

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Art Gallery of Hamilton *talks* presents
Joie de vivre: Masters of French Art

To complement *The French Connection*, the Art Gallery of Hamilton's year-long examination of French and Francophone art and culture, AGH *talk* series presents a series of evenings that explore the fascinating stories behind some of the most significant artists and works of the last 150 years from France and more recently, Quebec.

Starting on Thursday, February 10 and alternating every two weeks, the talks are led by noted art historians, curators, and authors. The talks begin at 6:30 pm and are held at the Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West, downtown Hamilton.

Thursday, February 10- at 6:30 pm - Eugène Carrière: Science and Art at the Turn of the Century

Serena Keshavjee, Associate Professor from the University of Winnipeg and Carrière specialist, starts the series with a look at Eugène Carrière, an artist who combined Symbolist art, new scientific ideas that were developing at the end of the 19th century and an anarchist philosophy in a unique body of work on view at the AGH until May.

Thursday, February 24 at 6:30 pm - Impressionism - How Claude Monet and Berthe Morisot Challenged Tradition

Columnist and art historian **Regina Haggio** returns to AGH for a look at an important turning point in French art.

Thursday, March 10 at 6:30 pm - The Shock of Abstraction

In the early 1940s, under the leadership of Paul-Émile Borduas, a group of young Montreal painters, dancers and poets invented radical new forms of abstraction making them Canada's first true avant-garde movement. Their incendiary manifesto, *Refus Global* (Total Refusal), published in 1948 foretold Quebec's Quiet Revolutions of the 1960s. Please join **Dr. Roald Nasgaard**, Professor of Contemporary Art, at the Institute of Fine Arts, NYU and author of *Abstract Painting in Canada* in a discussion of the impact of this dramatic shift in Canadian art.

Thursday, March 24 at 6:30 pm – Matisse: The Colour of JAZZ

AGH Senior Curator **Dr. Patrick Shaw Cable** talks about one of the best-known French artists of the 20th century. Originally a student of Carrière, Matisse worked through several important styles and has created a body of work that continues to be popular and inspiring.

Thursday, April 7 at 6:30 pm - Quebec Art Now

AGH Curator of Contemporary Art **Melissa Bennett** shows us some of the insightful new work being created right now by French artists in Quebec today.

Tickets may be purchased for the entire series of six talks or by individual talk. Tickets for all six talks are \$26 for AGH Members, \$46 for Students and Seniors and \$54 for Non-Members.

Tickets for individual talks are \$6 for AGH Members, \$10 for Students and Seniors and \$12 for Non-Members.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.artgalleryofhamilton.com, at the AGH Front Desk during Gallery hours or by calling 905-527-6610, ext. 241

The Art Gallery of Hamilton acknowledges the support of the City of Hamilton, Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts. The French Connection, the Gallery's year-long celebration of French and Francophone art and culture, is presented by TD.

For further information, please visit www.artgalleryofhamilton.com.

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

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