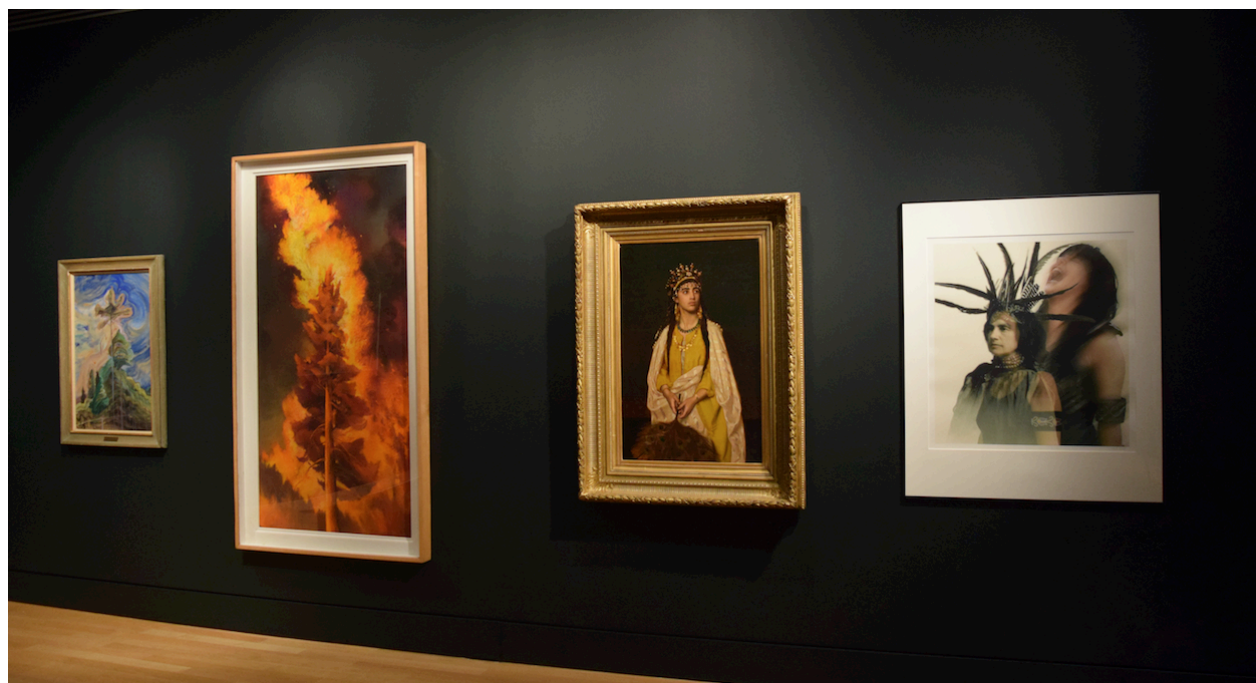




Art Gallery of Hamilton
www.artgalleryofhamilton.com

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Art Gallery of Hamilton announces the opening of *Speaking for Herself*.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 8, 2018

HAMILTON - The Art Gallery of Hamilton is thrilled to announce the opening of *Speaking for Herself* this **Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 12:00 noon**. The exhibition will be displayed in our free galleries on Gallery Level 2 for all to enjoy until March 17, 2019.

In the spirit and momentum of International Women's Day, we are very proud to present an exhibition that foregrounds the artistic voices of so many intelligent, perceptive, witty, strong, and creative women.

The longstanding exclusion of women artists from art history, exhibitions, collections, the art market and commercial gallery representation is not a debatable issue, it's a fact. When exhibitions consist of only the work of men—the norm in

gallery and museum exhibitions and collections—they are not identified as such because they don't have to be. We don't see titles like *Men Artists from the Collection*.

Acquiring work by women artists has been a longstanding priority at the Art Gallery of Hamilton. In an effort to continue to highlight women artists as part of the conversation, *Speaking for Herself* mines the AGH collection to bring together significant work by significant artists who identify as women.

"The AGH's evolving permanent collection is home to many women artists, from historical through to contemporary works. Hamilton has, as noted by Beaver Hall artist Ann Savage, often been their "spiritual home". Spanning several decades and foregrounding the artistic voices of women, Speaking to Herself highlights the collection's ongoing narrative surrounding issues of identity, self-expression and place", says Shelley Falconer, President and CEO, Art Gallery of Hamilton.

We wish to explore our holdings—historical, modern and contemporary—in a range of material practices including painting, photography, sculpture, and installation. The project features the achievements of both known or recognized artists while introducing lesser-knowns into the discussion. These conversations between historical and contemporary artists of diverse cultural backgrounds explore a broad range of themes including the body, identity, materiality, and private versus public selves.

Curated by Tobi Bruce

Header image: Installation photo of *Speaking for Herself*, Art Gallery of Hamilton featuring (left to right):

1. Emily Carr (Canadian 1871-1945), *Sunshine and Tumult*, 1939, oil on paper. Bequest of H.S. Southam, CMG, LL.D, 1966.
2. Catherine Gibbon (Canadian b. 1949), *Crown Fire*, 2001, chalk pastel on wood acrylic ground. Gift of the artist, 2015, © Catherine Gibbon.
3. Sophie Anderson (French 1823-1903), *Toklihili, The Young Indian Princess*, oil on canvas. The Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Collection, 2002.
4. Rosalie Favell (Canadian (Cree) b. 1958), *Transformation (from Plain(s) Warrior Artist)*, 1999, giclée print on paper. Purchased with funds from the E. Muriel Baker Estate, 2001, © Rosalie Favell.

#AGHSpeakingforHerself

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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 www.artgalleryofhamilton.com.

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