

ARTSWEEK

ARTISTAT: Amount invested in the revamped Montreal Science Centre (on King Edward Pier in the Old Port), which boasts six new permanent exhibitions and four new interactive exhibition spaces: \$6.3-million

Whiting out history

Old photographs, objects and texts are the base material for John Latour's exhibition *Chimérique* at Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain (372 Ste-Catherine W., #216). Found photos from the 1930s to the early '50s are combined on the walls with pages ripped from two classic novels, *Frankenstein* and *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. But don't expect this art to give you a clearer image of the past, for through Latour's selective application of white paint, the figures and words have almost completely disappeared from our view.

The figures' identities have been eliminated by the application of small white dots and most of the words on the pages have been painted over. Those that remain create sentences such as, "I abstained from youth" and "Thus the stars announced my destruction."

The sculptures are created from vintage objects, which include an old baby carriage and an umbrella. These Latour has suspended from the roof, thereby removing their functionality. Latour says these three series together "allude to the past, a loss of history." While the accompanying text states quite beautifully, "*Chimérique* evokes a fragile past populated by elusive subjects."

Until Dec. 22, info: (514) 395-6032.

—CHRISTINE REDFERN



FOUND: Josh Latour's "Profile of Woman in Black Coat With Skiers in the Background"

COURTESY PIERRE-FRANÇOIS OUELLETTE ART CONTEMPORAIN