

Attention News/Assignment Editors:

TREE LISTENER COMING TO OAKVILLE GALLERIES

OAKVILLE, ON, May 13 - If you thought that trees didn't have a voice, you were mistaken. Oakville Galleries welcomes internationally renowned "tree listener" Alex Metcalf to Oakville Galleries to present an exhibition in the gardens entitled *Tree Listening Installation*.

Metcalf has designed a sensor connected to an amplifying unit that, when placed on a tree trunk, allows the listener to hear the noise that a tree's interior makes. His *Tree Listening Installation* is an experience that links both science and art, inspiring a keen interest in trees by providing a fascinating new way of understanding their inner workings.

The media are invited to a special preview and demonstration of the *Tree Listening Installation* with Alex Metcalf on Thursday, May 21 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. 1306 Lakeshore Rd. E. Oakville, L6J 1L6.

Alex and his tree listening device have been featured in public gardens around the globe and have received international news coverage on the *BBC*, in *The Guardian*, *The Times*, *The Irish Times*, the *Edmonton Journal* and the *Oakville Beaver*.

Oakville Galleries will be presenting a family-friendly talk and tour with Alex on Sunday, May 24 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Gairloch Gardens. A free hands-on art workshop for children will be offered in conjunction with the talk.

Alex will also be presenting his *Tree Listening Installation* at a special benefit event for the Canadian TREE Fund on Saturday, May 23 at Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. All proceeds will directly support research and education at The Canadian TREE Fund. Tickets are \$25 and are available by contacting Maple Hill Tree Services at 905-824-2100 or contactus@maplehilltree.com.

The *Tree Listening Installation* will be on exhibit in a selected tree in Gairloch Gardens from May 25 to November 1, 2009. For more information, visit www.oakvillegalleries.com.

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

Oakville Galleries (Og₂) is a not-for-profit charitable public art museum where contemporary art is the impetus for advancing imagination and self-reflection. Through two sites, Og₂ 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 and the Corporation of the Town of Oakville along with our many individual, corporate and foundation partners.

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For further information:

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