



Art Gallery of Hamilton

engageyourImagination

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 10, 2006

AGHvideo presents  
*Northern Documents: Candid Portraits of Family Life*  
by Sami and Inuit Filmmakers

To complement the Art Gallery of Hamilton's exhibition *In the Shadow of the Midnight Sun: Sami and Inuit Art 2000-2005*, AGHvideo presents ***Northern Documents: Candid Portraits of Family Life by Sami and Inuit Filmmakers***, a screening of three documentaries by contemporary Sami and Inuit filmmakers depicting family life in the Swedish, Finnish and Canadian North. All screenings take place at the Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West in downtown Hamilton. Admission is pay-what-you-can with a suggested donation of \$5.00.

**AGHvideo schedule**

**Thursday, January 19 - 7:00 pm**

***My Father, My Teacher***

Through intimate conversations, poignant stories, and eloquent reflection, *My Father, My Teacher* chronicles the filmmaker's return to his homeland and his father after years of animosity. As father and son re-connect in the Canadian Arctic, a cultural and family legacy is finally carried down. *My Father, My Teacher* highlights the generational divides that exist in the Aboriginal community, showing how parents and elders cross the bridge between tradition and modernity to reach a new generation. Director Dennis Allen is a filmmaker and actor from Inuvik, Northwest Territories.

**Thursday, January 26 - 7:00 pm**

***Oabba (Sister)* - short film**

Six-year-old Xia and four-year-old Lifu are two sisters adopted from China to Sámi land. Although they are not biologically related, their sisterhood is strong. Together, they want to learn Chinese, Tai Chi, and how to make reindeer shoes with their Sámi grandparents. *Oabba (Sister)* explores each girl's relationship to their Chinese and Sámi roots, their friends, and each other. Director Ritva Torikka-Gelencsér is North-Sámi and works as a journalist in YLE Sámiradio in Finland, specializing in children's programs.

***Vieljažat Gironis (Brothers in Giron)***

Edmund Sunna promised his mother not to put his mentally challenged brother into an institution. Twenty years later, they still live together in Northern Sweden. ***Vieljažat Gironis (Brothers in Giron)*** is a compelling documentary about the relationship between these two remarkable brothers. Director Per Niia works at Sámi Television SVT Sápmi, in Giron North, Sweden and has made several documentaries about the life of the Sámi.

The AGH's exhibition ***In the Shadow of the Midnight Sun: Sami and Inuit Art 2000-2005*** is on view from January 14 to May 7. This exhibition marks the first ever in-depth comparative analysis of two distinct cultures featuring works by Canadian Inuit artists and Sami artists from Norway, Sweden and Finland made between 2000 and 2005. Admission to this exhibition is free courtesy of Orlick Industries Limited.

AGH*video* receives funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage, Arts Presentation Programme, and media support from View Magazine. The AGH gratefully acknowledges the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council and the City of Hamilton for their generous support of all our programmes.

For further information about AGH*video* screenings, please visit [www.artgalleryofhamilton.com](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com)

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#### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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For more information about the Art Gallery of Hamilton and its exhibitions, please contact Steve Denyes, Manager, Communications at 905-527-6610, ext 255 or e-mail [steve@artgalleryofhamilton.com](mailto:steve@artgalleryofhamilton.com)