

For Immediate Release

September 12, 2014

AGG presents: *FURNITURE, ART/CRAFT, and Aakideh*

FALL 2014

GUELPH - Join us on Thursday, September 25 at 7 pm for the opening reception of the Fall exhibition program.

Gord Peteran: *FURNITURE*

September 25 to November 2, 2014

Featuring new and recent work by Toronto sculptor Gord Peteran, this exhibition includes objects made from brass, wood, and found objects as well as graphite drawings on paper. Through his art, Peteran strives to reveal furniture's role as a multi-faceted body prosthetic, both physically and conceptually. Peteran's latest works are driven by the notion that "objects of the home reveal our deepest struggles."

Peteran's largest and most recent sculpture in brass, *Artifact of Invention*, is the 38th outdoor installation in the sculpture park, commissioned by MSAC with support from the Florence Partridge Fund and from the Canada Council for the Arts Acquisition Assistance Program.

Gord Peteran: FURNITURE is curated by Dawn Owen.

Sculpture Unveiling and Reception: Thursday, September 25 at 7 pm

Artist Talk: Tuesday, October 7 at 12 pm

ART/CRAFT

September 25 to November 8, 2014

This year's major fundraising event, ART/CRAFT, will feature over 40 works by regional artists in a six-week long exhibition that will close with a live auction on November 8.

"Meet the Auctioneer" Stephen Ranger (of Waddington's): Thursday, October 16 at 7 pm

Carl Beam: Aakideh

September 25 to December 14, 2014

Recognized as a leading figure in post-modern art practice, Carl Beam (1943-2005) bridged traditional Aboriginal symbolism and contemporary conceptual imagery in the creation of new forms of art media and aestheticism. Beam's work is characterized by the juxtaposition of autobiographical, commercial, photographic, and art historical references, evoking the dissonances between Euro-American and Native cultures. In a 1990 interview, Beam stated: "To a large extent, Native people have been deprived of their history." He addressed this issue in many of his works by mingling allusions to the Western world with references to Native histories.

Carl Beam's work has been widely exhibited across Canada and internationally. His painting, *The North American Iceberg* (1984), became the first contemporary Aboriginal artwork purchased by the National Gallery of Canada. In 1992, Beam's work was prominently featured in the landmark exhibition of First Nations contemporary art, *Land, Spirit, Power*, also at the National Gallery. In 2000, Beam was inducted into the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts and, in 2005, he was awarded the Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts.

This exhibition, *Carl Beam: Aakideh*, features five major canvases from the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's permanent collections, as well as ten photo-etchings from his *Columbus Suite*. Aakideh, meaning "brave hearted, strong hearted" is Beam's Ojibwe name.

Opening Reception: Thursday, September 25 at 7 pm

Culture Day Screening and Director Q&A: Saturday, September 27 at 1 pm

About AGG

The Art Gallery of Guelph (AGG) is one of Canada's premier public art galleries. AGG features art by Guelph's leading visual artists and brings national and international art to Guelph. Through an innovative program that makes contemporary visual culture accessible, AGG engages the public, challenges the artistic and academic communities, and positions art in an ever-changing cultural landscape.

AGG (formerly Macdonald Stewart Art Centre) was established in 1978 through a provincial act as a not-for-profit charitable organization. AGG operates today with three sponsors: University of Guelph, City of Guelph, and the Upper Grand District School Board. The art collections at AGG have grown from 150 works in 1978 to more than 9,000 today. The Sculpture Park at AGG is the largest sculpture park at a public gallery in Canada, which features 38 permanently sited sculptures by prominent Guelph, Canadian, and international artists.

AGG's Volunteer Association operates The Gallery Shop at AGG, featuring unique pottery, glass, and metalwork by regional artists, and soapstone sculpture by Inuit artists. The Art Rental & Sales program offers over 150 original works by Guelph artists.