

***For the first time in Québec*****The Galerie de l'UQAM presents a work by WIM DELVOYE****Artist, engineer, entrepreneur and mad inventor**

**Dates:** January 16 to February 14, 2009  
**Vernissage:** Thursday, January 15 at 5:30 p.m.  
**Exhibition curator:** Wayne Baerwaldt

Montreal, December 16, 2008 – From January 18 to February 14, the Galerie de l'UQAM will be home to an installation by Wim Delvoye, a contemporary artist who regularly causes a sensation on the international art scene. After Kaohsiung, Taiwan and Luxemburg, it will be Montreal's turn to see *Cloaca No. 5*, the fifth incarnation of the *Cloaca* series, which has been shown around the world. The exhibition is organized and touring in collaboration with the Illingworth Kerr Gallery of the Alberta College of Art and Design in Calgary.

As this controversial artist is of particular interest to art students and professionals, the Galerie de l'UQAM is again fulfilling its mission of providing access to important contemporary work.

Wim Delvoye comments on the merchandising of our consumer culture. Appropriating images from well-known brands, he creates experiences that constitute a challenge to bioethics.

What exactly is *Cloaca No. 5*? At the intersection of art and science, *Cloaca No. 5* is a machine/sculpture that duplicates the human digestive system. The machine is fed at fixed times in a well-defined ritual twice daily. The entire digestive process is replicated in detail from start to final output.

The project invites us to consider the definition of life, from start to finish. It also draws a parallel between an object of distaste and an art object, raising questions about how they are perceived. On a macroeconomic scale, *Cloaca No. 5* can be viewed as a metaphor for post-industrial society, a critique of hyper-capitalism. The artist's vision goes beyond art for art's sake to encompass its development, its evolution and its function.

Shocking? Fabulous? Questionable? Decide for yourself.

**Address and hours**

Galerie de l'UQAM  
Judith-Jasmin Pavilion, Room J-R120  
1400 Berri (corner of Sainte-Catherine East), Montréal  
Tuesday to Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. – Free admission

## Information

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[www.galerie.uqam.ca](http://www.galerie.uqam.ca)

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