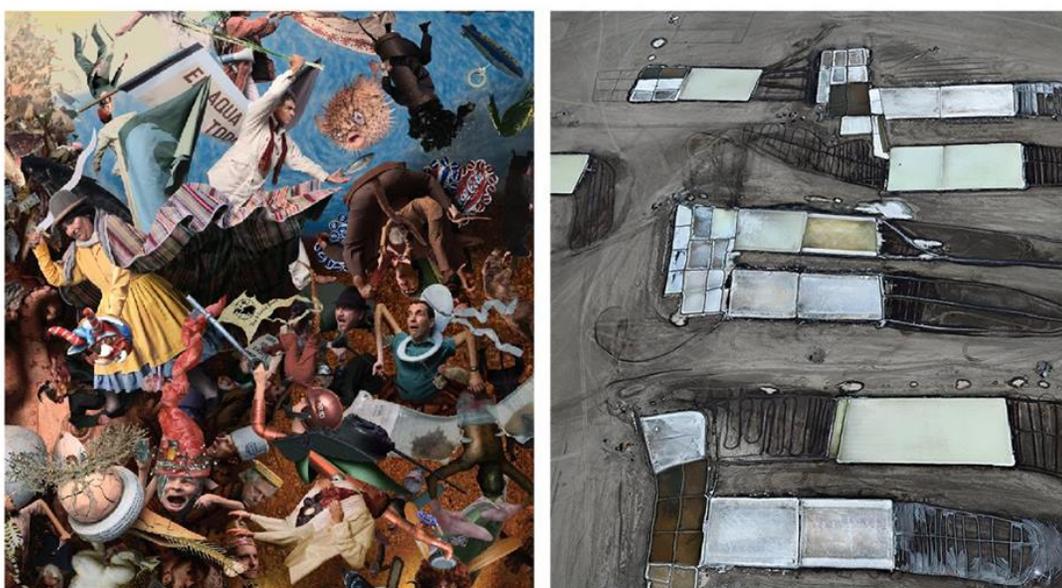


***Witness: Edward Burtynsky and Water Works***

**Our impact on the world around us is the focus of  
Winter 2018 exhibitions at the Art Gallery of Hamilton**

**Official Opening: February 11, 3 – 5 pm, Free Admission**



(left) Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge (Condé Canadian b. 1940; Beveridge Canadian b. 1945), *Fall of Water* (detail), 2006-2007, light jet print, 101.6 x 142.2 cm. Collection of the artists. © Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge  
(right) Edward Burtynsky (Canadian b. 1955) *Salt Pan #25, Little Rann of Kutch, Gujarat, India* (detail), 2016, chromogenic colour print, ed. 6/6. Art Gallery of Hamilton, Purchase, Permanent Collection Fund, 2017. © Edward Burtynsky

January 18, 2018 – The Art Gallery of Hamilton launches 2018 with a series of exhibitions and related activities that look at major global environmental issues. Leading exhibitions include *Witness: Edward Burtynsky and Water Works*, complemented by *The Living Room: RESERVOIR: Stories of Water* and *TH&B: Declaration*. Highlights include Burtynsky’s large-scale photographs, some taken from helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft over heavily armed industrial sites, and Christopher McLeod’s *The Machine of Awesome Bright Liquid Blueness*, an interactive performance sculpture in the *Water Works* exhibition that is a work of art, an educational computer game, and a refillable water bottle station. An official opening reception featuring free admission celebrates all four exhibitions on Sunday, February 11 from 3 to 5 pm, with artists in attendance, guided exhibition tours for AGH Members at 3 pm and opening remarks at 4:30 pm.

“The artists and works we’re featuring this winter invite our visitors to consider how our actions affect the environment in a very real and personal way,” says AGH President and CEO Shelley Falconer. “From Edward Burtynsky’s large-scale photographs of manufacturing sites to historical and contemporary works depicting water, this season reinforces the valuable role art plays in challenging us to rethink our relationship to the environment.”

***Witness: Edward Burtynsky*** (on view January 20 through May 21)

Acclaimed Canadian photographer Edward Burtynsky brings environmental issues to our attention through awe-inspiring images that document industrial sites and show the complex effects that global manufacturing and consumer demands have on the planet. Featuring large-scale photographs that celebrate his largest donation ever to a museum and curated by Melissa Bennett, *Witness* is a homecoming for this world-renowned artist with roots in the region.

This exhibition is presented by RBC Royal Bank. The community partner is Lake Ontario Waterkeeper.

Burtynsky has been honoured with the TED Prize and the Governor General’s Award in Visual and Media Arts. In 2006 he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada and currently holds seven honorary doctorate degrees. Burtynsky lives and works in Toronto. #AGHBurtynsky

***Water Works*** (on view February 10 through May 27)

Featuring over 70 works in a variety of media by over 30 artists, *Water Works* aims to explore how we view and interact with water, and raise awareness of the importance of conserving clean water for future generations. Guest curated by Christine Boyanoski, the exhibition is organized in three themes: Water and Identity; Human Intervention in the Environment; and the Poetics of Water. Both historical and contemporary work are presented by such artists as Jin-Me Yoon, Anong Migwans Beam, Ruth Cuthand, J.E.H. MacDonald, Robert Whale, Robert Bourdeau, Isabelle Hayeur, Sarah Anne Johnson, Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge, Jennifer Baichwal and Nicholas de Pencier, Bonnie Devine, Ruth Kaplan, Betty Goodwin, and Hamilton-based artists Joseph Hartman, Christopher McLeod, and Liss Platt.

This exhibition is presented by RBC Royal Bank. The community partner is Lake Ontario Waterkeeper. #AGHWaterWorks

**The Living Room: *RESERVOIR: Stories of Water*** (on view January 20 through May 13)

Since launching in the Young Gallery in 2016, The Living Room has hosted an interactive, evolving installation space. In this iteration The Living Room presents *RESERVOIR: Stories of Water*, an installation that invites visitors to examine their relationship to water through narrative and via a series of interactive exchanges. The exhibition will present storytelling through a number of languages—visual, written, and oral—and will encourage and present ongoing contributions throughout the exhibition. #AGHReservoir

**TH&B: Declaration** (February 10 through May 2018)

Local artists' collective TH&B (Simon Frank, Dave Hind, Ivan Jurakic and Tor Lukasik-Foss) depict an iconic aerial view of the Great Lakes on a large-scale billboard installed in the AGH foyer. Made of salvaged materials, the work points to the construction of imagery in mass media, and the way we understand our local geography, geology and sources of water. #AGHDeclaration

## EXHIBITION-RELATED PUBLIC EVENTS:

### **Bearing Witness: An Afternoon with Edward Burtynsky**

Talk and Film Screening

Saturday, January 27, 2 - 5:30 pm

Lincoln Alexander Centre (160 King Street East)

Tickets: General Admission \$20 / AGH Member \$15

Join world-renowned photographer Edward Burtynsky for an extended discussion about his art practice, activism, and globalism. Following the talk and a brief intermission, attendees will enjoy the feature documentary *Watermark*.

*Watermark*

Dirs. Jennifer Baichwal, Edward Burtynsky, 2013, Canada, 100 min. Rating G | DOCUMENTARY

Following their celebrated collaboration *Manufactured Landscapes*, Burtynsky and Baichwal reunite to explore the ways in which humanity has shaped, manipulated and depleted one of its most vital and compromised resources: water. This ilovefilmseries screening is supported by the incite Foundation for the Arts.

### **Winterfest Family Day Celebration**

Monday, February 19, 1 - 4 pm

Art Gallery of Hamilton (123 King Street West)

Tickets: General Admission: \$5 per family (2 adults and up to 4 children) / AGH

Members: Free. Includes admission to exhibitions (open from 12 noon to 5 pm) on view as well as Winterfest Family Day programming (1 to 4 pm).

Join us for a five-dollar Family Day! Warm up at the Art Gallery of Hamilton with the ones you love. Our special fun-for-all-ages Winterfest programming includes pop-up tours, art making, and collaborative installations all inspired by work in our current exhibitions. Plus, complete a passport and enter to win an art-making kit!

### **Hamilton Defenders!**

Thursday, February 22, 7 - 10 pm

AGH Annex (118 James Street North)

Tickets: General Admission: \$12 / AGH Members: \$12 / EMERGE Members: Free

Social Activists, Environmentalists, Disruptors, and Innovators are the focus of EMERGE's annual profile of the city's talent.

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

Founded in 1914, the Art Gallery of Hamilton is the oldest and largest public art gallery in southwestern Ontario. Its permanent collection, which is focused on historical Canadian, 19th-century European, and International and Contemporary art, numbers more than 10,000 works and is recognized as one of Canada's finest. The AGH is a vital creative hub and centre of lifelong learning that enables people of all ages to enrich their lives by gaining a deeper understanding of art. The Gallery is supported by the City of Hamilton, the Canada Council for the Arts and the Ontario Arts Council. For more information, please visit [www.artgalleryofhamilton.com](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com).

—end—

For more information, please contact:

Sarah Power, Media Relations

Art Gallery of Hamilton

123 King Street West

Hamilton ON L8P 4S8

T: 905.527.6610, ext. 255

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