

Postcards

Postcard

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Black & white postcard with handwritten inscriptions from the Victoria Skating Rink.

Accession Number 2013.30.20.227

Fabricant / Éditeur Montreal Import Co.

Artiste / Auteur Unknown

Date 1909 an

Medium and Support ink, cardboard

Technique industrial process

Measurements 8,7 x 13,7 cm

Historical context

This postcard, produced around 1909, shows a winter carnival scene at the Victoria Skating Rink, then located on rue Drummond, not far from the Dorchester intersection (today boulevard De Maisonneuve). The world's first indoor skating rink and considered the birthplace of ice hockey, the Victoria Skating Rink hosted the sport's first organized game on March 3, 1875. The postcard reproduces a well-known composite photograph by William Notman, created in 1870. Entitled *Skating Carnival*, this work superimposes over three hundred individual photographs, most of them portraits of well-known Montrealers from the wealthy classes. Indeed, in an advertisement in the *Gazette*, Notman invited carnival guests to his studio to be photographed in costume: he thus allowed socialites to be included in the photograph alongside their peers, even before the carnival took place. The composite photograph was produced in large format and sometimes painted in bright colors so that the guests' faces could be distinguished.

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