

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 3, 2007



*A discussion of our changing perceptions of beauty*

**Art Gallery of Hamilton presents**  
**T.N.T. (Thursday Night Talks):**  
**Body for Sale – Defining the New Beauty**

Join in an engaging panel discussion of society's changing perspective of beauty and self-image as **Art Gallery of Hamilton's T.N.T. (Thursday Night Talks)** presents ***Body for Sale – Defining the New Beauty*** on Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 pm at the Art Gallery of Hamilton.

Angelina's lips, Nicole's nose and Beyonce's eyes are just a few surgeries away. A new advertising campaign encourages women to celebrate their real beauty and embrace their curves. Milan bans underweight models from its fashion runways. A major retailer sells thongs (emblazoned with "eye candy" and "wink, wink") for eight year-olds. Tattoos and piercings are commonplace (and permanent) personal expressions of style. In concert with the Art Gallery of Hamilton's fall season focus on fashion, T.N.T asks, what is the new beautiful?

An expert panel, with **Terry Cooke** moderating, partakes in a multi-faceted discussion that challenges the audience to discuss what are the cultural norms of beauty and why. Joining the panel are writer and editor **Amy Willard Cross, Dr. Marc Ouellette**, Professor of Cultural Studies & Cultural Theory from McMaster University and **Dr. Randi McCabe**, Director of the Anxiety Treatment and Research Centre and Psychologist-in-Chief at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton.

Tickets for **T.N.T. (Thursday Night Talks)** are \$10.00 for AGH Members, \$15.00 for Non-Members and \$12.00 for students and seniors and may be purchased on-line at [www.artgalleryofhamilton.com](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com), by calling 905-527-6610, ext. 272 or at the Gallery's Front Desk during Gallery hours. Purchase your T.N.T tickets online and save \$1.00 per ticket.

An optional tour of the current AGH exhibitions is available at 6:00 pm and is included in the T.N.T. ticket price.

An ongoing AGH series, **T.N.T. (Thursday Night Talks)** showcases how art and social issues affect and inform everyday life.

Art Gallery of Hamilton is located at 123 King Street West in downtown Hamilton.

For more information about **T.N.T. (Thursday Night Talks)**, please contact 905-527-6610, ext. 272 or visit [www.artgalleryofhamilton.com](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com).

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For more information about **T.N.T. (Thursday Night Talks)**, please contact Laurie Kilgour-Walsh, Educator, at 905-527-6610, ext. 272 or by e-mail at [laurie@artgalleryofhamilton.com](mailto:laurie@artgalleryofhamilton.com)

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

## **PANEL BIOS**

### **Art Gallery of Hamilton**

#### ***T.N.T. (Thursday Night Talks): Body for Sale – Defining the New Beauty***

Thursday, October 18 - 7:00 pm

(Optional AGH exhibition tour at 6 pm – free with T.N.T ticket)

Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West, Hamilton

905-527-6610, ext. 272

**Terry Cooke** is President of Cooke Capital Corporation, a company that provides strategic advice in the fields of energy, technology and land development. Mr. Cooke has been serving his community for over 25 years. He was elected Chairman of the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth in 1994 and re-elected decisively in 1997. Prior to his election as Regional Chairman, Mr. Cooke was elected 3 times as a City and Regional Councillor for Ward One in the City of Hamilton. Upon his retirement from political life, Mr. Cooke entered the private sector with his appointment as President and Chief Operating Officer for the Foxcroft Group of Companies. Mr. Cooke is a past Chairman of the Hamilton-Wentworth Police Services Board and also served on the GO Transit Board, the Greater Toronto Services Board and the Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation Board.

### **Amy Willard Cross**

Amy Willard Cross has worked as an editor and writer for *Saturday Night Magazine*, *Chatelaine Magazine*, *Active Magazine* and others.

Always attuned to what's about to happen in the culture, Ms. Cross started her career by developing the first magazine for midlife women in the mid -1980's for the publishers of *Shape Magazine*. Since then, she has reported extensively and prophetically on social trends and ephemera.

A writer, Ms. Cross was named special correspondent for *Chatelaine* and reported stories important to Canadian women-such as a special women's medical centre and work family policies in Holland. She served as a columnist for *Flare Magazine* and *Washington Dossier Magazine* and freelanced for many publications in Canada and the United States.

For radio, Ms. Cross has written many essays, as well being a guest on CBC shows and commercial radio. She also produced segments for the McMaster Radio. Ms. Cross was a regular guest on CH noon television and has also been invited as a guest on many other television programs. For television, she has written scripts for a half-hour series and done research for documentaries.

Ms. Cross was educated at Wellesley College where she received a degree (magna cum laude) in French and "aesthetic philosophy". In addition, she studied semiotics in Paris through Censier (Nouvelle Sorbonne) and the University of California.

**Dr. Randi McCabe**

*Director of the Anxiety Treatment and Research Centre and Psychologist-in-Chief at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton*

Dr. McCabe is Director of the Anxiety Treatment and Research Centre and Psychologist-in-Chief at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences and Chair of the Clinical Behavioural Sciences Program at McMaster University. She has authored four books including *The Overcoming Bulimia Workbook* and has over 100 published articles, book chapters, and conference presentations on anxiety, eating disorders, and cognitive behavioral therapy. She is actively involved in training other mental health professionals and has given many workshops on conducting cognitive behavioural therapy and the treatment of anxiety disorders and eating disorders. Her private practice is focused on eating disorders.

**Dr. Marc A. Ouellette**

*Professor of Cultural Studies, Department of English, McMaster University*

Dr. Marc Ouellette's primary research area is contemporary popular culture with a focus on depictions of gender, especially those which challenge the gender norms of the dominant culture. Although interested in film and media studies, Dr. Ouellette also pays close attention to digital and other emerging forms of transmission and the ways they reproduce, revise or reject both popular and dominant cultures. He investigates which familiar narrative, social and cultural patterns repeat and why this is the case and attempts to find when, why and how cultural motifs and behaviours become automatic responses and who benefits from such an arrangement.