NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Art exhibition explores "gun culture" in contemporary society

For Immediate Release Jan. 3, 2008 01-08

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WATERLOO — The Robert Langen Art Gallery will feature the sculptural works of artist Jamie Owen in an exhibition titled *Raising Cain*. The exhibition, which runs from January 16 to February 9, 2008, takes a satirical look at the concepts and issues that surround "gun culture."

Owen's works of art reveal the irony of violence in today's society and provide a subtle social commentary to increase public awareness.

"My work deals with the absurdity of modern life," says Owen. "Pollution, gun violence, smoking and the celebrity persona are my favored topics for social commentary. I attempt to make the viewer laugh but be left with a sense of serious truth."

Owen graduated with a Creative Arts Diploma from Sheridan College in Oakville, where he works as the printmaking technologist and gallery designer. His art has been exhibited at the McIntosh Gallery at the University of Western Ontario, the Cram Gallery, St. Catharines, and The Smithsonian, Washington, D.C.

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., Wednesdays to Saturdays. Admission is free.