

Attention News/Assignment Editors:

MEDIA ADVISORY

TREE LISTENER, ALEX METCALF AT OAKVILLE GALLERIES UNTIL THIS THURSDAY

OAKVILLE, ON, September 29 - If you never thought that trees had a voice, well you were wrong. Oakville Galleries welcomes the Tree Listener, Alex Metcalf, who has created a device to actually listen to trees.

Alex has designed a special sensor connected to an amplifying unit that when placed on a tree trunk, allows the listener to hear the noise that a tree makes. From headphones, listeners are given the opportunity to listen to the tree's clicking "voice" as water from underneath the ground naturally moves up inside the tree.

Alex aims to excite and inspire a keen interest in trees with the 'Tree Listening Installation', by providing a fascinating new way of understanding trees. The installation is an experience that links both science and art and engages the public with what happens inside a tree.

He has received international news coverage in *The Guardian*, *The Times*, *The Irish Times*, *BBC* and most recently in the *Edmonton Journal*. Alex comes to Oakville Galleries on a short research project after attending the Canadian Urban Forest Conference in Edmonton. For more information about Alex and the 'Tree Listening Installation' and device go to: www.alexmetcalf.co.uk.

Interviews: Can be arranged through Oakville Galleries with Alex and the tree listening device until Wednesday, October 1.

Location: Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens, 1306 Lakeshore Rd. E. Oakville, ON L6J 1L6

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