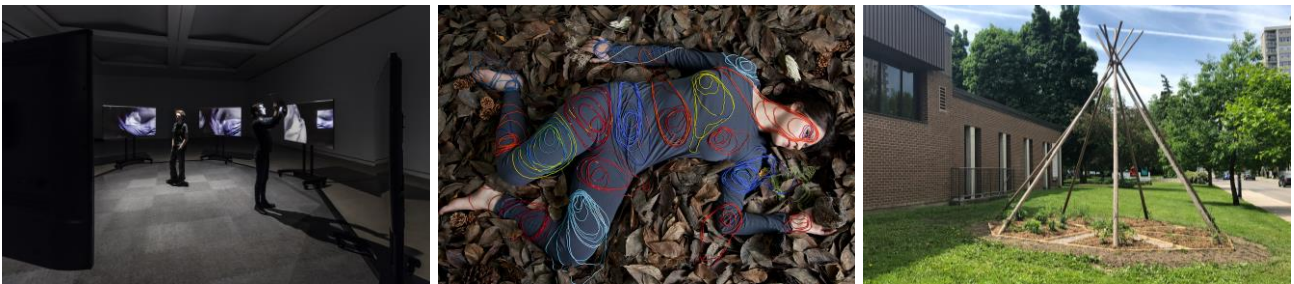


For immediate release

Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery celebrates cycles of rebirth in summer exhibitions

25 June 2019, Kitchener ON – The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery launches its summer exhibition season this **Thursday 27 June** with the Opening Reception for *The Perennials*, *Mike MacDonald: Planting one Another* and *Jenn E Norton: Slipstream*. Guelph-based artist Jenn E Norton will present a free Artist Talk introducing her work at 7:00 pm, with a public reception to follow from 8:00 pm.

“Our summer exhibitions are connected by themes of cycles and return,” explains Crystal Mowry, KWAG Senior Curator. “Whether by conjuring other artists from a distant past or making gardens both real and implied, the artists in this season’s program encourage us to think about subjects that can have a life of their own.”



Slipstream is an immersive video installation that surrounds the viewer with a sweeping interpretation of Art Nouveau choreographer Loïe Fuller’s (1862-1928) iconic serpentine dance, in which the dancer’s voluminous robes become a dynamic sculptural object. Moving across a circle of six reflective monitors, this spectacle surrounds the viewer and draws their reflection into a shared visual space in an otherwise darkened gallery space. Organized by the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa, *Slipstream* is co-curated by Linda Jansma and KWAG Senior Curator Crystal Mowry.

Featuring many new and recent additions to KWAG’s Permanent Collection, *The Perennials* explores cycles of renewal and return as they appear in nature and artists’ practices alike. This exhibition, curated by Crystal Mowry, marks the KWAG premiere of new photographic and sculptural works by Meryl McMaster, Reinhard Reitzenstein and Robert Bourdeau, as well as an Augmented Reality response created by Jenn E Norton for this occasion.

Planting one Another is a twin re-planting of a Medicine and Butterfly garden originally conceived by the late Mi’kmaq artist Mike MacDonald (1941-2006). Eight native plant species will flourish beneath a canopy of hops supported by tipi poles in this living artwork that has been simultaneously planted at the Woodland Cultural Centre in Brantford – the site of MacDonald’s first garden.

Related Programs:

Walk the Talk: Curator's Tour – A free guided tour of our summer exhibitions with Crystal Mowry will take place on **Thursday 25 July** at 6:30 pm.

Curator's Talk: Lisa Myers – The curator of *Planting one Another* will present a free public presentation on Mike MacDonald's gardens on **Thursday 8 August** at 7:00 pm.

Open Conversations – Dancer and choreographer Katie Ewald hosts two evenings of insightful dialogue with special guests inspired by *Slipstream* on **Wednesday 28 August** and **11 September** at 7:00 pm.

Artist Talks at KWAG are supported by Momentum Developments and Sorbara Law. Walk the Talk Tours and Open Conversations are supported by the Gamble Family.

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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

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HOURS AND ADMISSION

Tues, Wed & Friday 9:30 am-5 pm, Thursday 9:30 am – 9 pm, Saturday 10 am-5 pm, Sunday 1-5 pm

Admission to KWAG's exhibitions is free, courtesy of



IMAGE CREDITS (from left):

Jenn E Norton, *Slipstream* (installation detail), 2018. 6-channel video installation, 10:40 min. Courtesy of The Robert McLaughlin Gallery. © Jenn E Norton.

Meryl McMaster, *Terra Cognitum*, 2013. Digital chromogenic print, 91.4cm x 127cm. Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery Collection. Purchased in part through the support of the Elizabeth L. Gordon Art Program, a program of the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation and administered by the Ontario Arts Foundation, 2019. © Meryl McMaster / courtesy Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto, Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain, Montréal.

Installation view of *Mike MacDonald: Planting one Another*, butterfly and medicine garden, 2019. Courtesy of the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery and the Woodland Cultural Centre. © Mike MacDonald.