allow its members the benefits of purchasing their supplies in bulk. The members were forced to vacate their premises at 4060 St. Laurent before May 1, 1991, and the Société quickly ordered an initial pre-feasibility study which recommended a temporary relocation. DARE-dare, Dazibao, La Centrale and Skol moved to rented quarters at 279 Sherbrooke St. West; the other three organizations moved elsewhere. Next, the Société undertook a feasibility study regarding acquisition and development of a permanent building. The first phase of the study, a presentation on the parameters of the project, was completed in October 1993. The second stage began with a study of the technical aspects of the project. Meanwhile, the Société du 5 avril chose the building which best suited the members' needs. It was a former foundry situated at 735-745 Ottawa Street in the up-and-coming Faubourg des Récollets adjacent to Montreal's Old Quarter. An architect's report on the building concluded the second phase of the feasibility study; the three-volume document was deposited in the spring of 1995.

However, the Ottawa Street project was not realized. After some reconsideration, several members of the Société moved to spaces in the building at 460 St. Catherine Street West. The Société du 5 avril officially wrapped up its operations on February 28, 1997.

Custodial history

Following the cessation of operations of the Société du 5 avril, the documents were kept by the La Centrale Gallery. The fonds was transferred from Concordia University's Records Management and Archives Department to Concordia University Libraries' Special Collections April 13, 2016 and June 8, 2016.

Scope and content

The fonds relates to the management and activities of the Société du 5 avril of Montreal, from its inception in 1990 through the cessation of operations in 1997. It primarily documents the Société's efforts to launch a self-managed artist's centre and the plan to acquire a building for that purpose.

The fonds is composed of feasibility studies, working files, correspondence, and promotional documents.

The fonds is arranged in the following series:

P170/A Administration

P170/A,1 Founding documents and histories

P170/A,2 General meetings

P170/B Financial administration

P170/B,1 Fund-raising

P170/B,2 Accounting

P170/B,3 Banking

P170/B,4 Taxes

P170/B,5 Financial statements

P170/C Buildings, equipment and supplies

P170/C,1 Equipment and supplies

P170/C,2 Buildings

P170/D Communications and public relations

P170/E Feasibility studies

P170/E,1 Working documents

P170/E,2 Reference documentation

P170/E,3 Member files

P170/E,4 Lists of equipment required

P170/E,5 Reports

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the content of the fonds

Immediate source of acquisition

The fonds was acquired from La Centrale Gallery in April 2002.

Arrangement

The arrangement of the documents was done by the archivist.

Finding aids

Box contents listings are available.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Final
- **Rights:** Copyright belongs to the creator(s).

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)
- Montreal (place)

Series descriptions
