

For immediate release

February Events at KWAG Explore Hospitality and Home

30 January 2018, Kitchener ON – The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery expands on its 2018 theme of hospitality with a free February Film Series and two Open Conversations that share culturally diverse experiences of finding and making a home in Canada.

Open Conversations features Kitchener-based spoken word artist and musician **Janice Jo Lee** as the host of two evenings that ask the question: What is a warm welcome? Through conversation with invited guests **Amy Smoke**, a Mohawk woman and advocate for Indigenous women and youth, and **Nada Humsi**, a Syrian-born theatre artist and Artistic Associate at MT Space, Lee will explore differing cultures of hospitality.

Thursday 1 February: Janice Jo Lee with Amy Smoke, 7-8 pm

Thursday 1 March: Janice Jo Lee with Nada Humsi, 7-8 pm

Both events are pay-what-you-can, with proceeds going to the Food Bank of Waterloo Region.

Our **February Film Series** complements our current exhibitions with Canadian documentaries that reveal the struggle to establish and sustain a sense of home. From the challenges of immigration to vanishing ways of life in northern reserves and southern prairies alike, these four films offer uniquely personal perspectives on wider social change.

Sunday 4 February: *Where I Belong*

Sunday 11 February: *19 Days*

Sunday 18 February: *The People of the Kattawapiskak River*

Sunday 25 February: *The Grasslands Project – Val Marie Hotel*

All film screenings are free admission and start at 2 pm, with discussion to follow.

ALSO HAPPENING IN FEBRUARY:

Family Day: Drop in from 1-4 pm on Monday 19 February for art activities that kids and kids-at-heart can enjoy together. Free admission, with a suggested donation of \$5 per child.

Walk the Talk Multilingual Tours: Take a free guided tour of our current exhibitions in Mandarin (Sunday, 11 & 25 February) or Spanish (Sunday 18 February). All tours start at 1 pm and are sponsored by the Gamble Family and the Cowan Foundation.

Walk the Talk Stroller Tour: Parents and caregivers are invited to bring their little ones to the Gallery for a child-friendly, stress-free tour of our current exhibitions on Tuesday 13 February from 9:30-11:30 am. Tours are free of charge thanks to the Gamble Family.

ABOUT THE KITCHENER-WATERLOO ART GALLERY

Established in 1956, the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KWAG) is Waterloo Region's oldest and largest public art gallery with an emphasis on contemporary art, offering creative and accessible experiences for all ages and segments of society. KWAG connects people and ideas through art, drawing the community into a shared experience of art that moves from sight to insight. The Gallery and its Permanent Collection of more than 4000 works is located within Centre In The Square.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery acknowledges that we are located on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. We are on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (Neutral Confederacy), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

MEDIA CONTACT

Stephanie Vegh, Manager, Media & Communications
E: svegh@kwag.on.ca | 519.579.5860, ext. 218

KITCHENER-WATERLOO ART GALLERY

101 Queen Street N, Kitchener
kwag.ca | 519.579.5860

HOURS AND ADMISSION

T-W 9:30 am-5 pm, Thu 9:30 am-9 pm, Fri 9:30 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm
Open before most Centre In The Square performances

Admission to KWAG's exhibitions is free, courtesy of



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