

Myth, mourning and memory at Oakville Galleries

For release September 14, 2009

OAKVILLE, ON - This Sunday, Oakville Galleries is pleased to present the opening of two new photography exhibitions that explore the aftermath of conflict from the First and Second World Wars. Peter MacCallum's *Vimy Ridge, 2005-2008*, on view at Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens, presents the recent restoration and reopening of the Canadian National Vimy Memorial and surrounding area. *Caux*, an exhibition by Bertrand Carrière on view at Oakville Galleries at Centennial Square, features photographs depicting the contemporary landscape at the site of the disastrous Dieppe raid of August 19, 1942. Both exhibitions will run from 19 September to 22 November 2009.

Members of the public are invited to an opening and two artist talks: Sunday 20 September at 2:30 pm at Oakville Galleries at Centennial Square, followed by a reception at Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens at 3:30 pm.

Peter MacCallum: Vimy Ridge, 2005-2008

Peter MacCallum is a painstaking researcher, a historian with a camera. Three trips to the site of Vimy Ridge saw the artist scrutinize the contemporary remains of the 1917 battlegrounds, cemeteries and the restoration of the Canadian National Vimy Memorial. The resulting images invite dialogue between past and present, between imagination and a distant reality. Curated by Marnie Fleming.

Bertrand Carrière: Caux

Bertrand Carrière's *Caux* captures muted aspects of a turbulent history along the Normandy Coast, particularly the beach at Dieppe, where many Canadian soldiers fell in the 1944 Dieppe Raid. His photographs uncover the ruins of the strange legacy left behind in the landscape, where cliffs rise up in an impenetrable fortress of harsh and arid beauty. Curated by Marnie Fleming.

Also on exhibit:

The Apocalypse, the King and the Walking Sticks: An archive-based exhibition presenting William Gordon MacKendrick

19 September - 22 November 2009
Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens

2009 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the passing of William Gordon MacKendrick, the first owner of Gairloch estate. This display of archival materials, seen alongside Peter MacCallum's photographs of the Vimy Memorial, evokes the intimate quarters of a gentleman and an officer who looked upon history as the product of Great Men and their actions. Curated by Teresa Casas.

This exhibition is part of Hometown Stories: Oakville Memories of War (www.hometownstories.ca) and is made possible through the generous support of Veterans Affairs Canada and the Oakville Community Foundation.

Alex Metcalf: Tree Listening Installation

Continuing until 1 November 2009
Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens

Alex Metcalf's *Tree Listening Installation* links science and art to provide a fascinating new way of understanding trees. A sensor and amplifying device designed by the artist provides access to a tree's 'voice', allowing visitors to hear the subtle soundscapes created by a tree's internal workings. In so doing, Metcalf not only invites consideration of the visual pleasure of trees, but also opens up larger questions about our ability to take cues from the environment. Curated by Marnie Fleming.

This exhibition is made possible through the generous support of the Canadian TREE Fund and Maple Hill Tree Services.

Upcoming events at Oakville Galleries:

ARTbus: Exhibition tour to Blackwood Gallery, Art Gallery of Mississauga and Oakville Galleries

20 September, 11:30 am to 5:30 pm

Doors Open Oakville

26 & 27 September, 10 am to 4 pm

24 sites around Oakville

Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens and at Centennial Square will be featured sites at the second annual Doors Open Oakville. For more information, visit www.doorsopenontario.on.ca.

Lecture: Tim Cook

Co-presented by Oakville Galleries and the Oakville Public Library

1 October, 7 pm

Oakville Public Library, Central Branch Auditorium (120 Navy Street)

Join us for an evening with Tim Cook, critically acclaimed author of *Shock Troops: Canadians Fighting the Great War 1917-1918*, and this year's winner of the Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction.

Exhibition tour: Neil Brochu | Visite de l'exposition en français avec Neil Brochu

Co-presented by Oakville Galleries and the Alliance Française

7 November, 2:30 pm

Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens

As a former guide at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial and researcher at the City of Toronto's Collection and Conservation Centre, Neil Brochu will explore and discuss Peter MacCallum's exhibition *Vimy Ridge, 2005-2008*. This tour will be conducted in French.

CULTUREbus: Exhibition tour to Oakville Galleries, the Oakville Museum at Erchless Estate and the Joshua Creek Heritage Centre

8 November, 11:30 am to 5:30 pm

These events are part of Hometown Stories: Oakville Memories of War (www.hometownstories.ca) and are made possible through the generous support of Veterans Affairs Canada and the Oakville Community Foundation.

For more information call Oakville Galleries at 905.844.4402 or visit www.oakvillegalleries.com.

Oakville Galleries is a not-for-profit charitable public art museum where contemporary art is the impetus for advancing imagination and self-reflection. Through two sites, serves communities in Oakville, Halton Region and wider audiences nationally and internationally. Oakville Galleries acknowledges the ongoing support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Corporation of the Town of Oakville, along with our many individual, corporate and foundation partners.

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