

For immediate release

Artists and their Parents Share the Spotlight in KWAG's Fall Exhibition

26 September 2018, Kitchener ON – Relationships between parents and their grown children are explored by six contemporary artists to be featured in the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery's new exhibition, *I'll be your Mirror*, which opens to the public on **Friday 5 October** with a free Artist Talk and Opening Reception.

Featuring new and recent work by **Stephanie Comilang, Erika DeFreitas, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Neil Goldberg, Milutin Gabush** and **Vivek Shraya**, *I'll be your Mirror* looks at the role of photography and video as lens-based media through which children develop their sense of self through the eyes of their parents. In hindsight, these images become memories that form an inescapable lineage to our past and present selves.



Vivek Shraya, *Trisha 4a* and *Trisha 4b*, 2016. Digital prints. Courtesy of the artist.

'While the relationship between parents and their grown children may seem an unlikely subject for contemporary art, these artists invite us to rethink notions of inheritance and urge us to see the familiar with fresh eyes,' explains Crystal Mowry, KWAG Senior Curator. 'In the course of a generation, we have seen photography shift from a tool for freezing singular moments to something both ubiquitous and public. We have grown comfortable with pictures becoming our punctuation, marking our lives with casual frequency. The artists in this exhibition rely on photographic images – either in still or moving form – to reflect on the intergenerational dynamics that give our lives profound meaning.'

Exhibition highlights include award-winning American photographer LaToya Ruby Frazier's pivotal series, *The Notion of Family*, will be represented at KWAG through four photographs that explore the racial and environmental impacts of industrial decline in Pittsburgh through portraits featuring the artist's mother and grandmother. Musician, artist and writer Vivek Shraya re-enacts found images of her mother as a new immigrant in her early 20s through her *Trisha* photo essay, while Erika DeFreitas tests the physical and emotional ties between herself and her mother through haunting gestures of connection and loss performed through video, photography and sculpture.

I'll be your Mirror will open to the public on Friday 5 October with a free **Artist Talk featuring Erika DeFreitas** starting at 7:00 pm, with the Opening Reception to follow at 8:00 pm. This exhibition remains on view at KWAG until 17 March 2019.

This exhibition is generously supported by the Allan MacKay Curatorial Endowment Fund, established by the Musagetes Arts and Culture Fund, held at the Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation. Artist Talks at KWAG are kindly supported by Momentum Developments and Sorbara Law.

- 30 -

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), Anishinaabeg 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

