



Art Gallery  
of Hamilton

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## The Art Gallery of Hamilton wins big at the 2025 GOG Awards

Galleries Ontario / Ontario Galleries (GOG) recognizes the AGH for excellence in two categories



Left to right: Melissa Bennett (Senior Curator of Contemporary Art at the AGH), artist Greg Staats, and Shelley Falconer (President and CEO of the AGH) accept the GOG Award for Curatorial Writing on behalf of Richard Hill Sr.

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The Art Gallery of Hamilton (AGH) was recognized for excellence in two categories at the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual GOG Awards, which were held at the Toronto Reference Library on December 1, 2025.

The GOG Awards were created to highlight the continued excellence, innovation, and importance of public art galleries, art museums, art centres, and art organizations. As the only annual juried awards of its kind, the iconic GOG Awards celebrate the outstanding achievement, artistic merit, and excellence of arts institutions and professionals in the public art gallery sector. This year's theme, **MAKE YOUR MARK – LAISSEZ VOTRE MARQUE**, focused on defending Canadian cultural sovereignty and supporting the arts as a public good.

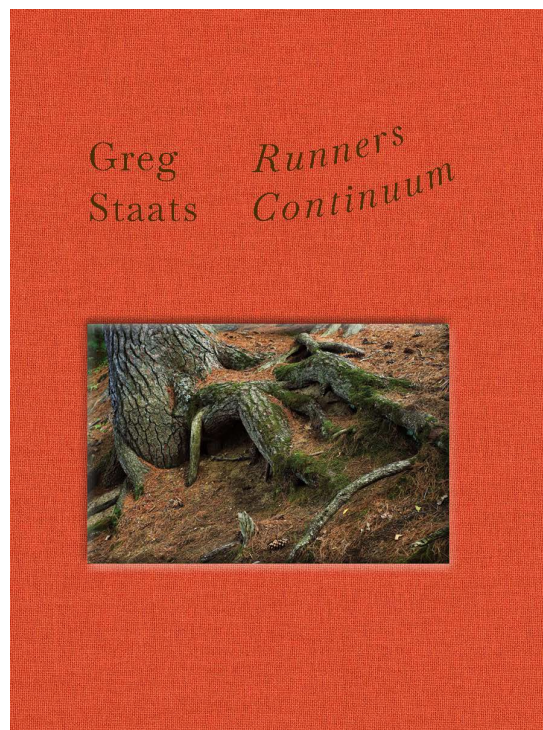
The AGH was awarded in the following categories:

**Curatorial Writing**

Richard Hill Sr. – “Path of Liberation: Artistic Healing of Greg Staats”  
Art Gallery of Hamilton

**Exhibition Catalogue Design**

OTAMI / Sebastien Aubin – *Greg Staats: Runners Continuum*  
Art Gallery of Hamilton



*Greg Staats: Runners Continuum* exhibition catalogue

**“Thank you to Galleries Ontario / Ontario Galleries for the recognizing the AGH with two prestigious GOG Awards,” says Shelley Falconer, President and CEO at the Art Gallery of Hamilton. “I also give my heartfelt thanks to Richard Hill Sr., OTAMI, and Sebastien Aubin for their commitment to excellence. And I extend my immense gratitude to Greg Staats for his remarkable work, which continues to explore important issues of Indigenous history and identity. Thank you, Greg, from all of us at the AGH.”**

*Greg Staats: Runners Continuum* was an exhibition of work by the Toronto-based artist which was on view at the AGH from February 22 to May 18, 2025. The show, which spread over three gallery spaces covering more than 3,000 square feet, included more than 25 works – some in photographic series and others in mixed media.

For this exhibition, which required more than five years of planning, Staats imagined himself in the place of the Hodinöhsö:ni' runner – a person whose role was to run over large distances to deliver important messages between communities and nations. He imagined the roles, responsibilities, and visual absorption of the runner in a time after the five Founding Nations were brought together in a Confederacy by the Peacemaker while carrying the knowledge of the Great Law of Peace, and the period before colonial contact.

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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 southwestern Ontario. Its permanent collection, which is focused on historical Canadian, International, and Contemporary art, numbers more than 11,000 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.

## **About the Galleries Ontario / Ontario Galleries**

GOG was established in 1968 to encourage the development of public art galleries, art museums, community galleries and related visual arts organizations in Ontario. A registered charitable organization, GOG plays an instrumental role in educating the public about the importance of public art galleries as essential cultural resources and institutions. The GOG Awards, which were established in 1977, help to promote the integral role of galleries and art museums in Ontario's visual arts sector and economy. [awards.galleries-ontario-galleries.ca](https://awards.galleries-ontario-galleries.ca)

## **For more information, interview requests and images please contact:**

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