

## Preamble

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## **Preamble**

Alessandra Mariani

This edition of *Muséologies* presents texts on a subject rarely discussed by specialists in the francophone museal world. While museal governance and the legislative apparatus regulating museums make up the logistical core and identity of our cultural institutions, they are not often considered as central themes, in either university teaching or instruction. This edition, edited by Professor Yves Bergeron, holder of UQÀM's research Chair on museal governance and cultural law, offers a number of reflections on the administrative and para-legislative aspects that contribute to the direction and implementation of cultural projects. Indeed, the existence of an environment such as that of the museal institution, which is dedicated to the exchange of knowledge but is also a place for contemplation and dissemination, a public forum and a space for socialization, entails a consistency between the conception of its cultural programs and the organizational structure that makes them function. On that point, this edition tells an important story, that of the governance of Québec's great museums, and provides for reflection on its impact on the development of new models. It addresses the convergence of the birth of the digital environment, the globalization of museums and the paradigm of sustainable culture. It examines the norms of museal governance through the lens of the law, and attests to original and exceptional pathways. In fact, it shows the diversity and range of research topics adopted by the Chair, solidly validating the potential and scope of its existence.