

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 4, 2011



Art Gallery of Hamilton *talks* presents **Joie de vivre**

The Art Gallery of Hamilton's year-long examination of French and Francophone art and culture continues as AGH *talk* series presents **Joie de vivre**, a series of evenings that explore some of the significant moments of the *Belle Époque* and beyond.

Starting on Thursday, May 12 and alternating every two weeks, the talks are led by noted art historians and curators. The talks begin at 6:30 pm and are held at the Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West, downtown Hamilton.

Thursday, May 12: Inside the Paris Salons

For artists in the 19th century, the Salon was the place where careers were made or destroyed. In the peak of the Salon's popularity, over 7000 works of art were hung for public view. Please join **Dr. Alison McQueen** for an in-depth look at the history, the drama and the art that played so important a role in the shaping of Western art history.

Thursday, May 26: I Have Arrived - Canadian artists in 19th-century Paris

As a touchstone for the AGH, William Blair Bruce is a significant artist of his time. Bruce and other Canadians including George Reid and Paul Peel enjoyed great success in the Paris Salons of the late 19th century. Please join **Tobi Bruce** in an examination of their work and experience in Paris.

Thursday, June 23: Dior - A New Look, A New Enterprise

Join **Dr. Alexandra Palmer**, Senior Curator, Nora E. Vaughan Fashion Costume Curatorship at the ROM in an in depth look at the innovations and remarkable history of French designer Christian Dior.

Thursday, July 7: Inside the Contemporary Exhibitions

Contemporary Curator **Melissa Bennett** will talk about three exhibitions: *Out of Place / Non lieu* showcases three Francophone artists whose work examines the landscape and sense of place; *Rick Potruff: Search Engine City* explores a different sense of place and identity, while *Peter Karuna: All in Good Time* presents a photographer's vision of his world.

Tickets may be purchased for the entire series of four talks or by individual talk. Tickets for all four talks are \$20 for AGH Members, \$36 for Students and Seniors and \$44 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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