

Fall 2017

September to December

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MUSEUM
LONDON



Robert Fones, *Rebel Angels*, 2000, acrylic on canvas,
Collection of McCarthy Tetrault, Toronto

Robert Fones: Signs | Forms | Narratives

September 9 to December 10, 2017

Ivey Galleries

Since the late 1960s, Governor-General's Award-winning artist Robert Fones has built a practice that has included drawing, painting, printmaking, artist's books, poetry, creative writing, and art criticism. A pioneer in Canadian conceptual art, his work investigates ideas of time and identity—geographical, societal, and technological. At first glance, his striking works are simple, in some cases even austere. Yet each layers complex visual information that speaks to the ways in which we live together in the world, and change, represent, and understand it.

Signs | Forms | Narratives surveys Fones' creative production, including works that have been specially conserved for this occasion. It includes early pieces imbued with the humorous bite of Pop and Dadaism prevalent in the Regionalist impulses of Fones' native London, Ontario; ground-breaking conceptual works of the 1970s and 80s, such as *House Viruses*, *Butter Models*, and *Insert/Press/Deposit*, which exemplify his meticulously-researched, almost archaeological approach; and a range of his ongoing destabilizations of forms of communication and representation.

In his work, Fones repurposes and re-presents shared symbols and chronologies. Of particular significance is his comprehensive examination of written language and its contexts, on both personal and "mass-media" scales. In recent years, Fones' explorations have considered the import of specific narratives, from philosopher Thomas Hobbes' 1651 book *Leviathan*, to the chronicles of polar explorers.

Museum London wishes to thank the Museums Assistance Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage for their vigorous support of this project. We are grateful to the Access to Heritage component in allowing the realization of *Signs | Forms | Narratives*.

Canada



Robert Fones, *Wonder Bread*, 1995
oil on canvas, Private Collection

RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Exhibition Opening Reception

Friday, September 29, 8:00 to 10:00 pm

Robert Fones: Artist Talk and Q&A

Thursday, November 16, 7:30 to 9:00 pm

3D Illusionistic Letterform Workshop with Robert Fones

Saturday, November 25, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pre-registration required.

Exhibition Tour with the Artist

Saturday November 25, 2:30 to 3:30 pm

Packaging Unpacked: A Short History of Packaging

September 16, 2017 to January 14, 2018

Interior Gallery

This exhibition features over 100 artifacts from Museum London's extensive artifact collection to explore the history of packaging. You will learn answers to questions you never knew you had! Why could Londoners once only buy pop in bottles with rounded bottoms? When was toothpaste first sold in tubes? Why did cigar manufacturers first package their product in boxes rather than sell them loose or in bundles? I'll give you a hint with this last question: It had to do with taxes...of course!

As the demand for packaging grew with industrialization, new railway networks, and a growing population, Londoners found jobs in this expanding field. The London and Petrolia Barrel Company produced tight and slack casks for every need. Peter Hendershott's small firm made paper bags. Somerville Paper Boxes made—you guessed it—paper boxes! Lawson and Jones, today Jones Packaging Inc., produced boxes and labels, among other products. Hygrade Corrugated Products produced the first corrugated boxes in Canada. And before his knighthood for helping to establish Ontario's hydroelectric system, then plain old Adam Beck owned the Beck Manufacturing Company, which made cigar and cheese boxes.

Come and see a wide variety of artifacts. Feel nostalgic as you look at packaging no longer in use. Have fun as you design your own brand ideas for some selected products featured in the exhibition. Learn more about this weirdly fascinating topic!



Somerville Red Hand Chewing Gum Box, Collection of Museum London, 2017.

Eclectic Oil Box, Gift of Dorothy Westhead, London, 1980.

RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Exhibition Opening Reception

Friday, September 29, 8:00 to 10:00 pm

From the Vaults: Recent Acquisitions

September 30, 2017 to January 7, 2018

Volunteer and Moore Galleries

Museum London is home to 5,400 works of art. Our collection, a rich resource for London and the region, illustrates the evolution of visual expression in both historical and contemporary periods, encompassing the earliest days of art production and collecting in this region, to the present-day concerns of artists working here and across the country. Guided by curatorial research and formal collections policies, our acquisitions also exemplify diverse media and formats, including painting, sculpture, installation, photography, video, and more.

From the Vaults offers a cross-section of ongoing collecting efforts. Museum London is the institution of record for many nationally significant artists, our efforts reflecting this community, its people and its experiences, and its links to cultural discourse on national and international levels. Works by more well-known artists are accompanied by a range of new voices and perspectives, and each selection relates to particular aims driving our acquisitions processes.

Kim Adams, *Toaster Work Wagon*, 1997, 1960s VW bus parts, bicycles, Collection of Museum London; Purchased with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts Acquisition Grants program and the John H. and Elizabeth Moore Acquisition Fund, 2013

Patrick Howlett, *To know oneself does not seem natural*, 2010, egg tempera, Collection of Museum London; Purchased with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts Acquisition Grants program, 2014



RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Exhibition Opening Reception

Friday, September 29, 8:00 to 10:00 pm

Judge a Book by Its Cover: Book Covers from the Collection

November 4, 2017 to November 11, 2018

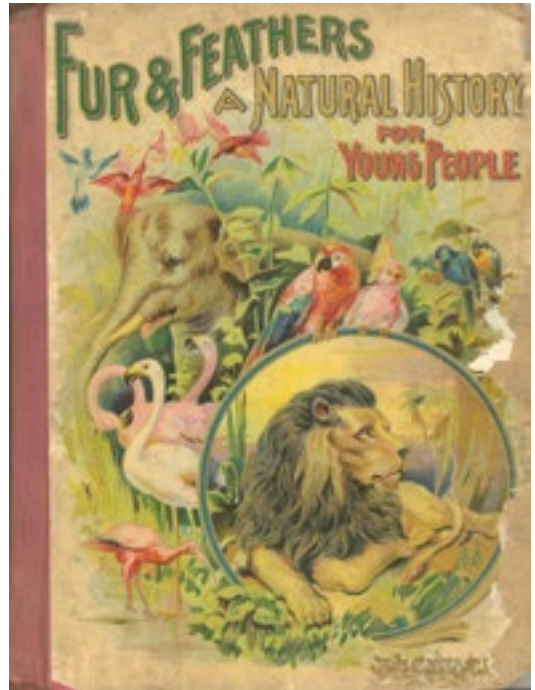
Community Gallery

Do you judge a book by its cover? Does a book's cover help you decide whether you might like to read it or not? If you answered "no," then the cover isn't doing its job. Book covers and dust jackets evolved to advertise books, to offer insight into their contents, and to lure consumers to buy them.

Before the early nineteenth century, however, book covers had a far more basic role. While they were often made of luxurious materials such as leather, gold and silver, their main function was to protect the hand-bound pages inside.

The industrial revolution changed this. Steam-powered presses manufactured books out of mechanically-produced paper and with cloth or paper covers. Because these covers soiled easily, publishers began to wrap books in dust jackets to protect them. Both book covers and dust jackets had the added benefit of being printable using multi-coloured lithography and other illustration processes. Artists and graphic designers soon got to work in what became a whole new industry.

In this exhibition, you will see cover art and dust jackets from books held in Museum London's extensive material culture collection. Featuring children's storybooks and cook books, school textbooks and religious works, this exhibition will give you an opportunity to look at a wide range of book covers from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries.



Book, *Fur and Feathers: A Natural History for Young People*, Gift Miss Anne Dunston, London, 1974.

Book, *London, Canada*, Gift of Mrs. D. G. McBeth, 1959.

RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Words Fest

Friday, November 3 to Sunday, November 5

Hot Docs Showcase: London

Thursdays 7:00 pm to 10:00pm

\$10 each night or all four for \$25.

\$5 for students and seniors.

Hot off of the Toronto documentary festival, London is receiving the best of the fest in this travelling showcase.

hotdocs showcase



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October 12 Bee Nation



Bee Nation follows the inspirational stories of six students in the first-ever First Nations Provincial Spelling Bee in Canada. We learn of the challenges and opportunities awaiting as they strive to make it to the National Championships in Toronto; the highs, the lows, and everything in between.

You're Soaking In It



You're Soaking In It reveals how personal information is used to design ads that are tailored to influence us at the precise moment we are most ready to spend. Is this the height of invasive efficiency... or simply the price we pay for free internet?

October 19 Manic



Manic chronicles filmmaker Kalina Bertin's struggle to make sense of mental illness wreaking havoc over her siblings' lives. Convinced that her father holds a key piece of the puzzle, she sets out to find the truth about him, and discovers a man known alternately as a cult leader, a scam artist, a prophet, and a father of fifteen.

Integral Man



Jim Stewart is the most published mathematician since Euclid. A man of unparalleled ambition. He set out to create one of the most renowned pieces of residential architecture in North America and succeeded in the making of a concert hall in Toronto. Unbeknownst to Jim however, an unexpected turn of events is set to unfold.

October 26 Mermaids



Mermaids are five extraordinary tail-donning women who are part of a growing "mermaiding" subculture, audiences voyage between mermaid theme parks, conventions, tail-making studios, and deep into the ocean where transforming into the empowered icon of the mermaid is possible.

Resurrecting Hassan



Denis, Peggy and their daughter Lauviah, all blind from birth, are haunted by the tragic death of Hassan, the family's second seeing child. They busk in the streets of Montreal, convinced that their son will be back.

Thursday November 2 The Last Animals



From Africa's front lines to behind the scenes of Asian markets to the United States, the film takes an intense look at the global response to the slaughter of elephants and rhinos. We follow the conservationists, scientists and activists battling poachers and transnational trafficking syndicates to save the planet's last animals.

Let there be Light



Let there be Light tells the story of dedicated scientists working to build a small sun on Earth, which would unleash perpetual, cheap, clean energy for mankind. After decades of failed attempts, a massive push is now underway to crack the holy grail of energy.

SEPTEMBER 2017

Doors Open

Saturday, September 16 and

Sunday, September 17,

10:00 am to 5:00 pm



Museum Hack Tours

Tours: 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm

Cost: Free

Join renegade New York group Museum Hack as they lead unconventional tours through our galleries.

By registration only. 20 person limit per tour. Register online at museumlondon.ca/doorsopen

The Unforgettable Story of Peg Leg Brown

Talks: 1:30 and 3:30 pm

A peg leg, 19th century hand cuffs, and a fired bullet. What do these Museum London artifacts have in common? Welcome to the case of Peg Leg Brown, the notorious London, Ontario cop killer who was publicly hanged at the old court house in 1899. Hear Curator of Regional History Amber Lloydlangston as she reveals the unbelievable stories behind some of Museum London's most unusual artifacts.

See all programs & events at
museumlondon.ca/programs-events

Public Art Symposium

Wednesday, September 27 to

Saturday, September 30

Cost: \$175

Register online at londonarts.ca



Take part in this forum for artists and arts administrators. The featured keynote speaker is Cath Brunner, Director of Seattle, Washington's 4Culture and winner of the Public Art Network Leadership Award. Over twenty professional artists will contribute to the symposium programming through all different disciplines, including visual art, theatre, music, culinary arts, and multi-disciplinary arts. Presented by the London Arts Council.

Exhibition Opening Reception

Friday, September 29, 8:00 to 10:00 pm

Cost: Free

This reception is an excellent opportunity to meet some of the artists and to view the artifacts and art with your friends and family. We will serve hors d'oeuvres and there will be a cash bar.



Nuit Blanche

Saturday, September 30,

7:00 pm to 12:00 midnight

Cost: Free

Experience the Museum after-hours during this festival of art, film, and performance.

OCTOBER 2017

The River Writes Through Us, Autumn Along the Antler with Tom Cull

**Saturday, October 28,
10:30 am and 1:00 pm**

(90-minutes each)

Cost: \$5

Join London's poet laureate as he takes you along Thames (first called the Antler) and through a series of writing activities inspired by fall's darkening and decay. Don't forget to bring pencil and paper. New and experienced writers welcome. Space is limited. Pre-register online at museumlondon.ca/walkingtours



Robert Fones: Artist Talk and Q&A

Thursday, November 16, 7:30 to 9:00 pm

Cost: Free

Presented by Western University ArtNow series.

3D Illusionistic Letterform Workshop with Robert Fones

Saturday, November 25, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Cost: \$55, \$45 if you register before November 19

Join Governor General's award-winning artist and Sheridan College professor Robert Fones in this rare opportunity to learn the process and practice behind his letterform art. Preregistration required, spaces limited. Register online at museumlondon.ca/robertfones

Exhibition Tour with Robert Fones

Saturday November 25, 2:30 to 3:30 pm

Cost: Free

Take a tour of *Robert Fones*:

Signs | *Forms* | *Narratives* lead by the artist.

NOVEMBER 2017

Words Fest

Friday, November 3 to

Sunday, November 5



Words is a festival celebrating all things wordy: books, poetry, song, children's literature, writing for the screen and stage, new media, and spoken word performances. Highlights in this year's festival include singer-songwriter Ron Sexsmith, Buzzfeed writer Scaachi Koul, Governor General's Award winner Chester Brown, mystery writer Ian Hamilton, Spoken Word Canada's Holly Painter, and art historian Tom Smart who will be delivering the James Reaney Memorial Lecture. wordsfest.ca

Muse Holiday Open House

Sunday, November 19,

12:00 to 4:00 pm

Cost: Free

Meet the artists and crafters from the museum gift shop. Art will be available for purchase or rental.



DECEMBER 2017

Print Your Own Holiday Cards

Thursday, November 30, 6:00 to 9:00 pm and

Thursday, December 7, 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Single night workshop

Cost: \$25, Students & Seniors \$20

Want to impress friends and family this year? Hand print cards for the celebration of your choice in these one night workshops. Join local printmaker Jen Hamilton and have fun with easy to carve lino prints. Take home up to 12 cards.

Adult Art Classes

Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays, October 14 to November 20, 2017

Cost: \$190

Open to all skill levels. Materials for classes are not included, material lists can be found on our website.

The Visual Language of Symbolism with Jeannette Marshall

Saturdays, October 14 to November 18, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Create meaningful symbolic works in this drawing class with a focus on the figure. Explore various sources from sketching, photographs, magazine clippings, and your imagination. Learn the history of symbols in religious art, surrealism, and contemporary painting. Work will be in dry monochrome and colour mediums.



An Introduction to Relief Printmaking with Eric Mummery

Sundays, October 15 to November 19, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Practice the proper use of tools and techniques to carve an image in linoleum. This course will show how to create a print in black and white as well as a multi coloured image using the same linoleum block. By cutting away each colour layer you can print them one on top of the other in perfect registration.



The Sketch Book with Jeannette Marshall

Mondays, October 16 to November 20, 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Maximize the use of your sketch book: travel journal, research file, seedbed of ideas, and source of pleasure. Learn to appreciate and utilize its potential as a creative aid and developmental tool. Work will predominantly be in graphite, coloured pencil.

Visit museumlondon.ca/adultartclasses to register



Youth Council

Thursdays, September 22, 2017 to April 26, 2018, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Cost: Free

Apply to Museum London's Youth council to contribute to London's cultural environment. Receive volunteer hours while developing leadership skills, learning about art and culture, gaining hands-on experience, and using the internet to communicate professionally. For more information visit museumlondon.ca/youth.

Culture Club 55+

Thursdays, 2:00 pm to 3:30pm

Cost: \$5 per session / 8 sessions for \$30

Get the inside scoop on local art and history. Each session offers light refreshments and time to meet others. Tailored to ages 55+, but we don't check ID!

September 14

Amber Lloydlangston, Museum London Curator of Regional History

Sesquicentennial has become the word of the year! Start Culture Club this season with a discussion of the *Canada and London: 150 Years of Growing Together* exhibition. See some of the artifacts that weren't included in the exhibition.

October 12

Paul Culliton, Manager, Woodland Cemetery

Discover the Woodlands Great War Walking Tour which commemorates Londoners who died in the First World War and are memorialized on family lots at the cemetery.

November 9

Juan Andres Bello, Documentary Filmmaker

Learn about the making of *1967: Canada Welcomes the World* from the director himself. This documentary project focused on the national pavilions of the sixty countries that participated in Montreal's 1967 World Exhibition.

December 14

Michelle Hamilton, Public Historian

Learn the larger than life story of Dr. Oronhyatekha 1841-1907: London's first Indigenous physician and outspoken native rights advocate, a man of two cultures in an era where his only choices were to be a trailblazer or get left by the wayside.



January 11

Jesse Gibb, Graphic Designer

Have you ever bought something you didn't intend to buy? Hear local designer Jesse Gibb talk about the role and history of branding in product packaging.

February 8

Kirsty Robertson, Western University Visual Arts Professor

This talk will follow a history of women in the arts: their voices, views, identities, and current discussions around art and gender.

March 8

Wendy Crawford, Fine Art Conservator, Art Conservation Services Inc

Peer into the fascinating world of art conservation and learn about current restoration projects underway at Museum London.

April 12

Dr Ken Kirkwood, Western University School of Health Studies.

Coffee was banned as a stimulant, chocolate thought sacred, alcohol medicinal, and now Canada is decriminalizing marijuana. Hear Dr Kirkwood discuss a social history of addiction for a deeper consideration of the themes in our exhibition "Guilty Pleasures".

Visit museumlondon.ca/cultureclub
or call 519-661-0333 to register.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Expo Explore

Wednesdays September 13, October 11, and November 8, 3:00 to 4:30 pm

Suggested \$5 donation per child

Fun filled and educational afternoons include a different exhibition tour each month followed by a related artmaking activity. This fall we'll look at the work of artist Robert Fones and the *Packaging Unpacked* exhibition to explore graphic design, creating 3D illusion, using text, and the idea of commodity.

Imagination Station

Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Cost: Free

Visit our exhibitions and then drop in for an afternoon of artmaking for the whole family.

PA Day Camps

8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Cost: \$45 per camp

Camps are designed for children ages 6 to 12. Children must be 6 years of age to register. Before and aftercare is free, 8:00 to 8:30 am and 4:30 to 5:00 pm.

Friday, October 27

Shazam! Talking Art

View the art of Governor General's Award-winner Robert Fones including his letterform works. Then put some "Pow" in your art: explore creating letters and creating comic-style art.

Friday, November 17

Snap, Crackle, Pop

Tour the exhibition *Packaging Unpacked* to get ideas of how and why we package things. Consider how we make our food choices, create your own packaging, and make some edible art!

ENRICH YOUR VISIT

Guided Tours

Sundays, 2:00 pm

Meet a guide every Sunday at 2:00 pm for a free tour of the exhibitions.

Group Tours

Cost: \$10 per adult; \$8 per senior; \$4.00 for those 14 years old and under.

To book your group tour of ten people or more, we require notification two weeks in advance by calling 519-661-0333.

River Room

Open Tuesday to Friday at 11:00 am for lunch

Outstanding food and service in a stunning space with fabulous views of the Thames River.

Rhino Lounge

Open Tuesday to Sunday from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Thursday until 9:00 pm

Bakery & Coffee Shoppe by day, Lounge by night. Cronuts, in house Croissants & Bagels, Charcuterie, Cheese, Fish Tacos... Wine, Beer, Liquor.

Gift Shop + Art Rental

Open Tuesday to Sunday from 12:00 to 5:00 pm. Thursday until 9:00 pm

Museum London's gift shop features unique products, gifts, and art rental.



Rent the Museum

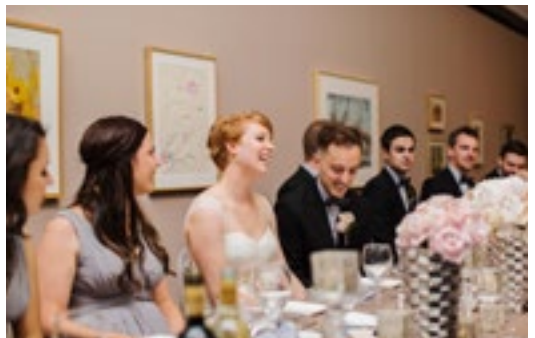
Host your event at London's premier venue. Gather among our extraordinary art and history exhibitions that provide a unique setting for corporate meetings, special events, and wedding celebrations.

Located in downtown London, our beautiful facility overlooks the spectacular Forks of the Thames River. Our experienced events staff and team of acclaimed caterers, show-services technicians, and decor specialists will work with you to create a memorable occasion that is custom-designed for your event.

**Email events@museumlondon.ca
or call 519-661-2500 ext. 4265**

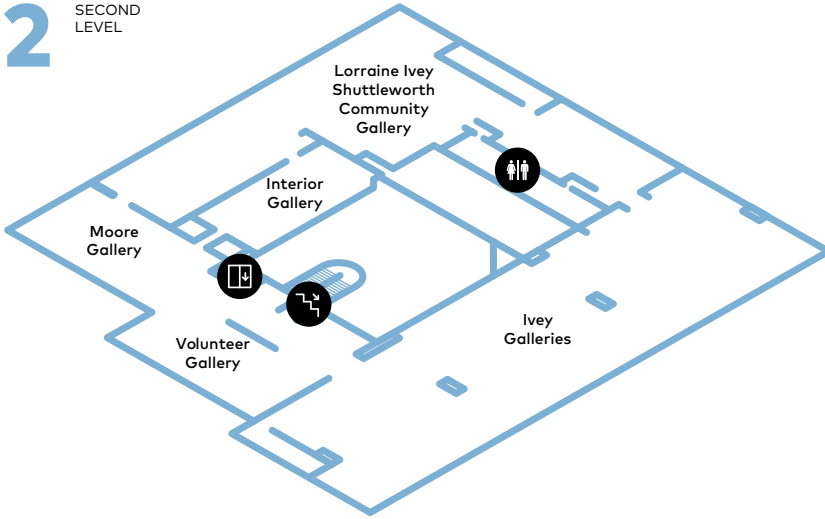
**Visit museumlondon.ca/museum-rental
to find out more.**

All revenue generated from gallery rentals is directed towards supporting exhibitions and public programs.



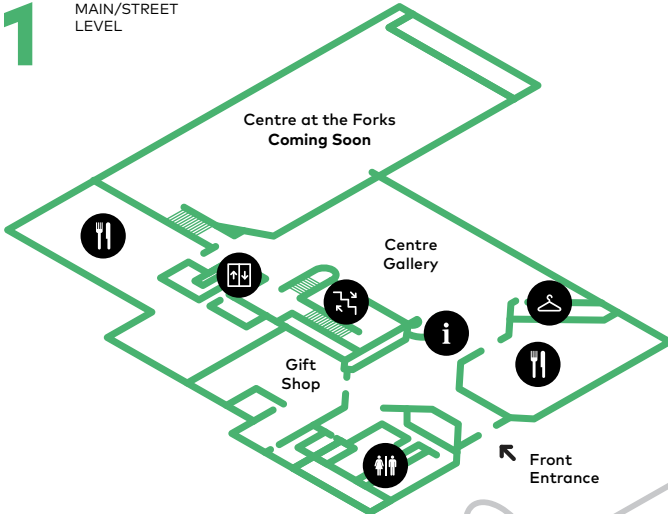
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SECOND LEVEL



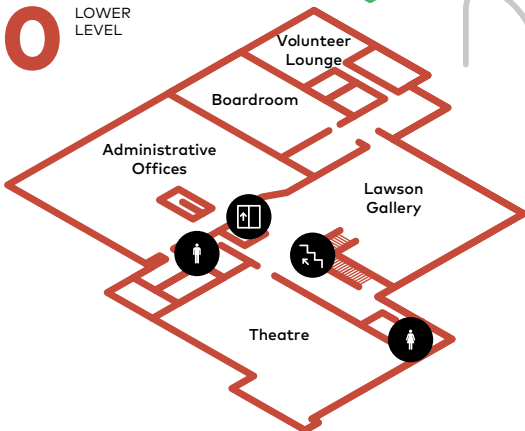
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MAIN/STREET LEVEL



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LOWER LEVEL



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museumlondon.ca/support

Muse

SHOP + RENTAL

Discover handmade gifts and local products at the Museum London gift shop.

Visit our shop and browse online at muse.museumlondon.ca

Muse Holiday Open House

Sunday, November 19, 12:00 to 4:00 pm

Cost: Free

Kick off the holiday season in style. You'll have the opportunity to meet the artists from our art rental program and discuss their techniques as well as the crafters who are the creative minds behind your new favourite products! Art will be available for purchase or rental. We will have FREE gift wrap for both art and craft!

Participating artists include:

Jennifer Hamilton
Phylis U'Ren
Marlies Gueth
Susan Weldon
Mary Downs
Mark Anderson
Jeanne Urbach
Carolyn Holdsworth
Jennifer Short
Cheryl Radford
Bonnie Richardson
Diane Morrow
Roxanne Jervis
Jeanette Marshall
Steve Tracy
Katherine Poyser
Erin Hunt

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Hours

Tuesday to Sunday 12 to 5 pm

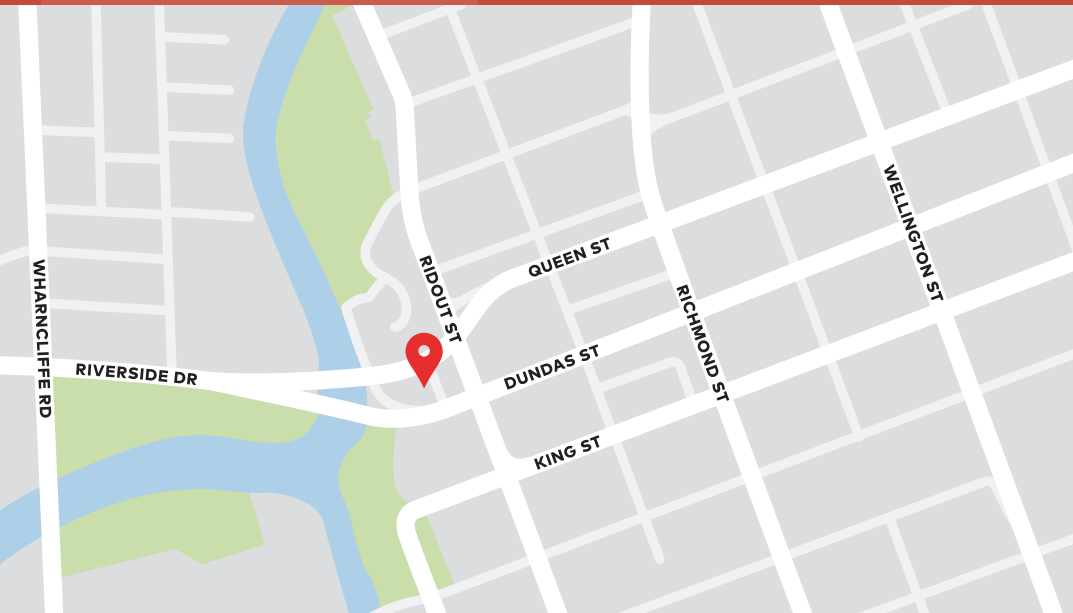
Thursday 12 to 9 pm

Closed Monday

Admission by donation.

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London
CANADA

Cover: Robert Fones, *Eszett with Terracotta Ornament*, 1997
colour photograph on aluminum laminate, plywood, Private Collection