



**KITCHENER - WATERLOO
ART GALLERY**

For immediate release
April 1, 2009

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

Media Contact

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Celebrate with KW | AG at April 6th Open House

Kitchener, ON, Canada – The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KW|AG) invites the public to attend an **Open House on Monday, April 6, 2009 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** The Open House celebrates many milestones for the Gallery including the resumption of the Gallery's collecting mandate, and the opening of **The Hub** - a new Community Resource Lounge for Gallery visitors. The Open House also recognizes the donation of art works to the Gallery's permanent collection, the first since the lifting of the collecting moratorium: Shelley Niro's two photographs, ***Return to Life*** and ***River Spirit***, and Monica Tap's painting ***Road to Lily Dale I***. Everyone is welcome and admission is free.

Shelley Niro's ***Return to Life*** and ***River Spirit*** were created and first shown at KW|AG as part of the Gallery's *River Grand Chronicles*, a series which invites selected artists to respond to the Grand River as either a conceptual or literal figure in visual storytelling. The on-going series, with its frontispiece *River: Grand!*, features contemporary and historical works that are reflective of the river's influence. Both works will be accessioned into the Gallery's permanent collection.

Toronto-based artist Monica Tap will be in attendance at the Open House to publically donate her work, *Road to Lily Dale I*, to KW|AG's permanent collection. Tap retraced paths frequented by Homer Watson during the late 19th century using digital video to capture her expeditions. These videos provided source imagery for her final paintings *Road to Lily Dale I* and *Road to Lily Dale II* which premiered in the 2007 exhibition, *Monica Tap: séance (River Grand Chronicles #2)*. *Road to Lily Dale I* will be featured in the Gallery's corridor gallery.

The April 6th Open House also celebrates the accessioning of six *Parochial Views* works into the collection, including Robert Keziere's *Electrified Boot Form from the Kitchener Industrial Artifacts Project*; Geoffrey James' *New Jerusalem Road*; Shelley Niro's *BELOVED, ADMIRE, REVERED Pride Day at Victoria Park*; Scott Conarroe's *Model Boat Club*; Guy Maddin's *Berlin*; and Susan Coolen's *Parlance No. 4*. More information on the *Parochial Views* series is available on the Gallery's [Online Projects](#) web page or by reading our subsequent [media release](#).

The Open House is a great opportunity to check out The Hub, the Gallery's new community lounge that offers resources on the Gallery's permanent collection and current exhibitions. The Hub's new complementary wall colours and visuals instantly welcome visitors to the Gallery. Use the Gallery's new computer stations to access the permanent collection database, watch exhibition-related films and DVDs on the new flat screen television, read a selection of art publications, or relax on the stylish new furniture. The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery is especially grateful to The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation's Community Fund, the Erb & Good Family Funeral Home Community Fund held at The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation, the Rotary Club of Kitchener-Conestoga, the Rotary Club of Waterloo, the Rotary Club of Kitchener, the Lion's Club of Kitchener, and the J.P. Bickell

Gallery Hours:

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



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Foundation for making The Hub project possible.

In addition, Karen Mayfield from [eSolutionsGroup](#), the Gallery's Provider of Online Marketing and Business Solutions, will introduce the Gallery new website (www.kwag.ca) and enhanced e-tools for Gallery visitors. The Gallery worked in partnership with eSolutionsGroup to develop a website that is a communications and administrative hub for the Gallery, with additional enhancements on the way. The Open House is also an opportunity to take in the Gallery's new exhibitions: *Expressions 34: Student Art Work from Waterloo Region*, *Re-mix* and Janet Cardiff's *Whispering Room*.

For more information about the Gallery's Open House or to RSVP email sradbourn@kwag.on.ca or call 519.579.5860 ext. 221.

Additional Resources

[Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery Restores Its Collecting Mandate >](#)

[Collecting Mandate Frequently Asked Questions >](#)

[Open House Events Celebrates Milestone and New Community Art Lounge >](#)

About the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery

Through thoughtful and engaging programs, the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KW|AG) connects people and ideas through art. The Gallery's exhibits and programs are built on the mission that art is the catalyst for shared experience, dialogue and imagination. The Gallery emphasizes contemporary art, often premiering works by Canadian and international artists. Exhibitions frequently draw upon selections from the 4 000 work Permanent Collection to provide a forum for dialogue. KW|AG plays a vital educational role in the community, offering a full spectrum of artistic experience for adults, children and families alike. 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. For more information, contact mail@kwag.on.ca or visit www.kwag.ca.

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