

**GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD IN VISUAL AND MEDIA ARTS AWARDED
TO RENOWNED CANADIAN ARTIST KIM ADAMS**

Now on exhibition at the Art Gallery of Hamilton



Kim Adams *Gift Machine* 1988
scooters, wheelbarrows, ladders, tennis balls, umbrellas, bags
Courtesy of the artist and Diaz Contemporary
Photo: Mike Lalich

March 4, 2014 -- The Art Gallery of Hamilton is proud to congratulate Kim Adams on receiving the Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts.

The winners of the 2014 Governor General's Awards in Visual and Media Arts were announced by the Canada Council for the Arts at a news conference in Toronto earlier today. Kim Adams will be presented with his award at Rideau Hall in Ottawa on Wednesday, March 26 by His Excellency, the Right Honourable David Johnston. One of Canada's leading contemporary artists renowned for his inventive sculptures and creation of strange new worlds, Kim Adams has gained national and international acclaim during his 30-year career.

“Kim Adams has made a profound contribution to Canadian art, through his distinct use of everyday materials, which he enlivens by transforming them into unpredictable and quixotic new forms” said Louise Dompierre, President and CEO of the Art Gallery of Hamilton. “There is no one more deserving of this prestigious award. We are enormously proud of him and offer him our most sincere congratulations. Hamiltonians will surely find pride in this announcement, as Adams’ work at the AGH has truly resonated with the community.”

“Receiving the Governor General’s Award is quite overwhelming,” said Kim Adams. “The award is so embedded within Canadian culture; you always hear about it. I’ve received a lot of support throughout my career and the award is quite an encouragement. I attended 12 schools when I was growing up and it was art that enabled me to keep it together. I’ve been thinking a lot about my parents and how they would not have expected me to receive an award like this.”

Adams is the subject of an exhibition currently on view at the AGH that surveys his career. *Kim Adams: One for the Road*, which is organized and circulated by Museum London, includes 7 sculptures, 33 models and 24 works on paper that frequently are expressive starting points for his sculptural works. The size and range of the works vary, from miniatures and small models to huge sculptures that re-envision ideas of home, vehicles, and other machines gone humorously awry.

In addition, Adams has recently completed an artist residency at the AGH that has focused on adding toys and models to the *Bruegel-Bosch Bus*, one of the most beloved contemporary works in the AGH permanent collection, which is on permanent display.

An enthusiastic assembler of sculptures made from model parts, bikes, trucks, old appliances and equipment, Adams has exhibited throughout Canada and around the world.

Adams was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2013 by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. He won the 2012 Gershon Iskowitz Prize at the AGO, in recognition of the national and international significance of his body of work.

Funded and administered by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Governor General’s Awards in Visual and Media Arts (including the Saidye Bronfman Award) were created in 1999 and recognize distinguished career achievements in the visual and media arts by Canadian artists, as well as outstanding contributions through voluntarism, philanthropy, board governance, community outreach or professional activities.

About the Art Gallery of Hamilton

The Art Gallery of Hamilton, the largest independent public art gallery in Ontario, will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2014. Its permanent collection, which is focused on historical Canadian, 19th century European and Canadian Contemporary art, now numbers more than 10,000 works and is recognized as one of the finest in Canada. The AGH is regarded as a vital centre of creative development and artistic engagement that brings art and people of all ages together. To find out more about what’s happening at the AGH visit www.artgalleryofhamilton.com

The AGH is celebrating its centennial with a year of landmark exhibitions. Upcoming exhibitions include the first major retrospective of the work of William Blair Bruce, Canada’s first Impressionist painter, the first comprehensive exhibition of still lifes by Paul Cézanne, and the first major solo exhibition of work by contemporary Canadian artist Jenn E. Norton.

Kim Adams: One for the Road
On view until May 4, 2014

TOURS

Docent guided tours of the exhibition:
Every Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Free with admission.

ADMISSION

AGH Members: Free; Adults, \$10; Students/Seniors, \$8; Children (6-17), \$4; under 5 years, Free.
Friday Free Night: Free admission on the first Friday of the month.

MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesday & Wednesday, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.; Thursday, 11 a.m.–8 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.;
Saturday–Sunday, 12 noon–5 p.m.

The Art Gallery of Hamilton is located at 123 King Street West, downtown Hamilton, Ontario,
L8P 4S8.

[T] 905.527.6610

[E] info@artgalleryofhamilton.com

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To access a profile of Kim Adams go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvRdpAxLPSs>

For publicity images go to: http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/imagebank/aa_medaic_signin.php

Media Contact Information:

For more information about the Art Gallery of Hamilton, please contact:

Steve Denyes, Manager, Communications

[T] 905.527.6610, ext. 255

[E] steve@artgalleryofhamilton.com

Canada Council for the Arts

[Heather McAfee](#), Public Relations Officer

[T] 613-566-4414, ext. 4166 or 613-222-8379 (cell)

To arrange interviews with the Governor General's Visual and Media Arts Award winners:

The Hillbrooke Group

[Lisa Robertson](#)

[T] 613-739-7032

[Susan Wright](#)

[T] 519-703-2020