

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Laurier conducts a national search for paintings by artist Woldemar Neufeld to celebrate the 100th anniversary of his birth

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WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of artist Woldemar Neufeld in 2009, and is conducting a national search for his paintings.

Born in Ukraine in 1909, Neufeld spent 11 formative years in Waterloo, and is well known for his paintings of local scenes. A prolific and popular artist, he also produced watercolours, oils and block prints of scenes of Canada and the United States.

Neufeld died in 2002 at the age of 93.

Laurier holds the largest collection of his work, with more than 400 pieces in the university's permanent art collection.

To celebrate the anniversary of his birth, Wilfrid Laurier Press will publish a new book titled *Woldemar Neufeld's Canada* to coincide with the anniversary date. The university is searching across the country for Neufeld paintings to include in the book.

To launch the search, the artist's son, Laurence Neufeld, will be at Wilfrid Laurier University on Thursday, June 19 at 10 a.m.

"Woldemar Neufeld's work has a very special tie to the Waterloo area," said Dr. Sue Horton, Laurier's vice-president: academic. "Not only did he paint this area for over a decade when he was living here, but he returned prolifically to painting the Waterloo area even after he moved to the United States."

For more information about the anniversary celebrations, or to pass on information about a Woldemar Neufeld painting, contact neufeld@wlu.ca.