

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Ballet brought to the canvas in artist's interpretation of *Swan Lake* *Emily Bickell provides interpretations of characters and actions in the famous ballet*

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WATERLOO – The Robert Langen Art Gallery will host an exhibition of oil on canvas titled *Swan Lake* from February 3 to March 6. Artist Emily Bickell will be on hand for the opening reception from 4 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11.

Bickell chose the ballet as a base for her work because it is filled with imagery, beauty and emotion. Instead of simply recreating the ballet through art, the artist chose to paint her interpretations and reactions to the story.

“I often stray from the story as I wander through the imagery,” said Bickell. “For instance – Odile, the magician’s daughter, is never actually a swan herself, but the idea of a black swan in contrast to Odette’s white swan was one that I could not resist.”

After receiving her bachelor of fine arts with studio specialization from the University of Waterloo, Bickell has exhibited her work across the Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge area. Selected exhibitions include the Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition in Nathan Phillips Square and the Homer Watson House and Gallery in Kitchener.

As Wilfrid Laurier’s visual arts centre since 1989, the Robert Langen Art Gallery provides knowledge, stewardship, appreciation and enjoyment of Canadian art and culture to the local community. Admission is free. The gallery is located in the John Aird Centre and is open 12 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday, though it will be closed from February 16 to 21 for reading week.

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