



Art Gallery of Hamilton
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Art Gallery of Hamilton announces its Spring 2006 Exhibitions

The Art Gallery of Hamilton is pleased to announce its Spring 2006 exhibition schedule marking the first year anniversary of its reopening after extensive renovations – a year filled with record attendance figures, acclaimed exhibitions and innovative programming.

On view from May 28 to September 23, the banner exhibition ***Great Master Series: Vincent van Gogh*** focuses on a select group of major oil paintings by Post-Impressionist painter Vincent van Gogh (1853–1890) on loan from galleries in Canada, United States and France. By presenting five significant works from the major periods of the artist's career, and interpreting the works contextually, the exhibition will highlight the roots and development of van Gogh's style and themes. Exhibition sponsored by Orlick Industries. Exclusive Magazine Media Sponsor: Hamilton Magazine.

On view from May 27 to September 4, ***Sublime Embrace: Experiencing Consciousness in Contemporary Art*** is a major international banner exhibition that explores how contemporary artists use many approaches to express the various characteristics and sensations of conscious experience. Featured artists will lead visitors to a fuller experience through sensory perception such as audio, touch, emotion and smell, bringing visitors into each work physically or psychically. Artists represented in this banner exhibition include Ernesto Neto (Brazil), Annika Larsson (Sweden), Janet Cardiff and Georges Bures Miller (Germany, Canada), Bill Viola (US), Barbara Steinman (Canada), James Casebere (US), David Rokeby (Canada), Tania Bruguera (Cuba), Katarina Matiasek (Austria), David Hoffos (Canada), Miroslaw Balka (Poland), Anish Kapoor (Great Britain), Mark Karasick (Great Britain), Robert Longo (USA), and Tony Oursler (USA).

Tickets to the AGH's banner exhibitions are \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors, \$5 for children ages 6 to 17 and free for children under 5 years. AGH Members receive free admission. Tickets purchased give admittance to both ***Great Masters Series: Vincent van Gogh*** and ***Sublime Embrace: Experiencing Consciousness in Contemporary Art***.

On view May 28 to September 23, ***Fellow Artists through the Eyes of van Gogh*** complements the ticketed exhibition *Great Masters Series: Vincent van Gogh*. This free introductory exhibition features works from the AGH permanent collection created by artists van Gogh admired. Van Gogh's words on the artists accompany their works, encouraging fresh appreciation of the images and tracing the many sources of van Gogh's inspiration. The twenty-one works in this exhibition range from landscape paintings by Courbet and Pissarro, sketches by Renoir, prints by nineteenth-century lithographers such as Daumier and Gavarni, and two prints by the Old Masters Dürer and Rembrandt.

On view June 24, 2006 to March 4, 2007, ***Visions of Nature: European Landscapes from the Collection*** showcases a large variety of European landscapes from the AGH's permanent collection. Beginning with paintings from the 17th century, the exhibition spans two centuries and includes landscapes representing different styles, schools and themes. Nationalities represented are Holland, France, Germany, England, Italy, Denmark, Sweden and Belgium. Together, they offer the chance to study the evolution of landscape from 17th-century naturalism to late 19th-century Impressionism and Post-Impressionism.

On view June 24, 2006 to February 18, 2007, ***Michel Lambeth: (Re)producing Identity*** explores the formative period in the history of multiculturalism in Canada by focusing on the work of photographer Michel Lambeth. Taken primarily in Toronto during the 1950s and 60s, Lambeth's photographs present an idealized view of happy co-existence between immigrants and Canadians. Providing visual evidence of successful integration and diffusing tension through humour and perceptive observation, these photographs helped shape contemporary notions of diversity and Canadian identity.

On view June 24, 2006 to February 18, 2007, ***A Glimpse of the Sublime through 19th-Century Canadian Art*** examines an aesthetic revived in the 18th century. The Sublime was defined in contrast to the more civilized and inviting Picturesque and in this selection culled from the AGH's permanent collection, viewers catch a glimpse of the sublime in landscapes, portraits and genre paintings. Artists featured include F.M. Bell-Smith, Marmaduke Matthews, Robert Harris, Charlotte Schreiber, Cornelius Krieghoff, Lucius R. O'Brien, T. Mower Martin, Otto Jacobi, and Frederick Arthur Verner.

On view June 30, 2006 to February 18, 2007, ***The Moving Figure: Canadian and European Sculpture*** explores the question - how do sculptors convey movement in a figure using inert materials such as wood, stone, metal or fibreglass? Whether the figure is human or animal, clearly represented or barely

suggested through abstraction, this exhibition delves into the AGH's Canadian and European collection to answer this intriguing question.

On view July 8 to August 27 in the Ross and Jean Fischer Gallery, the community gallery exhibition **Tom Bochsler: Industrial Images** consists of a selection of remarkable photographs that constitute highlights of Hamilton industry since the early 1960s and includes images of McMaster University's Nuclear Reactor, Stelco, Westinghouse Turbine Manufacturing, the Studebaker-assembly plant, Firestone Tire, Dofasco and Slater Steel among many others. Self-taught, Tom Bochsler has developed a technique and a unique form of lighting that identifies his particular style and approach.

As new exhibitions get underway, the AGH's popular banner exhibition **Heaven and Earth Unveiled: European Treasures from the Tanenbaum Collection** draws to a close on May 28. This stunning exhibition, the only opportunity to view the entire collection together, features over 200 nineteenth-century paintings and sculptures donated to the AGH by Joey and Toby Tanenbaum. A smaller version of this exhibition will then tour to other galleries.

Banner exhibitions require paid ticket admission; all other AGH exhibitions are free courtesy of Orlick Industries Ltd.

The Art Gallery of Hamilton has organized an engaging lineup of film, performance, children's, family and adult programming to complement its varied roster of exhibitions. For complete exhibition and programming information, please visit **www.artgalleryofhamilton.com**.

Art Gallery of Hamilton is located at 123 King Street West in downtown Hamilton, 905-527-6610. Gallery hours: Tuesday and Wednesday Noon to 7 pm, Thursday and Friday Noon to 9 pm, Saturday and Sunday Noon to 5 pm. Closed Mondays. The AGH is open from Noon to 5 pm on statutory holidays, including Monday, May 22 for Victoria Day.

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For further information and images of the Art Gallery of Hamilton, its exhibitions and programming, please contact: Steve Denyes at 905-527-6610, ext. 255
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