



KITCHENER - WATERLOO
ART GALLERY

101 Queen Street North,
Kitchener, Ontario, N2H 6P7
519.579.5860 www.kwag.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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New Acquisitions at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery Celebrate the Natural Beauty of Waterloo Region

February 24, 2011 - Kitchener, ON: The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KW|AG) is pleased to announce two new additions to the Gallery's permanent collection, *Moonlight on the Grand* (Homer Watson) and *March* (Will Gorlitz). The acquisitions celebrate the Region's natural beauty and reflect KW|AG's mandate to collect work of local relevance and significance.

Homer Watson's "*Moonlight on the Grand*", is a gift from Henry and Emily Janzen. The work joins KW|AG's Watson collection, a group of fifty-two items including paintings, drawings, etchings and artifacts. Seventeen selections were shown during KW|AG's 2005/2006's exhibition [Homer Watson: Not Your Average Pastoral Picnic](#). In addition to being an important and well-known local artist, Homer Watson was one of the Canada's first internationally recognized artists.

"Will Gorlitz's gift of his work, *March*, marks the artist's first entry into KW|AG's permanent collection and honors the 2008/2009 major exhibition project organized and circulated by KW|AG, [nowhere if not here](#)," says KW|AG Registrar Cindy Wayvon, "Gorlitz actively contributes to the Region's contemporary art community as a professor of fine arts at the University of Guelph and through his art practice."

About Homer Watson

In 1855 Homer Watson, one of Canada's first internationally recognized artists, was born in the village of Upper Doon. Although there was no art instruction in the village Watson developed his skills in drawing and painting at an early age. Watson was one of the most prominent artists in Canada. He was called the "Canadian Constable" because his paintings were compared so favorably to the famous British artist John Constable. Queen Victoria owned his paintings, as did other leading figures in Britain and Canada, such as Oscar Wilde and Lord Strathcona (the Railway magnate). Watson was a strong supporter of Canadian art. He helped to found the Canadian Art Club in Toronto in order to promote the work of Canadian artists whom, he felt, Canadians themselves were neglecting.

About Will Gorlitz

Guelph-based artist Will Gorlitz was born in Buenos Aires and raised in Winnipeg. He studied at both the University of Manitoba School of Art and the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. Gorlitz's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally in exhibitions including the Shanghai Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Power Plant, the National Gallery of Canada, and the Sao Paulo Bienal. He is a Professor in the Studio Art program of the School of Fine Art and Music at the University of Guelph. Will Gorlitz is represented by Michael Gibson Gallery (London, ON); Birch Libralato (Toronto); and Galerie René Blouin (Montreal)



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About the Permanent Collection

KW|AG's permanent collection is comprised of 4,000 art works. Its collection mandate focuses on acquiring works of local relevancy and significance.



Homer Watson, Canadian 1855-1936, Moonlight on the Grand, date unknown, oil on panel, 77 x 57 cm. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Gift of Henry and Emily Janzen, 2010.



Will Gorlitz, March, 2002, 66cm tondo, oil on canvas. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Gift of the Artist, 2010. © Will Gorlitz.

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About the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KW|AG) connects people and ideas through art. The Gallery emphasizes contemporary art, has a 4,000 work permanent collection and offers experiences for adults, children and families. Established in 1956 and operating within Centre In The Square, KW|AG is the oldest and largest public gallery in Waterloo region: *roots in the community, eyes on the world.*

Gallery Hours and Admission

M-W 9:30am-5pm., T 9:30am.-9pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1pm-5pm. Open before select Centre in the Square Performance. Please view our website for current hours. www.kwag.ca

Admission to KW|AG is free courtesy of Sun Life Financial. All are welcome.



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