

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 17, 2008



***Celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary***  
**Art Gallery of Hamilton International Film and Video Festival 10**  
**and**  
**Bell Canada Award for Short Film And Video**  
**AGH Shorts Award**

The **Art Gallery of Hamilton's International Film and Video Festival** celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with two screenings representing excellence, innovation and diversity in international short film and video on **Thursday, August 7 at 9:15 pm and 11:20 pm**. This festival is an outdoor event under the stars in the Art Gallery of Hamilton's Irving Zucker Sculpture Garden, 123 King Street West, downtown Hamilton. Following the 9:15 pm screening, the Bell Canada Award and the AGH Shorts Award will be presented.

Admission is \$4.00 for AGH Members and \$5.00 for Non-Members. Tickets may be purchased in advance online at [www.artgalleryofhamilton.com](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com), at the Gallery's Front Desk during Gallery hours or at the door the evening of the screening. The screenings are restricted to ages 18 and older.

In the event of rain, the screening will take place indoors in the AGH's Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Pavilion.

An engaging programme of 19 international short films and videos are in competition for the Bell Canada Award. These works were selected from over 200 entries by both established and emerging directors from 12 countries. Genres include drama, documentary, performance, comedy, animation and experimental film and video, all under 15 minutes in length and produced between January 1, 2006 and January 1, 2008. Works screened at this year's festival include regional, national and international premieres. Several works have also been featured at prestigious international festivals such as the Sundance Film Festival, the Toronto International Film Festival, and the Locarno Film Festival. Festival jurors and screened directors will be in attendance. The 2008 Oscar-nominated short *I Met the Walrus* will also be featured in this year's programme with the film's producer and participant Jerry Levitan in attendance.

The Bell Canada Award is a \$1000 cash prize awarded by a jury comprised of accomplished film and video professionals. This year, the festival presents a new award, the AGH Shorts Award - - \$500 cash award presented for innovation in short film and video selected from the 200 submissions.

Also new this year are two screenings at 9:15 pm and 11:20 pm, increasing the number of films presented from 10 to 19 works. A guest DJ will spin outdoors in the Irving Zucker Sculpture Garden between screenings. In case of rain, the event will be held indoors in the AGH's Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Pavilion.

The **AGH International Film and Video Festival 10** is generously supported by Bell Canada Inc., Department of Canadian Heritage Arts Presentation Program, and the City of Hamilton, Office of Film and Television. Additional support is provided by View Magazine and Sound Box

Entertainment. 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 its programmes.

### **Bell Canada Award Jury:**

**Lesley Loksi Chan** (Hamilton) is a film and video artist. Chan was the Canadian Spotlight Artist at the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival where she won two awards for her films "*I no / no*" and "*Wanda & Miles*". Chan's work has been screened at festivals/galleries including the Toronto Hong Kong Film Festival, Alucine Toronto Latina Media Festival, Emergeandsee (Berlin), and Pleasure Dome. Chan's "*OPIE*," a live performance with video, overhead projector, keyboard and sewing machine, was presented by the Art Gallery of Hamilton and the TH&B Collective in May, 2008.

**R. Bruce Elder** (Toronto) is a filmmaker whose works have been presented in retrospectives at Anthology Film Archives, the Art Gallery of Ontario, La Cinémathèque Québécoise, Il Festival Senzaitolo (Trento), Images '97 (Toronto) and by Cinematheque Ontario, who proclaimed in their program note for their November, 2008 tribute: "R. Bruce Elder is not only one of Canada's foremost experimental filmmakers, he's one of our greatest artists, thinkers, critics, and filmmakers, period." In 2007, he was awarded the Governor General's Award in Media Arts. His is also the author of several critical books on film.

**Gisèle Gordon** (Toronto) is a filmmaker and programmer whose works have screened at festivals such as the Berlin International Film Festival, Hot Docs, and the Images Festival. She curates film and video independently and works as a programmer for Hot Docs Canadian International Film Festival and the imagineNATIVE Media Arts Festival where she is currently the Vice-Chair of the board of directors.

### **Evening Schedule:**

Screening One: 9:15 pm to 10:30 pm

Bell Canada and AGH Awards Presentation: 10:30 pm

DJ Garden Lounge: 10:40 pm to 11:20 pm

Screening Two: 11:20 pm to 12:30 am

For complete **AGH International Film and Video Festival 10** information, please visit [www.artgalleryofhamilton.com](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com) or contact 905-527-6610, ext. 232.

**-END-**

For further information about the **AGH International Film and Video Festival 10**, please contact:

Thea Demetrakopoulos, Media Programmer

[T] 905-527-6610, ext. 232

[E] [thea@artgalleryofhamilton.com](mailto:thea@artgalleryofhamilton.com)

For information about **Art Gallery of Hamilton exhibitions and programming**, please contact:

Steve Denyes, Manager, Communications

[T] 905-527-6610, ext. 255

[E] [steve@artgalleryofhamilton.com](mailto:steve@artgalleryofhamilton.com).