

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Exhibition inspired by artist's recovered family artifacts

For Immediate Release

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WATERLOO – The Robert Langen Art Gallery will feature an installation work, entitled Sou-Sol Chronologies, from September 7 to October 1. Artist Adrienne Trent will be on hand for an opening reception from 4 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14.

Trent's artwork is inspired by her downtown Toronto house, which was built by her great-grandfather in 1900 and has housed six generations of her family. She finds her surroundings embody a virtual museum of her family and of early life in Toronto.

Her art takes the form of damaged or overused family artifacts recovered from her basement. Most are unrecognizable in present-day context and their former use is virtually unknown. The items are individually packaged in vacuum-sealed clear-plastic compartments that act to freeze time against further decomposition and reframe the object as a type of specimen to be observed up close from all angles.

"These preserved artifacts probe notions of memory, obsolescence, decomposition and outdated fabrication," says Trent. "The innovations of a very progressive century have rendered obsolete so many objects which were, not so long ago, necessary to family life."

A graduate of the Ontario College of Art, Trent is the former co-ordinator/curator of the colour reprography centre and gallery at Visual Arts Ontario. To learn more about Trent's work, please visit the artists' section of www.ccca.ca.

As Wilfrid Laurier University'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. The gallery is located in the John Aird Centre and is open noon to 5 p.m. from Wednesdays to Saturdays. Admission is free.

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