

# KITCHENER-WATERLOO ART GALLERY KWAG.CA



## Art Grows Here: KWAG Unveils Community Garden Installation and New Exhibition in a Celebration of Summer and Sustainability.

**14 May 2025, Kitchener ON** -The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery presents a dual exhibition launch featuring the innovative [\*50/50 Garden of Resilience\*](#)—a living installation merging art with sustainable agriculture—alongside the exhibition, [\*Couzyn van Heuvelen: CAMP\*](#).

The *50/50 Garden of Resilience* serves as both a functioning community garden addressing local food insecurity and a decolonial artistic statement that challenges traditional conceptions of land value. Tended by the local gardeners, the site provides an opportunity for community members to grow organic vegetables, fruits, herbs, and

flowers, while fostering intergenerational and intercultural learning through community collaboration and mutual aid.

KWAG's weekend of celebration is a testament to our community's resilience and creativity, thematically influenced by [CAMP](#), which explores Inuit cultural sovereignty and land-based practices. It creates a space that celebrates our collective efforts in community building around food while addressing critical issues of self-determination and food sovereignty in the North. The artist will be joined by the Curator Leila Timmins for a tour of the exhibition on Saturday.

The weekend also features the launch of the new monograph [Billy Gauthier: Sila](#), documenting KWAG's groundbreaking mid-career survey of the renowned sculptor's work, which explored globalization's impacts, extraction industries, and modernization efforts affecting Indigenous populations. The launch features a roundtable with the artist, Mark Bennett (designer), Logan MacDonald (author), and Darryn Doull (curator).

KWAG's programming for the weekend includes a variety of engaging activities for all ages including the official Garden Launch Celebration, Garden of Resilience Weekend Activities, a Food Drive and Seedling Exchange in support of [The Food Bank of Waterloo Region](#), free and paid workshops such as Cyanotype and Flower Pounding Tote Bag Workshops, plus a Summer Style Swap to gather unwanted, clean clothing, shoes, and accessories—all designed to welcome the community to this new space of cultural and ecological significance.

For a complete line-up of the *50/50 Garden of Resilience* programs, please visit [our website](#).

### Land Acknowledgment

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery respectfully acknowledges that we are located in Block 2 on the Haldimand Tract: land promised to Six Nations, which includes ten kilometers on each side of the Grand River. This is the traditional home of the Attawandaron (Neutral), Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee Peoples, whose resilience we honor by offering this Gallery as a space to reflect and learn from one another. We are committed to reconciliation and ensuring that our Gallery's programs and Permanent Collection demonstrate more diverse, culturally relevant Canadian art and artists.

### About Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery

As Waterloo Region's leading public art gallery, the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KWAG) connects people and ideas through art. Its nationally acclaimed exhibitions and programs welcome all to be inspired and challenged through a deepened understanding of ourselves, our cultures, and our communities. It offers dynamic public programs that inspire creativity and an appreciation of the visual arts in the Region and beyond. Established in 1956 and incorporated in 1968, KWAG is a non-

profit organization open to the public and administered in the public trust. Admission is free.

**Accessibility:** KWAG is an accessible venue - visit [KWAG.ca/accessibility](http://KWAG.ca/accessibility)

### Visit Us

Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, 101 Queen Street North, Kitchener, ON N2H 6P7  
[www.kwag.ca](http://www.kwag.ca)

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Image credit: Ron Benner, *Trans/mission: 101*, 2016. Photographic /garden installation. Installation view at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery. ©Ron Benner. Photo: © 2016 Scott Lee.

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The *50/50 Garden of Resilience* weekend celebrations are sponsored by Stantec.

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