

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Spirit and the Extraordinary, Part of the TOM's Spring Exhibitions



OWEN SOUND (ONTARIO) CANADA: The Tom Thomson Art Gallery is pleased to announce its spring line-up of exhibitions, opening on April 3 and running to June 19, 2016. Opening Reception will take place on April 3rd from 2 to 5 PM.

In Spirit

The spiritual realm comes alive through the works of Heather Murray, John Latour and Tim Laurin. **In Spirit**, a co-presentation between the TOM and the Art Gallery of Burlington, examines absence, loss and the potential of the past to continue to assert influence over us now, yet their work also reminds us that histories are constructed on memories and that the truth may not be universal. **In Spirit** is a co-presentation between the TOM and the Art Gallery of Burlington. Please join us for the Curators' Talk at 1 PM with the TOM's Director and Chief Curator, Virginia

Eichhorn and The AGB's Artistic Director and Chief Curator, Denis Longchamps.

Diana Thorneycroft: Herd

Diana Thorneycroft presents a series of carefully staged photographs and a sculptural installation that invite the viewer into a world of the extraordinary, the magical and of intuitive knowledge. **Herd** explores hybrid transformations and symbolic possibilities that are powerful yet ambiguously mysterious.

Diana Thorneycroft is a Winnipeg artist who has exhibited various bodies of work across Canada, the United States and Europe, as well as in Moscow, Tokyo and Sydney. She received her BFA from the University of Manitoba in 1979 and her MA from the University of Wisconsin in 1980. She has received numerous grants and awards, including the 2016 Manitoba Arts Award of Distinction and her work has been the subject of national radio documentaries and a CBC national documentary for television.



Thorneycroft's work has been included in the 2002 Phaidon Press publication *Blink*, which presents the work of 100 rising stars in photography. Canadian Art Magazine selected Thorneycroft's photographic series **Group of Seven Awkward Moments** as one of The Top 10 Exhibitions of 2008. Thorneycroft's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, including at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography and the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris. Her work can be found in many private, corporate and public collections. Thorneycroft has gallery representation with Michael Gibson Gallery (London, Ontario), Art Mûr (Montreal, Quebec), Galerie Françoise Paviot (Paris, France), Fabien Castanier Gallery (Los Angeles, California), and Gurevich Fine Art (Winnipeg, Manitoba).

In the downstairs foyer, **Recent Donations: The Arlene Kennedy Collection**, curated by Collections Curator David Huff, rounds out our three new exhibitions. Arlene Kennedy worked professionally as a director, curator, and educator promoting the visual arts in Ontario for many decades. Since 2005, she has co-owned Circle Arts, a commercial gallery in Tobermory and has lived on the North Bruce Peninsula since 2006. An enthusiastic art collector for years, her own private collection now overflows beyond her available wall space. This exhibition is a selection of art works by nationally-known artists who have had personal connections to, or made work about, the region that Kennedy has collected over the years, and has now recently donated to the Gallery.

For more information, or to request interviews and images, please contact Suzanne Watson, Partnership and Sponsorship Manager at swatson@tomthomson.org or 519-376-1932, ext. 221.

The Tom Thomson Art Gallery is a national cultural attraction, dedicated to the innovation and spirit of iconic artist Tom Thomson, strongly identified with the Group of Seven whose images are virtually synonymous with the very idea of 'Canada.' Our national identity is forged and fortified by our awareness and understanding of historical figures like Thomson, whose artwork has been described as being the "visual equivalent of our national anthem."

With over 50,000 visitors each year, the TOM is the region's main disseminator of contemporary art and provides a unique experience for its audiences. The TOM celebrates excellence in the visual arts locally, nationally and internationally, through exhibitions of historical and contemporary art, education programs and the enrichment and interpretation of its significant permanent collection. The TOM supports Thomson's legacy through programs such as **Canadian Spirit** involving galleries, organizations and businesses across the country.

Admission to the TOM is free or by donation and more information about the Gallery's hours, collection, programs and events can be found at www.tomthomson.org.



The TOM's exhibition programming has been made possible in part by our 2015 Exhibition Sponsor, the Owen Sound Transportation Company. The Gallery gratefully acknowledges its major funders, major sponsors, partners, members and donors.



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