

March 31, 2017

Art Gallery of Greater Victoria
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April happenings at the AGGV

It's not just the Easter Bunny that is busy this month, the AGGV is hopping with a host of spring-inspired activities for everyone.

If you're a fan of the current exhibition *Life with Clay: Pottery and Sculpture by Jan and Helga Grove*, you'll be pleased to hear the artists will be in the Gallery on April 4 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for a special Meet the Artists hour.

On April 6, join Victoria's Poet Laureate Yvonne Blomer Youth Poet Laureate Maita Cienska, and guests Terry Ann Carter, Jeff Tanaka, Patrick Lane, Sidney Bending and Alana Sayers as they read poems in response to works from the Gallery's Asian Art Collection that illustrate the Cherry Blossom season. A collaboration with the City of Victoria and the AGGV, *A Pavilion of Blossoms: Poets Respond to Spring* takes place from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and admission is by donation.

Learn about the history of the Japanese Cherry Blossom festival and head on down to the AGGV for *Sakura: Cherry Blossom Festival, A Celebration of Spring Through Cherry Blossoms* on Saturday, April 8. From 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., guests of all ages are invited for hands on activities, cherry blossom walking tours, Haiku poetry, and performances in celebration of spring. Admission to the AGGV will be by donation all day. *Sakura: Cherry Blossom Festival* is a collaboration with the Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society, City of Victoria, Haiku Arbutus, Jaga Silk, Ume Silk and Silk Road.

A new exhibition, *Close to Home*, opens April 22, and showcases AGGV's collection of contemporary works by artists from Victoria and the surrounding region and examines the institution's history of collecting work by artists from our city and region. In celebration of the exhibition opening, the AGGV is offering a free public open house all day on April 22.

Close to Home joins a host of fantastic shows at the Gallery right now. The AGGV's current exhibitions include *Millenia: Asian Art Through the Ages* (closing April 2), *Emily Carr and the Young Generation* (until May 14), *Life with Clay: Pottery and Sculpture by Jan and Helga Grove* (closing May 28) and *Moving Forward by Looking Back: The First 30 Years of Collecting Art at the AGGV* (until September 4).

If you're interested in modern art, Dr. Daniel Mato is offering two lectures at the AGGV this month as part of the Gallery Associates lecture series. On April 2, he presents *Modern Sculpture: Exploring Form and Material* from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. about the development of modernist sculpture in the early 20th century, from figural forms to expressive abstraction. And if you have ever wondered how abstract art came about? On April 9 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Dr. Mato presents *Alchemy of Abstraction* on the subject. Tickets are \$35 (\$30 for members and students) and can be purchased online or in person at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.

Enjoy an afternoon of hands-on making art-making for the whole family on April 16, Family Sunday takes place from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is inspired by *Moving Forward by Looking Back: The First 30 Years of Collecting Art at the AGGV*. Cost is included with membership or admission.

Would you love to get a glimpse behind-the-scenes? On April 19, AGGV's Manager of Collections and Exhibitions, Stephen Topfer, and Registrar, Lesley Golding, will take you on a tour of the collections art vault. Tours are at 2:00 p.m. and 2:45 p.m., and are by donation. Please reserve your space for Collections Art Tour by emailing your name and phone number to visitorservices@aggv.ca as limited space is available.

April 30 is a special performance in the Jazz at the Gallery series. The Next Generation Alumni and Friends kicks off at 2:00 p.m. and promises to get the audience moving and grooving to incredible live jazz.

Tickets are available at the Gallery and at aggv.ca.

There are also a host of drop-in exhibition tours in April:

April 1, 2:00 p.m., *Moving Forward by Looking Back*

April 2, 2:00 p.m., *Life with Clay*

April 8, 2:00 p.m., *Life with Clay*

April 9, 2:00 p.m., *Life with Clay*

April 15, 2:00 p.m., *Moving Forward by Looking Back*

April 16, 2:00 p.m., *Moving Forward by Looking Back*

April 23, 2:00 p.m., *Close to Home*

April 29, 2:00 p.m., *Close to Home*

April 30, *Emily Carr and the Young Generation*

For more information, calendar of events and tickets, visit aggv.ca or call 250-384-4171.