

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
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Exhibition of mask imagery explores dichotomy of good and evil *Robert Waldeck explores the concept of superheroes and monsters in Incognito*

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WATERLOO – The Robert Langen Gallery will host an opening reception with artist Robert Waldeck from 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 2. Waldeck’s exhibition of oil paintings, entitled *Incognito*, is on display from April 1 to 26.

The exhibition is derived from Waldeck’s fascination with superheroes, monsters and science fiction. The mask imagery emerges from his attempt to understand personal growth as an individual and the dichotomy between disguise and exposure.

“I am using the subject of the mask to discuss the different social personas that we wear,” says Waldeck. “Part of the growth of an individual is the constant change, evaluation and adaptation of a personal identity that is born out of mass media and a pop culture environment. The façade that one may expose from one setting to the next may be completely based on a variety of social, cultural or personal factors.”

Waldeck received an honours bachelor of arts from McMaster in 1997 and a master of fine arts from the University of Waterloo in 2000. His work has been displayed across North America, including shows at the LOOP Gallery in Toronto and Limner Gallery in New York.

As Wilfrid Laurier’s visual arts centre since 1989, the Robert Langen Gallery provides knowledge, stewardship, appreciation and enjoyment of Canadian art and culture to the local community. The gallery is located in the John Aird Centre and is open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday. Admission is free.