

## ART GALLERY OF HAMILTON | CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

### **SHELLEY FALCONER APPOINTED NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE ART GALLERY OF HAMILTON**



Photo: Tom Sandler

Thursday, September 25, 2014 – Today, Charles P. Criminisi, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Art Gallery of Hamilton announced the appointment of Shelly Falconer as President and CEO of the Gallery.

Ms. Falconer, founder and currently CEO of Cultural Asset Management Group, a consulting firm providing cultural stewardship services for private and institutional collectors, will take over in November, with the retirement of Louise Dompierre, President and CEO of the AGH for the past 16-years.

Ms. Falconer will be responsible for the overall direction and management of the Art Gallery of Hamilton, including the AGH Design Annex located in the James Street North arts district in downtown Hamilton.

“We are delighted to welcome Shelley Falconer to the AGH as its next President and CEO,” said Charles P. Criminisi. “The extensive search we undertook this year attracted outstanding candidates. Ms. Falconer comes to the AGH with rich and impressive curatorial and arts management expertise that complement both the AGH collection and the entrepreneurial spirit embedded in the Gallery.”

“The Art Gallery of Hamilton is a unique cultural institution with an outstanding collection,” said Shelley Falconer. “I am delighted to join the Gallery's distinguished, dynamic team and Hamilton community at such an important time in their development.”

### **About Shelley Falconer**

Shelley Falconer's 25-year career history includes national and international experience as a senior administrator, curator, consultant, fundraiser and educator. She has extensive experience with the supervision, stewardship and development of art, heritage and educational collections and has worked as a senior manager and curator with a variety of important cultural organizations including - Sotheby's England, Waddington Galleries, England, the Art Gallery of Hamilton, the Government of Canada, the Ontario Government, the University of Toronto, the Art Gallery of Ontario and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. She is currently the founder and CEO of Cultural Asset Management.

Ms. Falconer has directed and managed numerous award winning projects including exhibitions and installations for Rideau Hall in Ottawa, Canada House in London, England and the Canadian Embassy in Washington D.C. She has also authored and produced numerous exhibition texts and catalogues including the publication *Stones, Bones and Stitches: Storytelling through Inuit Art*. Her award winning *Art2Life: the Canadian Century* digital project won a prestigious United Nations World Summit award for best in e-content and creativity. Ms. Falconer was also awarded a York Region District School Board Applause Award for outstanding contributions to education and the community.

Her academic background includes undergraduate and graduate degrees in Art History, Museology and Arts Administration from York University, Sotheby's England, Sorbonne, Université de Paris and the University of Toronto. Ms. Falconer has a broad knowledge of Canadian and International art. She was a member of the University of Toronto's adjunct faculty in Museum Studies for 12 years and lectures widely on a variety of educational and art historical subjects. Ms. Falconer is currently an adjunct Professor with Centennial College's School of Tourism and Culture.

### **About the Art Gallery of Hamilton**

The Art Gallery of Hamilton is the largest independent public gallery in Ontario, Canada. The AGH is regarded as a leader in contemporary art and digital media and presents acclaimed contemporary exhibition programmes. The Gallery's permanent collection of contemporary works numbers more than 2,000 objects. Also renowned for its programming of 19th-century European and historic Canadian art, its total permanent collection exceeds 10,000 works. The AGH is dedicated to promoting the understanding and appreciation of art and is celebrated for its exceptional exhibitions and outstanding programming that engage people of all ages.

### **AGH Centennial Exhibitions**

The AGH is celebrating its centennial in 2014 with a year of landmark exhibitions. Upcoming exhibitions include *The World is An Apple: The Still Lifes of Paul Cézanne*, the first comprehensive exhibition of still life paintings by Paul Cézanne and *Painting Hamilton*, a survey of 10 artists from the Greater Hamilton area, many of whom are early in their careers. The exhibition showcases the diverse subject matter, techniques and materials that are of the moment in contemporary painting practices.

March 1, 2014 to February 22, 2015: *Art for a Century: 100 for the 100th* FREE ADMISSION  
[http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex\\_upcoming.php#6](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex_upcoming.php#6)

May 24 to October 5, 2014: *Into the Light: The Paintings of William Blair Bruce (1859–1906)*  
[http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex\\_upcoming.php#3](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex_upcoming.php#3)

June 28, 2014 to January 4, 2015: *Jenn E. Norton: Dredging a Wake*  
[http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex\\_upcoming.php#4](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex_upcoming.php#4)

November 1, 2014 to February 8, 2015: *The World is an Apple: The Still Lifes of Paul Cézanne*  
[http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex\\_upcoming.php#5](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex_upcoming.php#5)

November 1, 2014 to February 8, 2015: *Painting Hamilton*  
[http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex\\_upcoming.php#5](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex_upcoming.php#5)

### **Visitor Information**

#### **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.

#### **Gallery 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.

#### **Tours:**

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

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

[T] 905.527.6610

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

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To arrange an interview or for more information, please contact:

Steve Denyes, Manager of Communications

[T] 905.527.6610, ext. 255

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