

# NEWS RELEASE

## Wilfrid Laurier University



### **Laurier celebrates the work of artist Woldemar Neufeld**

**For Immediate Release**

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WATERLOO — The Robert Langen Art Gallery will host a special reception featuring original works by renowned local artist Woldemar Neufeld on Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The event will feature a large selection of paintings and block prints of familiar landscapes and scenes from around Waterloo Region, as well as a reception at which some of Neufeld's family will be in attendance.

This exhibition is a departure from the usual Neufeld showings at Laurier, which generally feature pieces from the university's Woldemar Neufeld Collection. The Neufeld works in this special event have been gathered from other sources in Canada and the United States and are available for purchase.

Born in Russia in 1909, Neufeld immigrated to Canada with his family when he was 15. The Neufelds settled in the German-speaking Mennonite community of Waterloo Region. As a young man, Woldemar Neufeld attended Waterloo College, which later became Wilfrid Laurier University. He later moved to Connecticut, where he died in 2002. Throughout his life, however, Neufeld returned regularly to Waterloo. It is because of his Waterloo connection that, in 1998, a collection of his artwork was transferred to Laurier from the City of Waterloo.

Proceeds from the sale of works on Nov. 27 will benefit the Woldemar Neufeld Collection Endowment Fund.

This is a wonderful chance for the public to pay tribute to a beloved local artist and to meet and talk with members of the Neufeld family, including his son Laurence, says Suzanne Luke, curator of the Robert Langen Art Gallery.

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It is also a great opportunity to view historically significant sites in Waterloo Region, which Neufeld painted during many of his visits back to Waterloo.

A preview of the Neufeld works that will be available for sale will be held Sunday, Nov. 25 from 12 noon to 5 p.m., and on Monday, Nov. 26, from 12 noon to 7 p.m., in the Robert Langen Art Gallery, located in the John Aird Centre at Wilfrid Laurier University.

The public is welcome to attend the celebration on Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is free but guests are asked to RSVP to Suzanne Luke at [sluke@wlu.ca](mailto:sluke@wlu.ca) or (519) 884-0710 ext. 3801.

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