

Montréal's principal performing arts complex is **Place des Arts** and the program is truly international. In March, 1997, the blockbuster musical "*Annie*" comes to town. And performances by comedy superstars promise to be sell-outs around the city, including those of **Michel Courtemanche**, the rubber man, **André-Philippe Gagnon** the inimitable mimic who interpreted the voices of all 18 singers performing "*We Are The World*", as well as **Yvon Deschamps**, **Daniel Lemire**, **François Léveillé** and Québec's most celebrated illusionist-extraordinaire **Alain Choquette**.

If theatre is one's cup of tea, Montréal has it all. The city's leading English-language theatres are the **Centaur** and the **Saidye Bronfman Centre**. Francophone theatres include the **Théâtre du Nouveau Monde**, **Théâtre du Rideau Vert**, **Théâtre Jean Duceppe**, **Usine C**, **Monument National** and **Espace Go**. From Ibsen to improv, from **Michel Tremblay** to **Molière**, the program is unlimited. For parents, Montréal's children's theatre, including **Les deux mondes** and **Théâtre sans fil** with its giant marionettes, is also one of the most creative in the world and a pure delight.

The city's museums and galleries are the pride of Québec. Indeed, the **Montréal Museum of Fine Arts**, the oldest in Canada, has hosted many fabulous travelling exhibits, including those of Picasso, Miro, Chagall and Michelangelo. The 1997 season opens with an intriguing exhibit devoted exclusively to the human body in photography "*Body in the Lens*", to be followed in the summer by "*Exiles and Emigrés*", a retrospective by European artists who fled Nazi Germany.

The Musée d'art contemporain, in addition to its permanent collection, presents a magnificent retrospective of the works of **Jean-Paul Mousseau** and, beginning in April for the 50th Anniversary of "*Refus global*", it will spotlight 100 works by **Paul-Emile Borduas** and other *Automatists*.

For its part, the **McCord Museum** is dedicated to art and artifacts reflecting Canada's history. And the **Pointe-à-Callière Museum**, close to the Old Port and built on the exact site of the small



A large shopping center is to be found under this cathedral, in the heart of the city.

mission-colony of Ville Marie, today Montréal, is presenting a fascinating travelling exhibit featuring 8,000 years of archeological discoveries on the *Island of Cyprus*, as well as an incredible audio-visual show full of spectacular special effects on the history of the city. In the Shaughnessy Village area of town, the award-winning **Canadian Centre for Architecture** is recognized as one of the finest of its kind in the world.

THE ART OF DINING

If fine dining and exquisite cuisine is more to one's taste, the Greater Montréal Region is truly a gourmet's paradise. Recognized as the second gastronomical city in the world, it is home to over 5,000 places to eat featuring the dishes of over 45 ethnic groups. For something truly different, **Françoise Kayler**, one of Québec's most respected food critics, has just published a fascinating book on *Amerindian cuisine*.

Not unnaturally, French haute cuisine takes pride of place with restaurants such as **Les Halles**, **Toqué**, **Allumette** and **Chez Joel** being among the very best. A short distance from the new ICAO Headquarters are several first-class restaurants renowned for their exceptional cuisine. These include **D'Aversa** with its absolutely delicious "*cuccina italiana*" and **La Marée**, in picturesque Old Montréal, where the seafood just doesn't come any fresher.

Outside the immediate area, are many delightful restaurants well worth discovering. For example, **L'Entre Miche** in the east end of the city, the adopted lunch hour home of personalities from nearby Radio-Québec and Radio-Canada. A little further away is the truly exceptional **Trois Tilleuls** on the banks of the Richelieu River. The menu features French haute cuisine, as well as specialties of the region, and the wine cellar has few equals in all of Québec.

HOTELS PAR EXCELLENCE

Some of the city's finest hotels are located just minutes away from the new ICAO Headquarters. For example, the **Radisson Hôtel des Gouverneurs** with its superb revolving restaurant, **Tour de Ville**, the only one of its kind in Montréal.