

camh CONNEXIONS

transforming lives

Summer 2004 - volume 5 number 2

Of openings, artists and a metamorphosis

First artists enjoy Jean Simpson studio

If you're an artist, you need a few basics before you can begin. You need an idea, your tools and a place where you can create. For some artists who have nowhere to create, a studio is just a dream. As of May 2004, eight artists who receive services from CAMH have brought their paint brushes, their creativity and their ideas to the Jean Simpson Studio, a self-managed studio at the Queen Street site, that will over the next year, serve 22-29 artists. Chosen by a panel of their peers, the artists will work along side each other in a shared environment for three to four months at a time. The next group of artists will start in August.

"I am thrilled to see the studio come to fruition," says Lisa Brown, Director of CAMH's Workman Theatre Project (WTP). "This outstanding professional studio space will be safe as well as exciting and will make a wonderful legacy for Jean Simpson, who was so supportive of clients and the arts at CAMH as well as the partnership with WTP." WTP is a not-for-profit arts company that's been operating for 15 years and works in partnership with CAMH.

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photo by Lanre Banjoko

Henry Benvenuti, first artist-in-residence at new Jean Simpson Studio

Great old poet inspires CAMH artists

Artists receive imaginative assignment

Henry Benvenuti may be a contemporary artist but as of today the new artist-in-residence at the Jean Simpson Studio is busy contemplating the writings of a poet who lived 2,000 years ago. He and seven artists from the Workman Theatre Project who are now using the Jean Simpson Studio at the Queen Street site have been given a dream assignment with

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Another metamorphosis—CAMH Connexions

Welcome to CAMH Connexions; farewell to At the Centre.

First a bit of background: As we mentioned in the last issue, as part of our broader branding efforts, which included a new logo, we wanted to change the way we referred to ourselves. We learned from various focus groups that referring to ourselves as the "Centre" was vague and confusing since there

are many centres all over Toronto and elsewhere. Instead, we will be using the acronym CAMH, (pronounced CAM-H), which is now the most prominent aspect of our new logo.

Why CAMH Connexions?

After consulting with CAMH staff and key stakeholders, we chose the name CAMH Connexions, in English and French, because of our focus on

partnerships with you—our stakeholders and community partners, clients, staff, volunteers and donors.

We hope CAMH Connexions will give you a glimpse into the many ways we are connecting. We also hope that you will connect with us to let us know how we're doing and what you'd like to see in future CAMH Connexions (see p.4 for *How to Reach CAMH*)! ■

STUDIO, continued from page 1

The makings of the studio

Officially opened on June 30 at the same time as the Being Scene Art Exhibition (see below), by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario,

the Honourable James K. Bartleman, the Jean Simpson Studio has provided a professional and functional space for artists to create their work since May. The inspiration for the



Jean Simpson

studio, announced in 2003, came from CAMH President and CEO Paul Garfinkel as a way to honour retiring Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer Jean Simpson who always thought of our clients first. CAMH and the WTP are proud to play a part in helping artists have free studio space.

The studio is located in the airy, natural light-filled area in the second floor balcony overlooking the mall in the Community Centre

building at the Queen Street site.

This space was used in the past as studio space, but it has been re-designed with artists in mind as a place where they can create larger works of art.

The studio program offers support, community leadership and opportunities for education.

The studio is available from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week. For more information, contact Cheryl Saracini at 416-535-8501, ext. 3164. ■

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the Toronto-based Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra. They have each chosen one of the legendary myths from Ovid's "Metamorphosis." Their myths will inspire them to create a large mural that will be displayed in Trinity- St. Paul's Church in Toronto during the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra's festival performance of Metamorphosis from Feb. 24-25, 2005.

Throughout the spring of 2005 Metamorphosis as a multidisciplinary festival will include artistic inspiration from art, theatre, music, dance, film, storytelling and education. The festival will give many artistic people and people from various cultures from Toronto an opportunity to interpret various tales of transformation from their own perspective.

In addition to working on Metamorphosis and assisting his fellow artists, Henry will oversee the Jean Simpson Studio. Usually a quiet, private person, Henry is modest about his involvement as artist-in-residence, even though his works of art sit alongside Picasso and Avedon in Toulouse, France, among other places. He has also exhibited at Being Scene for many years.

He admits that an addiction to heroin derailed him for far too many years, but after three years on methadone treatment at CAMH, he is determined to put his problems behind him. When asked how this assignment came about, he says casually, "WTP popped the question." "This is pretty exciting," he says. "It's something I never experienced before—to be in charge. I hope they don't think of me as a boss. I'm really just here as a liaison between the artists and WTP." As his own contribution to the Metamorphosis murals, Henry will depict the Cyclops who is in love with a sea nymph, in collage and oil paints. ■

Fifth year for "Being Scene"

Fifty-three artists who have received services from CAMH for addiction and mental health are showcasing their work at the fifth annual Being Scene art exhibition. His Honour, James K. Bartleman, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and an Honourary Patron of CAMH, helped open the exhibit and the Jean Simpson Studio on June 30.

The popular exhibit covers the Queen, Russell, and College Street sites, and features 76 new works. A three-member jury led by Lupe Rodriguez, artist, lecturer and CBC commentator, selected these works from over 300 that were submitted.

Juror Anna Hudson, Associate Curator, Canadian Art at the AGO says, "It is a rare treat to deal with such a range and breadth of creative talent. Making choices among such diversity and poignant individuality is a tremendous challenge." All artists exhibiting their work at Being Scene receive artist's fees. The works, which will be on display for a year, are also for sale. Exhibition hours are 10 a.m-8 p.m. daily at all sites. ■



"Edward," by Alan Parker - one of the works on exhibit at Being Scene

News Highlights



The Honourable James K. Bartleman receiving a Courage to Come Back award

Courage Awards

Over 80 nominations were received for this year's eleventh annual 2004 Courage to Come Back Awards. At a gala awards dinner on May 20 hosted by CAMH's Foundation and presented by RBC Capital Markets, seven recipients from across Ontario, including the Honourable James K. Bartleman, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor and CAMH's Honourary Patron, were recognized. Those chosen to receive a Courage award have experienced great challenges living with addiction and/or mental illness and are models of hope and inspiration to others.

For more information, refer to:

http://www.camh.net/camh_foundation/foundation_courage2004_recipient.html

Alcohol, Trauma and Impaired Driving

CAMH recently partnered with MADD Canada on "Alcohol, Trauma and Impaired Driving," a document that's a single, fully referenced source of current facts on alcohol and trauma with Canadian and occasional international information on consumption patterns, costs of alcohol use and impaired driving facts. The web version can be found at: http://www.madd.ca/english/research/real_facts.pdf For single copies, call CAMH's R. Samuel McLaughlin Addiction and Mental Health Information Centre at 1 800 463-6273 or 416 595-6111 in Toronto.

Annual meeting draws crowd

This year's annual meeting on June 24, 2004 attracted a big crowd to the Queen Street site. In addition to the business meeting and a tour of the new Jean Simpson Studio, attendees listened to an announcement by Ontario Health Minister George Smitherman (see *Site Speak* column, right), and they saw a documentary featuring an exciting client employment initiative, the Urban Garden on the grounds of the Queen Street site. (A copy of the documentary can be borrowed with identification from the Russell Street site library.) Attendees also received a copy of the annual report, which highlights diversity. For a copy of the report, contact Public Affairs at 416-535-8501, ext. 4250, or read it on the website at http://www.camh.net/pdf/camh_ar2004.pdf



Ontario Health Minister, George Smitherman, at CAMH's AGM

SITE SPEAK

Exciting progress is being made with CAMH's redevelopment plans

Minister of Health and Long Term Care George Smitherman announced a Planning and Design grant of \$16 million for the first phase of the redevelopment. This will allow us to develop detailed working drawings and specifications for a core bed building for more critically ill clients requiring specialized intensive care; the innovative homelike Alternate Milieu buildings for clients past the acute phase of their illness; and an administrative building.

A new video about the core bed buildings is available in our libraries. The proposed floor layouts include mostly single rooms with private bathrooms; smaller groupings of patient rooms; smaller and more care stations; more opportunities for client-staff interaction; a variety of spaces for group and private activities; more natural light; and a reception area for visitors.

The Ontario Municipal Board has approved the Official Plan, Zoning By-Law and the Draft Plan of Subdivision. We have worked successfully with the parties who appealed the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law to achieve this major accomplishment at the municipal planning level.

The Environmental Assessment Study was completed for the proposed extension of Ossington Avenue between Queen Street and Adelaide Street West, and Adelaide Street West between Shaw Street and Ossington Avenue as collector streets. The final report is available for review and comment at the CAMH libraries and public libraries close to the Queen Street site.

CAMH has retained E.R.A. Architects Inc. to assess the current condition of our historic Shaw Street brick wall and storage buildings and propose a strategy for preserving them essentially in their current form, with the addition of selective openings. The architects will also look at ways to incorporate elements from the winning design ideas for the wall from the Open Ideas Competition that CAMH held with the City of Toronto. ■

For more info:

www.camh.net/news_events/redevelopingqueenstsite.html or contact us at 416 535-8501 ext. 1650, or by e-mail at redevelopment_feedback@camh.net.

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS, continued from page 3

Self-help guide for newcomers

Alone in Canada: 21 Ways to Make it Better, is a self-help guide for single newcomers developed at CAMH. The primary goal of this booklet is to decrease the amount of post-migration stresses, facilitate resettling in Canada and promote physical and mental health. The booklet was first published in English and French in 2001 and, due to popularity and demand, was also translated into Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Spanish, Somali, Tamil, Urdu, Bengali, Dari, Hindi, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Serbian, Tagalog and Twi. All 18 languages are now available in print form and will be online at www.camh.net; some translations are available online at http://www.settlement.org/site/REFERENCE/ref_pubs.asp

UPCOMING EVENTS

CAMH 10th Annual Don River Run for Recovery

Sunday, August 29, 10 a.m.–noon

5 or 10 km, run or walk

Location: Brentcliffe Road site (Donwood), 175 Brentcliffe Road (north of Eglinton and Laird, running or walking through the ravines in Sunnybrook Park)

Contact: Register online at www.runningroom.com or www.camh.net/run or at local Running Rooms

Queen Street Art Crawl

Sept. 17–19

Location: Trinity Bellwoods Park to Dufferin Street. The Crawl includes CAMH studio tours of the Being Scene exhibit and the Jean Simpson Studio at the Queen Street site, buskers, performance art krawl, artisans, displays and more.

Check www.camh.net - Events for more information.

Making Gains in Mental Health and Addictions: Knowledge, Integration, Action

Co sponsors: Alcohol and Drug Recovery Association of Ontario, Canadian Mental Health Association-Ontario, CAMH and the Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs

October 3–6

Location: Hilton Toronto Hotel

Contact: Rachel Gillooly, Conference Planner

Tel: 705 454-8107 or **Toll-free:** 877 372-2435

Fax: 705 454-9792

E-mail: rachel@haliburtonhighlands.com

Last year's Making Gains conference sold out quickly, so early registration is encouraged. For the complete program and registration information, visit www.makinggains.ca ■

To order a free booklet, call CAMH's R. Samuel McLaughlin Addiction and Mental Health Information Centre at 416 595-6111 in Toronto or 1 800 463-6273 in Ontario. For orders of more than 50, contact CAMH's Marketing and Sales Services at 416 535-8591, x4090 in Toronto or 1 800 661-1111 in Ontario.

Teen mental health

One in 10 students (Grades 7-12) report experiencing multiple mental health issues including symptoms of depression and anxiety, problem drinking, other drug use and anti-social behaviour such as theft, vandalism or violence according to CAMH's Mental Health and Well-Being of Ontario Students Report, released in May 2004. The mental health and well-being survey results were collected as part of CAMH's ongoing Ontario Student Drug Use Survey (OSDUS) and will continue to be reported every two years. Highlights of the study include:

- Approximately one-third of students have been bullied or have taken part in bullying other students.
- Over one-in-eight students have had serious thoughts about suicide in the past year, with significantly more females than males reporting this.

CAMH provides treatment services and has implemented a number of clinical, educational, research and program development initiatives for adolescents with addiction and/or mental health issues. A list of these initiatives and the executive summary of the mental health report is available at http://www.camh.net/pdf/osdusmh2003_execsum.pdf ■

CAMH Connexions, The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's external newsletter, is published four times a year to inform our stakeholders about current issues and events at CAMH.

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HIGHLIGHTS DISPONÍVEL EM PORTUGUÊS

Mission

Improving the lives of those affected by addiction and mental health problems and promoting the health of people in Ontario and beyond.

Vision

Strong and healthy communities, in which people with addiction and mental health problems can access appropriate and effective services and live as full participants.