

TO DO: Meet the artist Saturday

Explorer Peary behind latest Latcham show

Katie Bethune-Leamen explores the life of 19th century explorer Robert Peary, who trudged through the snows of Greenland, eventually discovering meteorites, to examine what images really tell us.

Her exhibition at Stouffville's Latcham Gallery officially opens Saturday. You can meet the Toronto artist from 1 to 3 p.m.

Many viewers are familiar with the artist's 20-foot mushroom, complete with windows, a door and a working studio inside...

What do the images you see everyday, on TV, in the media, tell us? Is there a final moment to these ideas or is everything in the midst of becoming?

Ms Bethune-Leamen's videos, sculptures (she builds her own version of a meteorite for this exhibition) and paintings make you think twice about the images being presented and those you see daily.

The exhibition presents several video projections including a re-enactment of Robert Peary surrounded by the northern landscape.

The new work is the continuation of the themes she began exploring in the 'dazzle ships' paintings she exhibited at the Stouffville gallery last year.

Dazzle camouflage was used extensively on ships during the First World War and to a lesser extent in the Second World War, but the designs can also remind you of stark northern landscapes.

Many viewers are familiar with Ms Bethune-Leamen's 20-foot mushroom, complete with windows, a door and a working studio inside, which she built for

her first solo show and exhibited in the Toronto Sculpture Garden between May 2008 and April 2009.

She challenges viewers to think about the role of pop culture, the role of the artist and how illusion and reality play out in the media.

The exhibition continues until Dec. 4

Check out the artist's website at katiebethuneleamen.com for more information.

SDSS students on deck

A rich display of art in all media by the Grade 12 graduating art class at Stouffville District Secondary School opens Dec. 9 and continues until the end of the month at Latcham Gallery.

This perennially-popular exhibition highlights the talents of young artists, who produce paintings, drawings, sculptures and photography during their art classes.

The students also learn what goes on behind the scenes of an art gallery. They learn how works are selected and hung and work on the publicity and opening reception.

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For more information on these exhibitions, call the gallery at 905-640-8954 or go to www.latchamgallery.ca

The gallery is at 6240 Main St. in downtown Stouffville.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday.

Help fight crime at kick-off

You can help kick off Crime Prevention Week in York Region Saturday at the Community Safety Village in Bruce's Mill Conservation Area.

The event goes from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will feature information displays, appearances from York Regional Police mascots, police service dogs and Ms Daisy the Clown. Events include fire prevention demonstrations, a child car seat safety clinic, scavenger hunt, face-painting, food and refreshments.

This year's theme for the week is Connecting To Kids Today - Preventing Crimes Tomorrow. In keeping with that theme, officers will be reaching into neighbourhoods and schools across York to provide youth, parents and other residents with information to keep them safe.

Officers will be conducting presentations on drug and gang awareness, cyber bullying, Internet safety and general crime-prevention strategies.

Officers will be going door-to-door, distributing crime-prevention information and safety tips contained in door-hanger-style pamphlets.

For more information go to yrp.ca/cpw.aspx

Date changed for United Way auction

A United Way charity auction planned for this weekend has been postponed until Nov. 21.

It will still be held at Ballantrae Community Centre with viewing at noon and the sale at 1 p.m.

Donations can be made at the Municipal Offices, leisure centre and arenas. Call 905-640-1910 or 905-895-5299 ext. 292 for pick-up of large articles.



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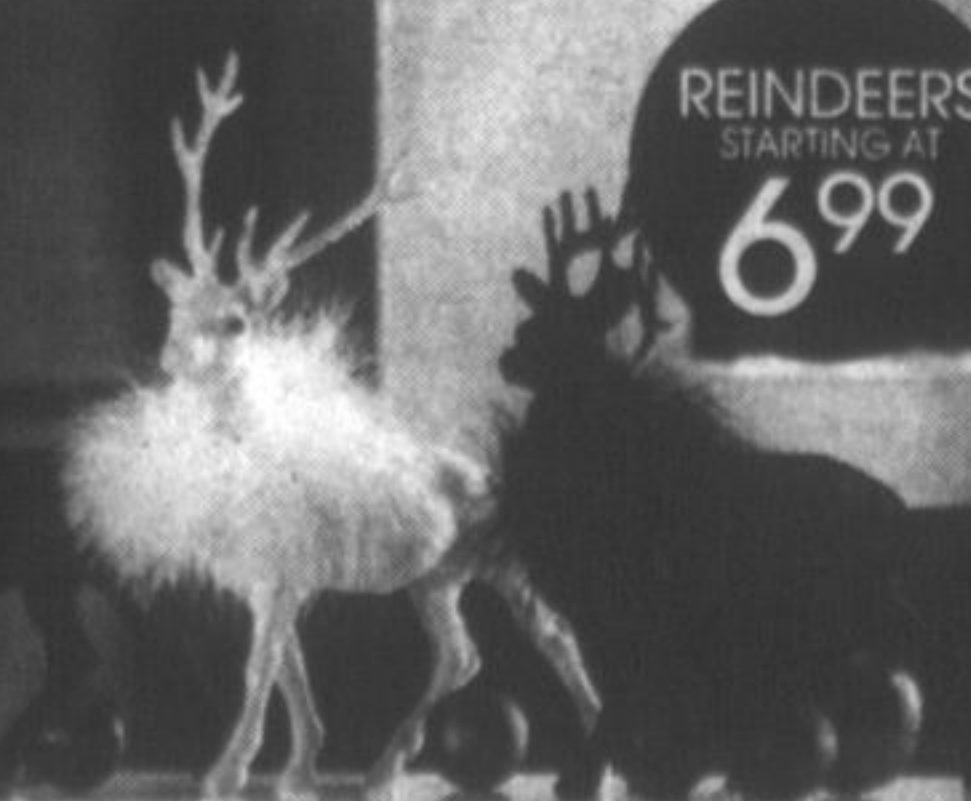
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