

ART GALLERY OF HAMILTON ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION OF BENEDICT LECA

Nov. 11, 2014 — The Art Gallery of Hamilton announced today that Benedict Leca, Director of Curatorial Affairs since 2012 will be leaving the Gallery to become Director of the Redwood Library and Athenaeum in Newport, Rhode Island. His last day will be December 12, 2014.

“During his two and a half years at the Art Gallery of Hamilton, Benedict Leca has produced superb exhibitions, publications and programmes for our audiences,” said Louise Dompierre, President and CEO. “The recently opened exhibition *The World is an Apple: The Still Lifes of Paul Cézanne* has raised the profile of the AGH in Canada and internationally through the Gallery’s partnership with the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia and its presentation there earlier this year. This examination of the revolutionary still life paintings of Cézanne has advanced scholarship on the radical Impressionist. I want to thank Benedict for his work here and wish him much success.”

During his tenure at the AGH, Benedict Leca developed exhibitions that presented a new way of looking at masterworks. Among the exhibitions he also curated are: *The Painter Pictured: French Nineteenth-Century Paintings and Portrait Photographs* and *Painting the Landscape in Nineteenth-Century Europe*. He co-curated *Art for a Century: 100 for the 100th* and *The Spectacle of Play*.

“I’ve had a wonderful time at the AGH and learned a lot, but the Redwood Library and Athenaeum presented me with an exceptional opportunity, professionally and personally,” said Dr. Leca. “I will be able to direct an institution, one that is rooted in the 18th century, a period that is one of my specific areas of expertise; and I will be able to return to Rhode Island, which has come to be my home. I want to thank my AGH colleagues and the good people of Hamilton, who welcomed me and have been so supportive of my work; and I wish them the very best moving forward.”

Prior to joining the AGH Benedict Leca was Curator of European painting, sculpture and drawings at the Cincinnati Art Museum. He was the first Mellon Foundation post-doctoral fellow at the French Paintings Department of the National Gallery in Washington and a Weyhauser Foundation Intern in the Print Department at the Fogg Museum at Harvard University. His areas of expertise are wide ranging and include: prints and drawings, illustrated books, 18th- and 19th-century French art, and the history of modernism. He graduated from the University of Texas in Austin with a Master’s degree in ancient art and was awarded a PhD in 18th-century French painting from Brown University.

About the Art Gallery of Hamilton

The Art Gallery of Hamilton is celebrating its Centennial throughout 2014. Today the AGH is the largest independent public art gallery in Ontario. 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. It is also renowned as a North American centre for the study of 19th-century European art.



Art Gallery of Hamilton
engage your imagination

On view at the AGH are:

March 1 to April 26, 2015: *Art for a Century: 100 for the 100th* FREE ADMISSION
http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex_current.php#cent

June 28 to January 4, 2015: *Jenn E. Norton: Dredging a Wake*
http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex_current.php#4

November 1 to February 8, 2015: *The World is an Apple: The Still Lives of Paul Cézanne*
http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/ex_upcoming.php#5

November 1 to February 8, 2015: *Painting Hamilton*
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.

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

GROUP TOURS

To arrange for a Group Tour, please contact:

Laurie Kilgour-Walsh, Educator

[T] 905.5276.6610, ext. 225

[E] janet@artgalleryofhamilton.com

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For publicity images go to: <http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/imagebank>

For more information, please contact:

Steve Denyes, Manager, Communications

[T] 905.527.6610, ext. 255

[E] steve@artgalleryofhamilton.com