



| TOM |

TOM THOMSON
ART GALLERY

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WINTER 2014/2015

Message from the Director

By Virginia Eichhorn,
Director & Chief Curator



Image: TOM staff L-R: Robert Alton, Heather Hughes, Suzanne Watson, Virginia Eichhorn, Leanne Wright, Trevor Pfeffer, Kim Skene, David Huff

The year 2014 has been a year of looking at what we do at the TOM and challenging ourselves to increase our capacity and provide greater benefits to what we provide for our communities and audiences. Beginning in January 2014 the staff and I spent a number of meetings discussing visioning, strategy and addressing the needs – short and long term of the TOM. Certain issues, such as audience engagement, responsiveness to changing needs of the community, relevance and communication were highlighted and each department and staff person reviewed what we undertook and why. If the response was “Because we always do it this way/have always done it.” then we challenged ourselves to dig more deeply to really determine what we do and why we do it and how that relates to our mandate as a public art gallery and the audiences we serve. In order to encourage a proactive mindset titles and organization structure was shifted so that “Programmes” (which denoted a passive “We’ll provide it and expect people to come to us.” mindset) has been changed to “Audience Engagement” (“We’ll find out what kinds of things people want/are interested in and see what we can do to respond to that appropriately and meaningfully.”) “Sponsorship and Development” has been changed to “Partnership and Development” to indicate that we’re looking for meaningful collaborations and relationship building with other organizations. Traditional “Curatorial” “Programming” and “Development” departments have been changed up and we now have “Creative Strategies Team”, “Audience Engagement Team” and “Partnership and Development Team”. This has encouraged a fresh vision and way at looking at what we do, why we do it and how we deliver it to full effect. The staff had a full day facilitated strategic visioning session with Douglas Worts to help us solidify this new vision and get us to the next level.

The TOM is a continuously evolving organization which strives to deliver the highest quality of programmes and to create meaningful experiences for all of those who engage with it whether as an artist, a volunteer, a sponsor or a visitor. And we look forward to seeing what 2015 brings our way.

Special Events



December 4, 6, 18 and 20

Gallery Shop

Friends of the TOM Shopping Days

Friends of the Gallery receive a **20% discount** on all items in the Gallery Shop. The Tom Thomson Art Gallery Gift Shop is *the* place for unique, handcrafted pieces by local artists Tom Thomson reproductions and the latest **Tom Thomson Collection by Roots**.



Next Tom Thomson Collection by Roots available at the TOM

In partnership with the Tom Thomson Art Gallery, this Roots Canada winter clothing and accessory collection honours both his art and his life. This fall line includes both long and short sleeved shirts with Tom Thomson’s Owen Sound graphic imagery, warm jack pine wool, work socks, Canoe Lake plaid neck warmers, and colourful Mowat Lodge toques. This collection is available in the Gallery Gift Shop just in time for the holidays and is all proudly made in Canada.



Image: Tom Thomson's Studio Palette, c. 1915. Wood with oil paint. Gift of Jessie (Harkness) Fisk, niece of Tom Thomson, 1967 (detail).

January 11 to March 15

Call For Submissions: **The Power of Paint**

An exhibition and sale of original paintings by local artists This Gallery Shop project speaks to Tom Thomson's legacy; capturing the rugged, northern, Canadian landscape through the medium of paint. This show will celebrate local artists who use paint (watercolour, acrylics or oils) as their medium of choice for artistic creation in a variety subject matter (landscape, portraits, still life, or abstract imagery). Please pick up your submission form at the TOM or visit our website to download the PDF form online. The deadline for submission is Monday, January 5, 2015.

Sunday February 1 at 1pm

Tom Talks

James Sebesta will discuss the work in his exhibition **Persona**, a thirty year retrospective which explores a large range of themes and imagery including still life, abstraction, personal and public works associated with mental illness and disability that relate to perceptual psychology.

Programmes

December 10, January 14, February 11

New Teen Program at the TOM!

For those in Grades 7 -12

2nd Wednesday of the each month, 4:30 - 6:30pm

This drop-in program is a place to share and explore your own artistic ideas, including the creation of new works, discussions of styles and experimentation with new media. Projects and topics will all be directed by you with Gallery instructor on-hand to provide feed-back and tips.



December 14, January 25, February 22

Figure Drawing

1 - 4 pm Sunday afternoons

Cost: \$15 (+HST), High school students \$5 (+HST)

The Gallery offers non-instructional figure drawing sessions to encourage the tradition of drawing and painting the human form. Bring your own supplies; no oil paint. Studio doors close at 1 pm.

December 21, January 18, February 15

Make Art

On the 3rd Sunday of every month, the TOM invites families into the studio for an afternoon of art-making and fun with a free hands-on activity. There is no per-registration required and everyone is welcome. 1 - 3 pm



March 17-20, 1 - 3 pm

March Break at the TOM

Drop-in activities

Watch our website for details.

March 31 and April 1, 7 - 9 pm.

Introduction to Figure Drawing

Watch our website for details and registration dates.

Friends and Supporters of the TOM receive 10% off all studio programmes.

Thank you to our Education Sponsors Bruce Power and Scotia Bank



January 5, February 2, March 23, April 13, May 4

Gallery Night at the Movies

Watch our website for film info and schedule updates!

Our series is sponsored this season by:

PAUL M. BOULTER, J. SCOTT KOCHER - TD WATERHOUSE

LAURENS WIT CONSTRUCTION

DOUG CAMERON'S OWEN SOUND SUBARU

WELL IN HAND HEALTH FOOD STORE

Save the dates!

Owen Sound's Reel Festival returns to the Roxy Theatre
February 27 to March 1

Passes go on sale January 6



Supporter's Profile



Through the Bright Future program, Scotiabank is committed to making a difference in our local communities at a grassroots level. Scotiabank is a strong supporter of the arts and aims to bring arts and culture to life for people who might not otherwise have the opportunity to participate. Scotiabank is proud to support the Tom Thomson Gallery and to enable students in the Owen Sound area the opportunity to experience hands on learning outside of the classroom.



Exhibitions

Until January 11, 2015
If It Weren't for the War; The Art of Private Jukes;
Autumn Colours

Upcoming

Opening on January 18 from 2–4pm



Image: James Sebesta, *Miss M*, 2014. Acrylic on canvas (detail).

January 18 to March 15, 2015

James Sebesta: Persona

Curated by Heather Hughes

Persona is a thirty year retrospective highlighting selected works from James Sebesta's artistic practice. For many years now, James Sebesta's artistic practice has revolved around his experience as a local artist, teacher, father and mental health advocate. **Persona** explores a large range of themes and imagery including still life, abstraction, personal and public works associated with mental illness and disability that relate to perceptual psychology.



Image: Sharon Cook, *Light Coincidence*, 1985 mixed media on plywood. Gift of Jane MacKay Wright, 2011 (detail).

Community Curators Select VII

One of our annual favourites, **Community Curators** features work from our Permanent Collection selected by members of the public.

Ongoing:

Canadian Spirit: The Tom Thomson Experience



Image: Bertha Ingle, "Your turn to be the ox ..." c. 1907. Oil on canvas. Private Collection (detail).

The Art of Bertha Ingle

Curated by Virginia Eichhorn and Robert Alton

Bertha was born in 1878 in Puslinch Township, grew up in Owen Sound, and lived most of her adult life in Toronto. She loved to paint nature, and she loved being outdoors, often painting en *plein air*.

I want to express so much more than just the surface effects, and they are difficult enough, you know. Can anything be much more elusive than light and movement? But I love them well enough I think never to grow tired of trying. [1930, in a letter to a friend]



Image: Jay Issacs, *Untitled*, 1999. Oil and acrylic on canvas. Gift of Victor Safirstein 2009 (detail).

A Picture's Worth a Thousand Words

Curated by Bree Morgan, OSCVI co-op student

Empty space in the center of the image focuses the viewer's attention on the background or foreground, in this selection of works from the Gallery's Collection..

The TOM's 2015 exhibitions are sponsored by *Owen Sound Transportation*

Image: Tom Thomson, *Woods in Winter*, 1917. Oil on wood. Gift of Louise (Thomson) Henry (detail).



In Memoriam
Barry Stoneman

“Tonight we ride,
tomorrow we feed
the horses, and
giddy-up.”



Barry Stoneman was a valued and trusted member of the Gallery staff team for over 25 years. He became the Gallery's custodian and City employee, shortly after the "new" Gallery building was built in 1988. He spent thousands of hours making sure that the building always looked its best. He put in extra effort just before exhibition opening receptions, when he was known to come back just before the opening to check that no one had gotten their fingerprints on the brass handrails, he had so diligently shined up. With a great sense of humour, Barry always had a great story to tell. After school tours he was always amazed by the amount of dirt that little kids could track in on his clean floors. But the bane of his work life was studio instructors' persistent use of "sparkles" in their art projects, which seemed to cover every inch of the building after only a short program. Barry was always "on-call" and rescued staff, and art, from more than one catastrophe. Barry was friendly to all, and will be sadly missed by his fellow Gallery staff, and colleagues City wide.

Barry's favourite quote was "Tonight we ride, tomorrow we feed the horses, and giddy-up."

Support

Be A Tom Volunteer And Make A Difference!!

Expand your horizons, meet interesting people, earn your community hours and surround yourself with some of Canada's greatest artwork.

Fifty for Fifty

For a commitment of \$1000/year (payable in monthly installments of \$85), **Fifty for Fifty** Members enjoy benefits such as private previews with the curator, lectures by artists, scholars, and other experts; and, most importantly, the knowledge that their tax-deductible gifts provide funds to further the work and the educational outreach of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery, a world-class institution presenting exceptional art and programs to a wide audience locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Annual Fund

The Annual Fund provides substantial support for the Gallery to stage major exhibitions and offer engaging programming for you. Your gift, whether \$20 or \$200, will benefit the Gallery and provide you with an additional tax deduction. Your contribution will ensure that the TOM continues to be a source of inspiration, enjoyment, and education for you and our community.

For more information on ways to support the TOM, please contact Suzanne Watson: swatson@tomthomson.org or 519-376-1932x226.

Become a Friend of the TOM

Individual \$35 | Senior/Student/Artist \$25 | Family \$45
Become a Friend of the TOM and enjoy unlimited General Admission, discounts on classes, lectures and camps, 10% discount on Gallery Shop purchases (20% during Friends of the TOM Shopping Days), reciprocal privileges with other galleries and access to the TOM's newsletters. Becoming a Friend of the TOM supports our top-notch programming, exhibitions and the care of our nationally significant collection!

Fifty for Fifty

Mary Ann Alton
Jenifer and George Burbidge
Tom & Edna Burri
Shawn Casemore
Virginia & Paul Eichhorn
Linda Myles Gallinger
Tom Grella
Blake Jarrett
Donald Johnston
Montgomery King
Brad Locking
Rob McKinnon
Ron Pirie
Steve Shaver
John Smith
Jeff & Michelle Sziklai
David Taylor
Erroll Treslan
Linda Montgomery &
Dennis Yurkiw

Patrons

Kate & Gordon Baty
Ellen Shearer & Jeffrey
Bradford
Maria Boylan
Joan Clayton
Jake Doherty
Barbara Gray
Joe & Betty Gray
George Mackowski
J.E. & Elizabeth Mullens
Rob & Iet Muylwyk
Donna & Ron O'Donoghue
Rosemary & Peter Preuss
Nancy Reid
John & Joan Rigby
Marjorie Shu
Bob Snelling
David Sugarman
Barbara Kiely & Patrick Walsh
Michael & Elizabeth Warren
Brian & Ingrid Young

Gallery Hours

Tuesday to Friday: 11-5
Saturday and Sunday: 12-5

Holiday Hours

Closed December 25, 26, January 1
Open December 27-31 from 12-4
All long weekends and holiday Mondays: 12-4

Admission to the TOM is by donation and sponsored by Cobble Beach.

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www.tomthomson.org

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Staff

Virginia Eichhorn, Director/Chief Curator
Robert Alton, Exhibitions Coordinator
Burt Defrancesco, Gift Shop Manager
David Huff, Curator of Collections
Heather Hughes, Curator, Temporary Exhibitions
Trevor Pfeffer, Audience Engagement Coordinator
Kim Skene, Audience Engagement Manager
Suzanne Watson, Administrative Coordinator
Leanne Wright, Partnerships and Marketing Manager



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Become A Friend of The Gallery

To all our valued Friends: If your contact information has changed, please contact Suzanne Watson. A special thanks for the support of Friends, volunteers, businesses and individuals.

The TOM is generously supported by:

