



101 Queen Street North
Kitchener, ON
N2H 6P7
www.kwag.on.ca



A.Y. Jackson (Canadian, 1882 – 1974), *Untitled*, date unknown, oil on canvas, 41 x 51 cm. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Eastman.



Homer Watson (Canadian, 1855 – 1936), *Ice Break on the Grand River*, 1924, oil on canvas laid on masonite, 109 x 145 cm. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, gift of Earl Putnam, 1980.

Gallery Hours:

Mon - Wed 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thurs 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fri - Sat 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sun 1 -5 p.m.

Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery's Collecting Mandate

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Permanent Collection?

The Permanent Collection is a collection of approximately 4000 art works acquired by the Gallery since its inception in 1956. The artwork in the Collection is held in trust by the Gallery for the citizens of the Region of Waterloo to use as an educational resource. The Gallery has been entrusted with the responsibility of storing and exhibiting these works of art and acquiring new works.

Why does the Gallery have a Permanent Collection?

The Permanent Collection plays a significant role in the visual art and cultural heritage of the Region of Waterloo and acts as a historical archive of noteworthy visual art activity in our community. Current and future generations can see the art work that was produced in the past, so that history is not forgotten. The contemporary work currently being commissioned through the Gallery also contributes to the Collection.

Why is the Gallery collecting on a limited basis?

Unfortunately, the Gallery is not in a position where it can exercise fully its collecting mandate due to the Gallery's current storage, resource, and financial limitations.

Who decides if an art work is acquired into the Gallery's Collection?

The Gallery's Curatorial staff and the Permanent Collection Committee, which is made of members of the Board and members of the community, decide if an art work is acquired into the Collection. First, the Gallery's Curator makes a recommendation to the Permanent Collection Committee that a particular art work be acquired into the Collection. If accepted, the recommendation then moves on to the Gallery's Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, acting as trustees on behalf of the community, then have the final say on acceptance of the work into the Collection.

How is the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery's acquisition policy unique?

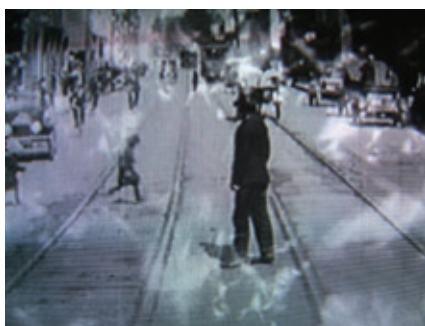
The Gallery's acquisition policy is unique in that it focuses on works that are inspired from the region. In some ways, the Gallery is challenged by its own success: the number and breadth of works in the Collection exceeds the Gallery's original allotted storage and challenges staff resources for its on-going maintenance and administration. Limiting the Collection to works with a regional focus makes sense because of the quality of art and visual art programming in our region. The commissioning of art works for the Gallery's [Parochial Views](#) and [River](#)



101 Queen Street North
Kitchener, ON
N2H 6P7
www.kwag.on.ca



Edward Burtynsky (Canadian, b. 1955), *Shipbreaking #4, Chittagong, Bangladesh, 1/5, 2000*, photograph, 100 x 125 cm, Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, gift of the artist, 2000.



Guy Maddin (Canadian, b. 1956), *Parochial Views No. 5: Berlin*, 2007, digital video, 1:00 minute in length. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, purchased with the assistance of the City of Kitchener, the City of Waterloo and the Canada Council for the Arts, 2008.

Grand Chronicles series are good examples that embody our unique approach as the works are all inspired and influenced by the history, geography, and metaphors of our region.

The Gallery acquires works with local relevance to the Region of Waterloo. What is meant by locally relevant, regional works?

The term “regional” defines a relationship with, and impact on, Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge. A regional significance may include but not necessarily be exclusive to works of art and artists representing the exhibition history at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery and other exhibiting venues within the region; works of art that were inspired by, influential to, or produced within the region; or works of art that reflect the history of the region. Locally relevant also includes artists who were born, lived, or have worked within the region.

How are most of the works acquired?

The majority of the works in the Collection were generously donated to the Gallery by private patrons and artists, emphasizing the important role that the community has in supporting and enabling future collecting to continue. Many individuals build up personal art collections and choose to donate art works to institutions during their lifetime or as a bequest in a Will.

Where do the funds come from to purchase or commission art works that become part of the Collection?

There are many limiting factors and constraints that make it difficult to accumulate on-going funds to make active purchases of art works for the Collection. However, the Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts Acquisition Assistance Program, a program which allows a matching fund opportunity, provide some funds for many of the Gallery’s commissioned projects. Commissioned projects also have the added advantage of helping to build the Collection.

I have an art work that I feel has relevance to the Region of Waterloo. What steps do I need to take to have the work considered?

You can contact the Gallery’s Curatorial and Collections Consultant, Allan MacKay, at ahmackay@kwag.on.ca or at 519.579.5860 ext. 223.

Are all types of art works considered for acquisition into the Permanent Collection (i.e. painting, sculpture, mixed media, video, etc.)?

Yes. Art works using a wide array of media are considered for acquisition into the Permanent Collection.



101 Queen Street North
Kitchener, ON
N2H 6P7
www.kwag.on.ca



Tom Thomson (Canadian, 1877-1917), *Untitled*, date unknown, 33 x 41 cm. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. David Young, 1995.



Laura Muntz Lyall (Canadian, b. England, 1860-1930), *Untitled*, 1887, 107 x 79 cm. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Gift of Mr. Gibson Pirie, 1980.

My aunt left me an oil painting in her Will. How can I find out how much it is worth?

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery does not provide assessment services for works of art. However, the Gallery has a list of qualified art dealers, auction houses and art appraisers to which we can refer you. You can contact the Gallery's Registrar, Cindy Wayvon, at cwayvon@kwag.on.ca or at 519.579.5860 ext. 230 for more information.

If my work is accepted into the Permanent Collection, what benefits do I receive for my donation?

As an donor, you have the personal satisfaction of gifting to a public art institution and contributing to the art and cultural heritage of the region. Furthermore, accepted works of art are eligible for a maximum tax credit if they are deemed cultural property. The market value of the cultural property work would be determined and from this, an applicable tax credit will be issued through the Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board (CCPERB).

Are there any art works in the Permanent Collection that are by the "great masters"?

There are approximately 4000 works in the Collection from primarily Canadian and modern/contemporary artists. For example, there are works by Salvador Dali, Picasso, and the Group of Seven. The Collection includes numerous works by Homer Watson and more recently Edward Burtynsky. The range and breadth of the works is too extensive to list here, but the Gallery has recently implemented a searchable database for Gallery visitors. You can search the Permanent Collection at the Gallery in our new community art lounge, the Hub, during regular Gallery hours. The web site allows you to preview and research facts relating to each work in the Collection.

How are works from the Permanent Collection stored?

The Gallery has a number of storage vaults. These vaults have grown from one to five since 1981, and space is at a premium. All of the works are inventoried and stored within the appropriate regulated environmental conditions concerning temperature, humidity, light and fire suppression.

Where can I view works from the Permanent Collection?

Works from the Permanent Collection are integrated regularly with the Gallery's exhibitions and educational programs including our annual *Expressions* show, where the works are on view alongside art by Waterloo Region students. *Wild Things: A Bestiary Assembled From KW|AG's Permanent Collection* is currently on view until September 11, 2009 in our corridor gallery which explores humans' relationship with animals throughout the ages, and includes over 23 works from the Gallery's



101 Queen Street North
Kitchener, ON
N2H 6P7
www.kwag.on.ca



Monica Tap (Canadian, b. 1962), *Road to Lily Dale I*, 2006, oil on canvas, 203 x 251 cm. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, gift of the artist, 2008.



Scott Conarroe (Canadian, b. 1974), *Parochial Views No. 4: Model Boat Club, Pool at Kitchener City Hall*, 2006, photograph, 75 x 98 cm. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, purchased with the support of the City of Kitchener, the City of Waterloo, the Musagetes Fund at the Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation and the Canada Council for the Arts, 2007.

Collection.

As previously mentioned, the public is invited to view and search works on the Permanent Collections web site. Visual art researchers are also granted permission to view works in the Collection by arranging access with the Gallery's Curatorial department.

Works from the Permanent Collection are regularly exhibited around the region at Centre In The Square, Perimeter Institute, Homer Watson Gallery, and Kitchener City Hall. The sculptures on the grounds outside of the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery/Centre In The Square are also part of the Gallery's Permanent Collection.

Who should I contact if I have questions about the Gallery's collecting policy and Permanent Collection?

You can contact the Gallery's Curatorial and Collections Consultant, Allan MacKay, at ahmackay@kwag.on.ca or at 519.579.5860 ext. 223.

Connecting people and ideas through art.