

**AGH, the only Canadian venue for
*Vivian Maier: Street Photographer***

**Official Exhibitions Opening: Thursday, June 21, 6 – 10 pm
Free Admission**



Vivian Maier (American 1926-2009) *October 18th, 1953, New York, NY.* © Estate of Vivian Maier, Courtesy of Maloof Collection and Howard Greenberg Gallery, NY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 1, 2018

HAMILTON - The Art Gallery of Hamilton (AGH) is excited to present five new exhibitions and related programs that explore and encourage discussion on a range of dynamic topics. Highlights include the **only Canadian exhibition** of over 100 black-and-white and colour photographs by Vivian Maier titled *Vivian Maier: Street Photographer*; a thought-provoking address of the longstanding exclusion of women artists from historical and contemporary art; an examination of the deep roots of culture and creativity in Hamilton as expressed through works of eight local artists; photographic story-telling of everyday life on James Street North in the 1980s, and the third installment of *The Living Room* which inspires visitors to reflect and express their own views through a series of interactive media.

“This season, through a series of exhibitions exploring photography, media, sculpture, installation, and regional history, the AGH highlights the lens through which artists engage the world. A singular, and often eccentric lens, the works bring forth new ideas, making new discoveries about places and people.” - AGH President & CEO Shelley Falconer.

Official Opening Reception: Thursday, June 21 from 6 pm – 10 pm. Free admission. All welcome. Artists will be in attendance.

Exhibitions include:

Vivian Maier: Street Photographer

Hamilton Now: Subject

James Street North: Vintage Photographs by Cees and Annerie van Gemerden

Speaking for Herself

The Living Room: STREETWATCH

Agenda:

6:00 pm – AGH Members Tour

7:00 pm – Public Opening

7:30 pm – Remarks

8:00 pm – Live Performance by Canadian Winter

9:00 pm – Outdoor film screening of ‘Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World’

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[Vivian Maier: Street Photographer](#)

On view June 16, 2018 - January 6, 2019

#AGHVivianMaier

Dubbed the “secret nanny-photographer” by the media, Vivian Maier (1926-2009) always had a Rolleiflex camera around her neck, yet zealously hid the resulting photographs from others. Her work—including more than 2,000 rolls of film, 3,000 prints, and more than 100,000 negatives—remained unknown until her street and travel photography was discovered at a Chicago auction house in 2007, when the contents of one of her storage lockers was sold off to cover delinquent payments.

Her black-and-white photographs—mostly from the 1950s and 1960s—are striking images of the architecture and street life of Chicago and New York. She rarely took more than one frame of each image and concentrated on capturing children, women, and the elderly. The breadth of Maier’s work also reveals a series of striking self-portraits as well as prints from her travels to Egypt, Bangkok, Italy, the American Southwest, and other locations.

Vivian Maier: Street Photographer includes over 100 black-and-white and colour photographs and 8-mm films shot by Maier. The Art Gallery of Hamilton is the first Canadian gallery to present the exhibition.

Born in the Bronx to a French mother and Austrian father, Maier split her time between Europe and the United States, returning to New York City in 1951. In 1956, she settled in Chicago where she worked as a nanny for more than 40 years.

“The story of Vivian Maier is fascinating. I think she’s one of the top street photographers we have ever seen. She has a key place in the history of the medium. Her images contain all the specificity of street photography while also referencing the history of visual culture. This is no accident. I hope that this exhibition helps locate her work in the history of the field. I leave it to others to puzzle over her motivations.” - Anne Morin, Exhibition Curator, Director, diChroma photography

Curated by Anne Morin

Circulated by diChroma photography, with the courtesy of Howard Greenberg Gallery, NY.
Supporting Sponsor: NABCO

[Exhibition Related Programming](#)

Wednesday, June 20 | 7 pm

Vivian Maier Talk with Exhibition Curator Anne Morin (French)

Saturday, June 23 | 2 – 4 pm

ilovefilmseries presents *Finding Vivian Maier*

Q&A with Director Charlie Siskel following the film

Saturdays, July 28, August 11, September 29 | 12 pm – 3 pm

Street Photography Walking Tours

Sunday, July 29 | 1 – 4 pm

AGH Family Picnic – Love your City!

Wednesday, September 12 | 7:30 – 8:30 pm

Vivian Maier Tour & Talk with HPO Composer Abigail Richardson-Shulte

Thursday, September 20 | 7 – 9 pm

Vivian Maier Talk with Author Pamela Bannos

Visit artgalleryofhamilton.com/whats-on for details and tickets.

[Hamilton Now: Subject](#)

On view June 22 - November 18, 2018

#AGHHamontNow



Lesley Loksi Chan (Canadian b. 1978), *LAPS* (production still), 2017, HD video, 14 minutes. Courtesy of the artist. © Lesley Loksi Chan

Hamilton Now: Subject is the first of two exhibitions inspired by the deep roots of culture and creativity in Hamilton and the recent influx of so many more artists to the city. The exhibition features the work of eight local artists and takes up the key aspects of who we are and how we manifest ourselves in an increasingly fractured world.

Building on the popular appeal of the 2014 exhibition *Painting Hamilton* as a highly dynamic show that featured the breadth of practices of Hamilton emerging and established artists, *Hamilton Now: Subject* brings together works in a wide variety of media, including video, sculpture, printmaking and mixed media. As the individual artists address their own questions around identity, they reflect on contemporary ways of representing oneself and explore questions of autobiography. Psychological and spiritual perception, generational identity, gender, queer identities and race politics all come together for an absorbing and nuanced expression of the art scene in Hamilton today.

Hamilton Now: Subject exhibiting artists include: Nedda Baba and Amber Müller St. Thomas, Kiera Boulton, Lesley Loksi Chan, Masoud Eskandari, John Haney, Becky Katz, Leslie Sasaki, and David Trautrimas.

The second part of this project, *Hamilton Now: Object*, runs from December 8, 2018 to May 20, 2019. Artists include Christopher Reid Flock, Carmela Laganse, Laura Marotta, Taien Ng-Chan and Donna Akrey, Svava Thordis Juliusson, and others.

Curated by Melissa Bennett

James Street North: Vintage Photographs by Cees and Annerie van Gernerden

On view June 16, 2018 - January 6, 2019

#AGHJamesNorth



Cees and Annerie van Gernerden (Canadian b. Netherlands 1940; Dutch b. 1941), *untitled* (detail), 1984, from the series *On and Around James Street North*, 1984-1985, contemporary gelatin silver print from vintage negative. Courtesy of the artists. © Cees and Annerie van Gernerden

Cees and Annerie van Gernerden arrived in Hamilton in the early 1980s and settled in the James Street North area; they still call the neighbourhood home. At the time, they found a deeply engaged art scene and quickly established themselves within its tight-knit artistic community. The city experienced an economic downturn in the years following their arrival (one that has only recently begun to reverse itself), and James Street North is once again the creative heart of the city.

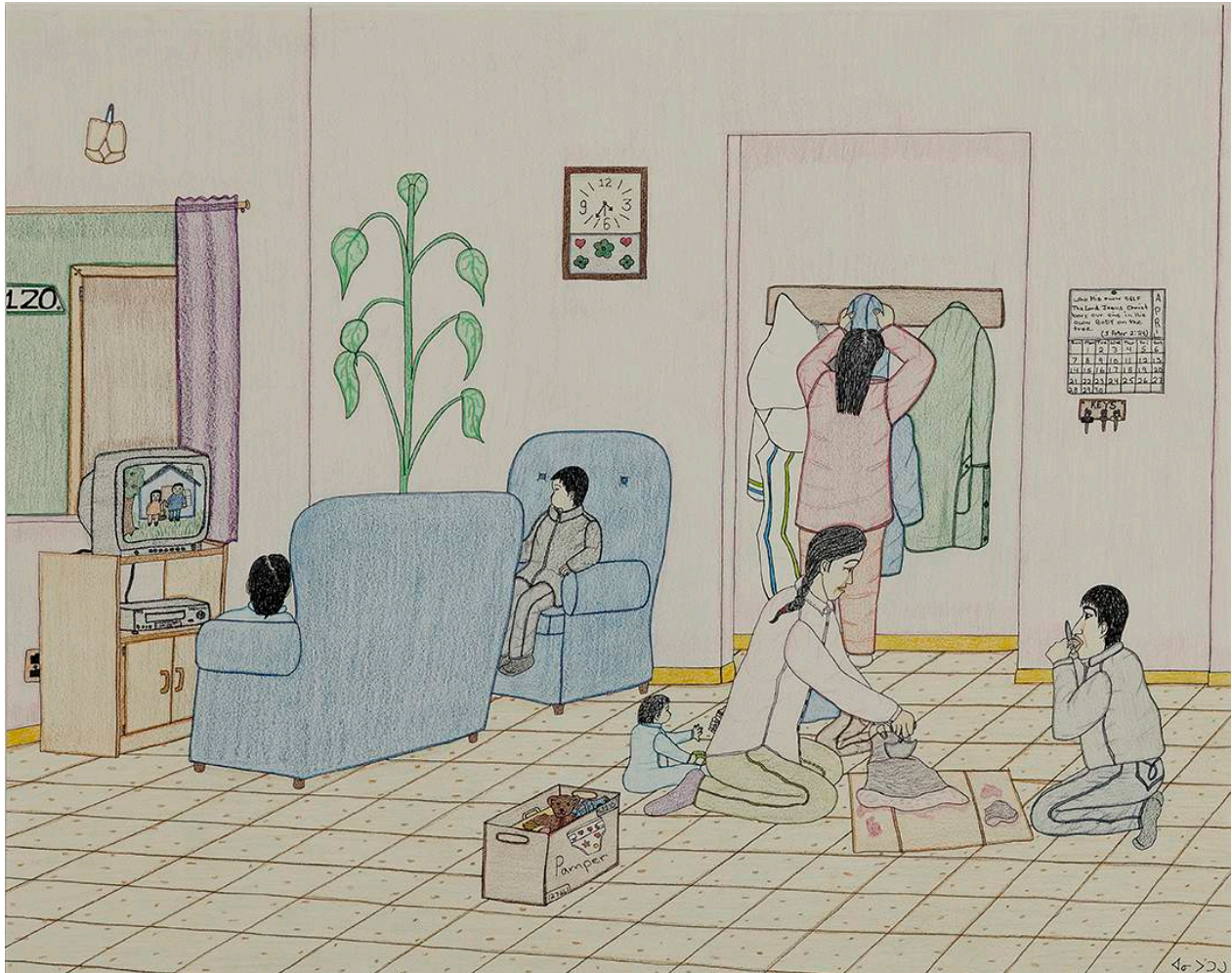
Highlighting the formative series *On and Around James Street* (1984-85), this exhibition of over twenty photographs by the van Gernerdens offers unique and timely views of familiar places in the neighbourhood—some of which have changed, some of which remain. The images feature residents and merchants along James Street North, a historically diverse cultural neighbourhood, well-known for its grassroots artist-run culture.

Curated by Melissa Bennett and Tobi Bruce

[Speaking for Herself](#)

On view March 10, 2018 - March 17, 2019

#AGHHerself



Annie Pootoogook (Canadian (Inuit) 1969-2016), *Cutting Meat by the Pampers Box* 2001-2002, pencil crayon and ink on paper. Purchased with funds from the Alfred Wavell Peene and Susan Nottle Peene Memorial, 2006 © Dorset Fine Arts

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*. In an effort to bring the work of women artists back into the conversation, *Speaking for Herself* mines the AGH collection to bring together significant work by significant artists who identify as women.

The exhibition explores 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.

In the spirit and momentum of this empowering historical moment for women around the world, we are very proud to present an exhibition that foregrounds the artistic voices of so many intelligent, perceptive, witty, strong, and creative women.

Curated by Tobi Bruce

[The Living Room: STREETWATCH](#)

On view June 22 - November 11, 2018
#AGHLivingRoom



Jack Whorwood, *James Street South*, n.d. black and white photograph. Collection of the artist

Sharing a theme with *Vivian Maier: Street Photographer* and *James Street North: Vintage Photographs* by Cees and Annerie van Gemerden, *STREETWATCH* is an interactive exploration of street photography through a variety of historic and contemporary mediums. Photo essays include an historic survey of downtown Hamilton circa 1950-1970 from Jack Whorwood, a day-in-the-life of Supercrawl by George Qua-Enoo, and a sample of the observational works generated by Titi Postma's ongoing, possibly never-ending chronicle of the city. These images will be presented alongside an evolving, crowdsourced photo wall, interactive slide table, and collections of historic photographic ephemera.

Curated by Tor Lukasik-Foss

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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