

FAKES, FRAUDS and FORGERIES

January to March 2010 at the Royal Ontario Museum

Every museum has a drawer or two of fakes in its collection. An exciting new exhibition presented by the Royal Ontario Museum from January to March 2010 will include fakes, frauds and forgeries from the ROM's art, archaeology and natural history collections as well as the popular counterfeited items of today. The exhibition will consist of 8 - 11 displays with each case covering a different topic. This dynamic exhibition will include:

- Fakes placed next to real artifacts and the differences between the two explained, providing a fun learning experience and an opportunity to learn about the ROM's diverse holdings.
- The science behind the detection of fakes by revealing the tools and techniques that curatorial experts use to detect forgeries.
- Stories of legendary scams and frauds, along with questions such as, "When does a reproduction become a fake and when does a fake become a forgery?" answered.
- A series of interactive components, whereby visitors will be tested to make an educated guess as to which objects are real and which are fakes.

The theme of fakes and forgeries will be expanded to include the most current trends in counterfeiting today. From luxury consumer goods and counterfeit currency to fake stocks and bonds and fake pharmaceuticals, visitors will learn about the extent of and damage caused by the practice of counterfeiting.

The topic of fakes and forgeries holds a definite mystique. Given the diversity of the ROM's collection, the popularity of antiques today and the widespread epidemic of counterfeit products, this exhibition is sure to appeal to a wide and diverse audience.

In addition to its run at the ROM, *Fakes, Frauds and Forgeries* will be available to institutions across Canada as part of the ROM's Travelling Exhibitions program.

ROM Travelling Exhibitions

Travelling exhibitions bring the ROM's world cultures and natural history collections to those institutions whose communities cannot readily visit the Museum. They are circulated to provincial museums, art galleries, libraries and other public venues. Last year, ROM Travelling Exhibitions visited 29 locations spread over Ontario, BC, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec and were experienced by 441,149 visitors.



FAKES!

Pictured right: Fakes based on a genuine Zapoteca urn (center) from the ROM's collection.

For questions, sponsorship opportunities or to request a detailed proposal, please contact:

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