FACT SHEET

Carl Beam

Dates: From October 21, 2010 to January 16, 2011
Location: National Gallery of Canada
Organized by: The National Gallery of Canada.
Number of Works: 50
Types of Works: Large-scale paintings, ceramics, constructions, and video.
Theme: Covering his complete career from the late 70s to 2004, the exhibition sheds light on his investigations into the metaphysical aspects of Western and Indigenous cultures, while powerfully illustrating the wide-ranging physicality of his work.

The exhibition is organized around five main themes: The Columbus Project, an immense body of work which challenges historically dominant assumptions and re-examines the meaning of Columbus' arrival in North America and its long-term repercussions for the indigenous peoples of the Americas; Plant Communication, Margins: Food / Shelter and The Whale of Our Being touch on Beam’s study of the relationship between humans and their environment; and Crossroads, a meditation on fame and celebrity that was the last series of pieces the artist worked on. Also included are a selection of Beam’s ceramics that further extend his thematic concerns to this medium and demonstrate the artist’s interest and study of ancient Anasazi (200 - 1300) and Mimbres (1000 - 1150) pottery from the U.S. Southwest through to his later works that incorporate Japanese firing and glazing techniques, created from the clay and pigments of Manitoulin Island.

Catalogue: The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue with essays by curator Greg Hill and leading Aboriginal scholars and curators Gerald McMaster, Virginia Eichhorn, Alan Corbiere and Crystal Migwans, and Ann Beam. Titled Carl Beam: The Poetics of Being, this 140 page soft cover book is available at the National Gallery of Canada Bookstore for $50 plus taxes, and at www.shopngc.ca, the Gallery's online boutique.

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Exhibition Tour:
The exhibition tour will include:

- Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver: April 7 – May 29, 2011
- Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg: June 30 - September 11, 2011
- MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina, Saskatchewan: September – November 2012
- Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Thunder Bay: January - March 2013

Educational Programming:
Meet the curator
Friday, October 22 at 12:15 p.m.
Visit the Carl Beam exhibition along with exhibition curator Greg A. Hill, Audain Curator and Head of the Department of Indigenous Art. In English. Also at 2 p.m. in French, with Educator Béatrice Djahanbin. Included with Gallery admission.

Documentary:
Sunday, November 14 at 2 p.m. (65 minutes)
In this film première, discover an intimate and revealing look at Carl Beam's rich art legacy. His wife Ann and daughter Anong, both artists, talk about his life and career; followed by a discussion with directors Paul Eichhorn and Robert Waldeck, artist Ann Beam and curator Greg Hill. Bilingual question period. In the Auditorium. Free admission. Film screening also presented Sunday, January 16 at 2 p.m.

Admission:
Tickets are on sale at $9 for adults, $7 for seniors and full-time students, $4 for youths aged 12 to 19 years, and $18 for families (two adults and three children). Admission is free of charge for children under 12 and for Friends of the Gallery. This includes admission to the NGC Collection. Tickets are available by telephone at 613-998-8888 or 1-888-541-8888.

Hours:
From October 1, 2010 until April 30, 2011 the Gallery is open from Tuesday to Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm; Thursday until 8 pm. Closed Mondays.

For more Information:
Visit: http://www.gallery.ca/Beam for full information.