



Art Gallery of Hamilton

www.artgalleryofhamilton.com

*Dianne Bos: The Sleeping Green. no man's land 100 years later.
& Stephanie Vegh: Echoing Shore*

Official Opening: Friday, April 6 at 6 pm, Free Admission



Left: Stephanie Vegh, *Diving: Unnatural Migration*, 2018. Ink and graphite on paper. Photo: Joseph Hartman
Dianne Bos (Canadian b. 1956)

Right: *Frezenberg Ridge, near the Princess Patricia's Light Infantry Memorial, Belgium* 2014
chromogenic print, Collection of the artist
© Dianne Bos

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 20, 2018

Hamilton – Join Hamilton artists Dianne Bos and Stephanie Vegh for a free, public tour, and artist talk reception for their new exhibitions opening at the Art Gallery of Hamilton as part of Friday Free Night on **April 6, 2018 at 6 pm.**

Bos's most recent work focuses on the battlegrounds of the First World War a century later using pinhole photography, while Vegh uses three historical works from the AGH Permanent Collection to inspire new perspectives that also consider time and place.

On the **first Friday of every month, admission to the AGH is free from 4pm until 8pm.** Including a guided tour at 6 pm and unique programming each month, everyone can experience the best of the Gallery – for free!

Friday Free Night + Exhibitions Opening Schedule

5:00 pm TH&B Live Performance | Lower Lobby

6:00 pm Friday Free Night Tours | Level 2 Galleries

6:30 pm Artist Introduction | Level 2 Galleries

7:00 pm Reception (cash bar) | Jean and Ross Fischer Gallery, Level 1

7:30 pm Artist Talks | Jean and Ross Fischer Gallery, Level 1

Dianne Bos: The Sleeping Green. no man's land 100 years later.

On view April 7 – September 23, 2018

Organized and circulated by the University of Lethbridge Art Gallery.

#AGHBos

Consisting of extraordinary photographs taken in 'no-man's land' between the trenches on the Western Front, this exhibition takes its title from a First World War poem. Travelling through France and Belgium from 2014 to 2016, Hamilton-born, Calgary-based photographer Dianne Bos used a variety of vintage and pinhole cameras, including a 100-year-old camera, to photograph these landscapes a century after the Great War began. The results of her project are both beautiful and haunting; as Bos says, these works "make the invisible visible" and explore how a terrible historical event has become part of the fabric of our collective imagination.

University of Calgary English Professor Harry Vandervlist contributes a selection of significant poetry collections from the war years in original editions. Alongside these historical texts is his own contemporary writing in the form of montages and meditations that respond to significant phrases from the wartime texts, and which resonate—in theme and in technique—with Bos's images. Together, the words and images create layered imagery that conveys the emotional depth of these extraordinary landscapes while exploring how this "war to end all wars" has become part of the fabric of our collective imagination and how it lives on for people who have experienced the stories and images only after the fact.

"Much of my work centers around contemplative spaces and offers a meditation on time's movement within a still image. Time and light, movement and stillness, memory and the observer: these elements link all of the diverse images I create." – Dianne Bos

Dianne Bos received her B.F.A. from Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, and currently divides her time between the foothills of the Rockies and the Pyrenees. Her photographs have been exhibited internationally in numerous group and solo exhibitions since 1981. Recent important national exhibitions of Dianne's work include: *'Light Echo'*, an innovative installation at the McMaster Museum of Art, in collaboration with Astronomer Doug Welch, which linked celestial and earthly history; *It's You!: Unexpected Photographs from Papua New Guinea*, at the Confederation Centre of the Arts, Art Gallery, PEI., and *Reading Room* at the Cambridge Galleries an exhibition exploring the book as a camera. Her work was also included in international exhibitions in Italy, France, Spain and Japan in 2011 and 2012.

Stephanie Vegh: Echoing Shore

On view April 7 – September 23, 2018

#AGHVegh

In 2017, the AGH began a series of new project exhibitions, inviting contemporary artists of the region to research and respond to an aspect of the Gallery's permanent collection. For this second iteration of the series, Hamilton-based artist Stephanie Vegh identified thematic links between three seemingly disparate artworks: Edmund Kanoldt (German; 1839-1904), *Sappho on the Cliff of Leucadia* (1879); Paul Nash (British; 1889-1946), *Monster Shore* (1939); and Aline Myles Banting (Canadian; 1911-1998), *Self Portrait* (c.1932).

Shown in situ with new drawings by Vegh, the artworks will be inspired with new meaning – and set on a narrative trajectory to reflect the ecological uncertainty of our present time.

"These three paintings serve as the starting point for a body of work exploring the human pull to precarious shorelines in a time of ecological crisis. United by their formal elements and storytelling potential, I aim to unite the suggestive suicide of Kanoldt's Sappho to the parched landscape of Nash's Monster Shore, with Aline Myles Banting's Self-Portrait poised as a relatable figure of survival, calmly drying her hair in spite of the deluge." – Stephanie Vegh

Stephanie Vegh is an artist and writer born in Hamilton who studied comparative literature and studio art at McMaster University, and completed her MFA at the Glasgow School of Art. She has exhibited drawings and installations in the UK and Canada, and regularly publishes art writing and criticism in various local and national platforms. Since returning to Hamilton in 2007, Vegh has maintained an active local profile in arts practice and advocacy, and has been instrumental in fostering the artistic community. Given her lifelong attachment to this Gallery, Vegh's research on the AGH collection is suffused with personal memory, incisive questioning, and imaginative reflection.

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About the Art Gallery of Hamilton:

Founded in 1914, the Art Gallery of Hamilton is the oldest and largest public art gallery in southern 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 <http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/>.

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For more information, please contact:

Sarah Power, Media Relations

Art Gallery of Hamilton | 123 King Street West, Hamilton ON L8P 4S8

905.527.6610, ext. 255

spower@artgalleryofhamilton.com