

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Art Gallery of Hamilton requests styrene packaging donations for contemporary art installation



This is your chance to participate in a contemporary art project!

In preparation for an upcoming installation that will be on view as part of next summer's groundbreaking exhibition **Great New Wave: Contemporary Art from Japan** (May 22 to September 7, 2008), the Art Gallery of Hamilton is inviting public donations of **disused styrene packaging**.

Who's the artist? Japanese artist Yoshiaki Kaihatsu will visit Hamilton next summer to construct his contemporary take on a long-held Japanese tradition: the tea house. The artist will build a "traditional" tea house on site at the AGH, using this donated material.

What's styrene? It's a lot like Styrofoam, a light-weight white material often used to protect or wrap. Often moulded to the products it is designed to protect, styrene forms are most often found as part of the packaging around electronic goods, glassware or appliances. All shapes and sizes accepted. Please do not bring soiled / marked / broken pieces!

Where do I bring it? Donations can be dropped off to Gallery's Front Desk at the Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West.

When? Drop off during opening hours from January 2 – February 28, 2008. Gallery hours: Tuesday, Wednesday noon to 7 pm; Thursday, Friday noon to 9 pm; Saturday, Sunday noon to 5 pm.

Why should I? Individuals who donate styrene packaging will receive a complimentary ticket to the AGH's summer 2008 ticketed exhibitions, valid for the exhibition opening celebrations or anytime during their run. And of course, it's a rare opportunity to make a contribution to this exciting art installation by one of Japan's leading contemporary artists.

This project and exhibition is part of the AGH's **Inspiration East**, a year-long celebration of Asian arts and culture presented by TD Bank Financial Group that culminates in the summer of 2008 with a series of exhibitions. Exclusive Hotel Sponsor: Sheraton Hamilton. Financially assisted by Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund. Community Sponsor: The Canadian Foundation for Chinese Heritage Preservation.

For more information, please call 905-527-6610, ext. 257

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For more information and images about the **Art Gallery of Hamilton**, its exhibitions, and programming, please contact Steve Denyes, Manager, Communications, 905-527-6610, ext. 255 or by email at steve@artgalleryofhamilton.com