



## Cambodia, beyond the genocide...

May 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Concordia University, Montreal

Montreal, Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – **The international colloquium *Cambodia, from then to now: memory and plural identities in the aftermath of genocide*** will take place at Concordia University, Montreal on 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2011. The event is being organized by the Cambodian Working Group ([www.curakhmer.org](http://www.curakhmer.org)), part of the Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) *Life Stories of Montrealers displaced by War, Genocide and other Human Rights Violations (Montreal Life Stories)* based at Concordia University.

The colloquium will gather more than twenty artists and directors, as well as a large number of western and Cambodian experts across a range of disciplines (history, law, psychology and sociology). Invited guests include the celebrated French-Cambodian filmmaker **Rithy Panh**, winner of several international prizes and a regular guest/participant at the prestigious Cannes International Film Festival. The conference will also host the French-Cambodian comic book artist, **Séra** and the American-Cambodian economist and genocide survivor, **Sophal Ear**. The anthropologist **Alex Hinton** and *The New York Times* journalist **Elizabeth Becker**, both specialists in Cambodian history, will participate as well as the former Co-Prosecutor at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) **Robert Petit**.

This bilingual (French/English) colloquium aims to foster a deeper understanding of **the various ways the Khmer Rouge genocide has shaped Khmer identity, both in Cambodia and in the diaspora**. This event will be a rare opportunity to explore Cambodian history and the life stories of Cambodian Montrealers through the testimonies, lectures, films and theatre extracts that have emerged from the *Montreal Life Stories* project over the last 4 years.

*Montreal Life Stories* ([www.lifestoriesmontreal.ca/en](http://www.lifestoriesmontreal.ca/en)) is a five year project led by 40 academic and community researchers and around 20 educational, artistic and human rights organisations attached to Montreal's ethnic communities (Jewish, Rwandan, Cambodian and Haitian etc.) The aim of the project is to collect the oral histories of Montrealers. Their stories are filmed and digitized, and will serve to create a « memory bank » accessible to all.

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- **May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Opening night:** Cinémathèque Québécoise, 335, boul. de Maisonneuve East, Montreal
- **May 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Colloquium:** Concordia University, 1455, boul. de Maisonneuve West, Montreal
- **General Public:** \$20 / 3 days     - **Students:** \$10 / 3 days (student card is necessary)

For more information, please contact:  
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