

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mythos and the Natural World Converge in Summer Exhibitions

OWEN SOUND (ONTARIO) CANADA: The Tom Thomson Art Gallery is pleased to announce its summer line-up of exhibitions, opening on June 26 and running to September 18, 2016. Opening Reception will take place on June 26, from 2 to 5 PM.



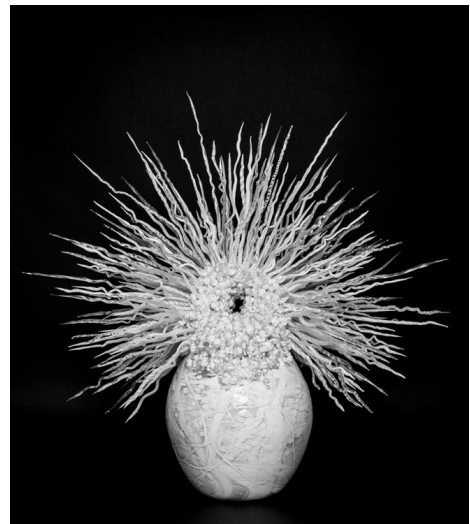
Resonance of the Tree

Guest curator **Stephen Hogbin** raises the question of whether trees are sentient beings in ***Resonance of the Tree***, an exhibition that features all new works by local artists **Lorne Wagman** and **Vera Dernovsek**, Toronto based **Kevin Yates** and **Peter Pierobon** of Vancouver. While investigating natural history, early industries, and contemporary ecological issues, the works in this exhibition conjure poetic metaphors about understanding our sense of place within, and relative to, the natural world.

With a Destiny

In ***With a Destiny***, glass artists **Laura Donefer**, **Susan Edgerley** and **Karina Guevin** present sculptures and installations, inspired by the work, life and mythic story of Tom Thomson. Coming from Eastern Ontario and Quebec, all three artists are well-known for exploring ideas of destiny, chance and fate and their effects on both natural and personal environments in their work. ***With a Destiny*** is curated by the TOM's Senior Curator, Christian Bernard Singer.

Complementing ***Resonance of the Tree*** and ***With a Destiny***, the TOM is borrowing ***The Jack Pine*** sketch (c. 1916) by Tom Thomson (1877-1917) from the **Riverbrink Arts Center**. The sketch will be incorporated into our on-going exhibition, **The Tom Thomson Experience**, which tells the "story" of Thomson – a mythic figure in Canadian art and history – in all its fullness, complication and contradiction.



Agnes Martin and Me



Like Tom Thomson, **Agnes Martin** (1912-2004) is an artist shrouded in myth. She was one of only a handful of women to emerge in the male-dominated art movements of Abstract Expressionism and Minimalism. Martin also struggled with mental illness, battling to keep her incessant inner voices in check and it is against this backdrop that American photographer **Donald Woodman** chronicles their seven roller coaster years together (1977-1984) during which, he was her assistant and they were in constant contact with each other. **Agnes Martin & Me** presents never before seen photos of Martin by Woodman along with writings and ephemera that chronicle a tumultuous relationship while providing insights about the artist, known only to a chosen few. Exhibition curator, Christian Bernard Singer, comments: "Woodman's photographs are stunning and candid, yet revealing and poignant."

In June 2015, the Tate Modern museum in London opened a major retrospective of Agnes Martin's work which travelled to the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Dusseldorf. This exhibition is now on at Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) and will travel to the Guggenheim Museum, New York in October.

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 2016 Exhibition Sponsor, the Owen Sound Transportation Company. The Gallery gratefully acknowledges its major funders, major sponsors, partners, members and donors.



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