



**asa**

art gallery of alberta

Report to the Community 2010

## Mission

The Art Gallery of Alberta is a museum dedicated to excellent and innovative practice in programming, stewardship and presentation of visual arts in Western Canada and across the nation.

## Vision

The Art Gallery of Alberta creates a welcoming and engaging environment where people are motivated to transform their understanding of the world by connecting with the visual arts.

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## Message from the Chair

Barry Zalmanowitz, Q.C.  
Chair, Board of Directors, Art Gallery of Alberta

A year ago we paused to celebrate a major accomplishment and recognize the leadership, generosity and the years of hard work that brought us to the opening of the new Art Gallery of Alberta. It was a fantastic party, but we knew then—and we know even better now—that we were only beginning to realize our new vision of bringing an art gallery of national significance to the people of Alberta.

A building alone does not an art gallery make. The hard work and tireless commitment of talented and dedicated staff, volunteers and artists, and the strong support of our community are vital in the achievement of our goal.

Over the past year more than 200,000 people visited our Gallery, which held exceptional art exhibitions from Alberta and around the world, including *EDGAR DEGAS: Figures in Motion*, *The Murder of Crows* by Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller, *Francisco Goya: The Disasters of War and Los Caprichos*, *Karsh: Image Maker*, *TIMELAND: 2010 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art*, *The Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons*, *Edward Burtynsky: OIL*, and *HENRI MATISSE: A Celebration of Light and Line* among many others. AGA exhibitions were offered in conjunction with outstanding interpretive programs such as tours, lectures, film presentations and artist talks. Of our 200,000 visitors in 2010, 17,000 were students who participated in our education programs that include exhibition tours and studio projects.

AGA membership increased dramatically from 1,600 to nearly 5,300. At our first year anniversary celebration, Mayor Stephen Mandel praised our accomplishments and Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit, told us that the investment in the AGA was the best \$27 million the Government of Alberta has ever spent. While we exceeded our membership and visitor goals, we fell short of our revenue targets. Greater success in this area will be a major focus in 2011.

For our success over the past year we are grateful to many.

Gilles Hébert, Catherine Crowston, Scott Nye, Noel Xavier and Oksana Gowin, our talented management team, and all of the dedicated staff and volunteers at the AGA have been crucial to our success in 2010 and I know we can count on them in the years to come. Our Board and Executive Committee provide important guidance and oversight. Joan Thomas, our Executive Administrator, keeps us organized and focused.

The Mayor and City Council and both the governments of Alberta and Canada continue to play an important part in realizing our vision. We would not exist without their support. Our Corporate Sponsors, listed on page 24 have shown great leadership and are crucial to our mission of presenting Albertan, Canadian and international art of the highest quality. Our members and individual donors must also be recognized for they are the life blood of this organization. Allan Scott put his heart, soul, and plenty of time into building the new AGA. As our Past Chair he continues to be a committed and generous leader, a mentor to me and an example to us all.

We are off to a good start, but the continued support of our entire community is essential to provide the AGA with resources to make our complete vision a reality. We are well on our way but not there yet. We have a great challenge still ahead; I am confident we will rise to it.



## Message from the Executive Director

Gilles Hébert  
Executive Director, Art Gallery of Alberta

The 'new' AGA opened its doors at the end of January 2010. The facility became an instant landmark in Edmonton and beyond, and our new Gallery enjoyed remarkable community-wide enthusiasm and support. While our attendance and membership numbers soared, it was our visitors' engagement with our exhibitions and public programs that remained the surest sign of our success. In 2011, our work will centre on initiatives to expand upon this extraordinary momentum and to further deliver on our promise to the people of Edmonton and Alberta.

The AGA is about making connections—connecting you to art, artists, ideas, people, your community, the world, the past, the present, and the future. The AGA is committed to operating in ways that encourage these connections.

The 'go-forward' is about establishing a sustainable future for our ambitious new Gallery. The AGA is not a civic department nor a provincial agency. We must therefore maintain a balance that centers on continuing to offer meaningful experiences for our visitors while operating as a stand-alone non-profit institution with a strong public responsibility. We must maintain efficient operations and accountability to all stakeholders while increasing revenue through an ever growing and diversified combination of admissions, memberships, productive enterprises, government funding, and private sector support. To this end, the AGA depends on the communities it serves.

Initially drawn-in by the iconic architecture of our facility, we find that our visitors stay, and return, because of the high caliber of our programming. The AGA is committed to maintaining the utmost standards with ambitious exhibitions that showcase local, national, and international art, both contemporary and historical. The popular reception of our exhibitions and programs exceeded our expectations in 2010. We anticipate no decline in engagement going forward.

At the AGA, 'local' refers to the entire province of Alberta and we are delivering on our pledge to support our artists and provide the finest visual arts experiences.

We continue our commitment to the development of Alberta-specific programming. In 2010, we proudly presented work by more than 25 Alberta artists through initiatives such as the RBC New Works Gallery, a space permanently devoted to the presentation of new work by Alberta artists and the *Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art*, presented by ATB Financial. ATB Financial's support has also made possible the Alberta Early Masters Series, a series of exhibitions looking at the pioneers of art in Alberta, which launches in early 2011.

In 2010, we collaborated with local organizations, such as the University of Alberta and the Edmonton Public Library, and other arts organizations, small and large, to provide our visitors with ways of engaging with art through diverse programming. We are excited to continue to grow these partnerships.

2011 will see the AGA define and enact initiatives that have greater provincial scope and resonance while we continue to expand our role and presence in Edmonton. Above all, we have learned in our first year in the new facility the need to embrace and build on our 'It's yours' philosophy of inclusion. In 2011, we will continue to engage our local communities through dynamic programming and by serving as a vibrant meeting place—a place where connections are made between, people, art, and ideas.

Thank you for being part of such a momentous year for your AGA!



## Message from the Past Chair

Allan E. Scott  
Past Chair, Board of Directors, Art Gallery of Alberta

'Year One' has been a celebration of both a community success and the achievement of the vision we had for the 'New AGA'.

An iconic building, top-tier exhibitions of Albertan and international art, the outstanding success of our education programs, and your AGA as a meeting place for everyone—all the things we had hoped for have suddenly become reality after a decade of hard work.

It is gratifying to see that we are on our way to becoming an 'art gallery of national significance for the province of Alberta.'

Thanks to all; our Board, our management and staff, our partners, and our supporters for a great effort in the first year.

However, we now look forward to the next chapter, achieving exhibition and educational programming excellence coupled with strong community support for the long term.

When we have achieved this, then we will have truly achieved the Vision!



## Grand Opening Celebrations

### Friday, January 29, 2010

#### *THE GALA... with a Twist!*

7 pm-midnight

This black-tie gala kicked off the opening festivities with 570 guests in attendance.

### Saturday, January 30, 2010

Official Grand Opening & Ribbon-cutting Ceremony  
10-10:45 am

The Honourable Norman L. Kwong, CM AOE  
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

The Honourable Rona Ambrose  
Minister of Labour

The Honourable Lindsay Blackett  
Minster of Alberta Culture and Community Spirit

His Worship Mayor Stephen Mandel  
City of Edmonton

Mr. Randall Stout  
Randall Stout Architects, Inc.

Mr. Gilles Hébert  
AGA, Executive Director

#### Ribbon-Cutters

The Honourable Norman L. Kwong, CM AOE  
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

The Honourable Rona Ambrose  
Minister of Labour

The Honourable Lindsay Blackett  
Minster of Alberta Culture and Community Spirit

His Worship Mayor Stephen Mandel  
City of Edmonton

Mrs. Barbara Poole  
Visionary Donor

Mr. Allan E. Scott  
Chair, AGA Board of Directors

Mr. Randall Stout  
Randall Stout Architects, Inc.

#### Bagpipes

Mr. David Trew

Private Gallery tour for ribbon-cutting ceremony attendees  
10:45-11:45 am

#### Donor Appreciation Afternoon

Noon-5 pm

This special event was an invitation-only afternoon for donors who contributed to the Capital Campaign to come and see what their donations had accomplished first-hand.

#### Artists and Art Industry Party

8 pm-1 am

Artists and art industry representatives from across Canada and beyond convened to celebrate the grand opening of the AGA. Guest included artists featured in the AGA exhibitions and in the Gallery's permanent collection, as well art museum directors from across the country, among others.

### Sunday, January 31, 2010

### Monday, February 1, 2010

#### Public Grand Opening

9 am-9 pm

Two days of free timed-ticket access were provided to members of the public to gain the first looks at their new AGA. Tickets were reserved through the AGA's website and AGA Members were given the first chance at booking.

The AGA hosted approximately 10,000 visitors on tours of the Gallery in these two days.



## Exhibitions



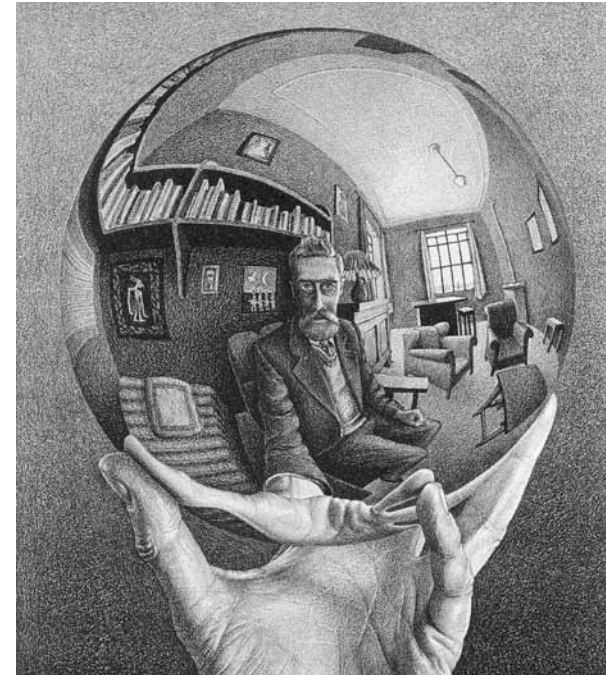
EDGAR DEGAS (French, 1834-1917), *Two Dancers*, c. 1896-99, Pastel, 16 1/4 x 13 inches. Private Collection. © 2009 Courtesy of International Arts®.



Yousuf Karsh, *Grey Owl* Courtesy of Library and Archives Canada, © Yousuf Karsh, 1936



Jason de Hann, *Salt Beard*, 2010, marble, salt, steel



M.C. Escher, *Hand with Reflecting Sphere*, January 1935. National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa. Gift of George Escher, Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia, 1989. © 2010 The M.C. Escher Company - Holland. All rights reserved. www.mcescher.com Photo © NGC



Recreated Cel of Bugs Bunny. © 2010 Warner Bros. Inc.



Edward Burzynsky, *Highway #1, Intersection 105 & 110*, Los Angeles, California, USA, 2003. Chromogenic color print. Photograph © Edward Burzynsky, courtesy Nicholas Metvier Gallery, Toronto, and Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary.

### EDGAR DEGAS: *Figures in Motion*

January 31-May 30, 2010  
Organized by Joseph S. Czeszochowski, International Art

### Francisco Goya: *The Disasters of War and Los Caprichos*

January 31-May 30, 2010  
The National Gallery of Canada at the Art Gallery of Alberta  
Presented with the support of Capital Powered Art, sponsored by Capital Power Corporation

### The Murder of Crows by Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller

January 31-May 9, 2010  
Curated by Catherine Crowston, Deputy Director / Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Alberta

### JANET CARDIFF & GEORGE BURES MILLER: *Storm Room*

RBC New Works Gallery  
January 31-May 9, 2010  
Curated by Catherine Crowston, Deputy Director / Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Alberta

### Karsh: *Image Maker*

January 31-May 30, 2010  
Organized and circulated by the Portrait Gallery of Canada, a program of Library and Archives Canada, and the Canada Science & Technology Museum, Ottawa.  
Presented by Enbridge

### Building Art: *Photographs of the Building of the AGA 2008-2010* by Edward Burzynsky

January 31-June 10, 2010  
Curated by Catherine Crowston, Deputy Director / Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Alberta

### BMO World of Creativity: *Play on Architecture!*

January 31, 2010-January 30, 2011  
Designed by local architects Laura Plosz, Troy Smith and Shafraaz Kaba and sponsored by Group 2 Architecture and Engineering and Manasc Isaac Architects.

### TIMELAND: 2010 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art

May 29-August 29, 2010  
Guest curated by Richard Rhodes, organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta  
Presented by ATB Financial

### SANDRA BROMELY: *Fire*

RBC New Works Gallery  
May 29-August 2, 2010  
Curated by Catherine Crowston, Deputy Director / Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Alberta

### The Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons

June 19-October 11, 2010

### PIRANESI'S PRISONS: *Architecture of Mystery and Imagination*

June 19-November 7, 2010  
The National Gallery of Canada at the Art Gallery of Alberta  
Presented with the support of Capital Powered Art, sponsored by Capital Power Corporation

### M.C. ESCHER: *The Mathemagician*

June 19-October 11, 2010  
Curated by Catherine Crowston, Deputy Director / Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Alberta  
The National Gallery of Canada at the Art Gallery of Alberta  
Presented with the support of Capital Powered Art, sponsored by Capital Power Corporation

### Reframing a Nation

June 26, 2010-January 31, 2011  
Curated by Ruth Burns, Associate Curator / Interpretive Programs Manager

### Out on a Limb

June 26-July 23, 2010  
(AFA Traveling Exhibitions Program)  
Curated by Shane Golby, Manager/Curator Travelling Exhibitions Program. Presented during The Works Art and Design Festival

### JONATHAN KAISER: *Celestial Bodies*

RBC New Work Series  
August 14-October 11, 2010  
Curated by Catherine Crowston, Deputy Director / Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Alberta

### EDWARD BURTYNSKY: *OIL*

September 18, 2010-January 2, 2011  
Organized by the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.  
Presented by Enbridge and Scotia Bank Group

### LAURA ST. PIERRE: *Urban Vernacular*

RBC New Works Series  
October 30, 2010-February 13, 2011  
Curated by Catherine Crowston, Deputy Director / Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Alberta

### HENRI MATISSE: *A Celebration of Light and Line*

October 30, 2010-February 13, 2011  
This exhibition unites works drawn from the collection of The Baltimore Museum of Art with Matisse as Printmaker: Works from the Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation, a traveling exhibition organized by the American Federation of Arts and the Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation.  
Presented by Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP.

### Sheila Spence: *All About Star*

November 6, 2010-March 5, 2011  
Organized by the Illingworth Kerr Gallery, Alberta College of Art and Design.

### The Symbolist Muse: *A Selection of Prints from the National Gallery of Canada*

November 20 - March 13, 2011  
The National Gallery of Canada at the Art Gallery of Alberta  
Presented with the support of Capital Powered Art, sponsored by Capital Power Corporation



Laura St. Pierre, *Untitled (Urban Vernacular Series)*, 2009. Archival ink jet on polypropylene



Giovanni Battista Piranesi, *The Well*, 1761. National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa. Photo © NGC

## RBC New Works

The RBC New Works Gallery features new artworks by Alberta artists. Initiated in 1998 and named the RBC New Works Gallery in 2008, this space continues the Art Gallery of Alberta's tradition of supporting Alberta artists. In 2010, the RBC New Works Gallery was host to four exhibitions.

JANET CARDIFF & GEORGE BURES MILLER: *Storm Room*  
January 31–May 9, 2010

SANDRA BROMLEY: *Fire*  
May 29–August 2, 2010

JONATHAN KAISER: *Celestial Bodies*  
August 14–October 11, 2010

LAURA ST. PIERRE: *Urban Vernacular*  
October 30, 2010–January 9, 2011

RBC  
NEW  
WORKS  
GALLERY



## Capital Powered Art

The Art Gallery of Alberta and Capital Power Corporation's unique initiative Capital Powered Art provides financial support in bringing world-class art to Albertans by enabling the ongoing presentation of works from the collection of the National Gallery of Canada. Established in December of 2009, The National Gallery of Canada at the Art Gallery of Alberta will feature more than ten major exhibitions of significant Canadian and international art from 2010 to 2012.

Francisco Goya: *Disasters of War and Los Caprichos*  
January 31–May 30, 2010

M.C. ESCHER: *The Mathemagician*  
June 19–October 11, 2010

PIRANESI'S PRISONS: *Architecture of Mystery and Imagination*  
June 19–November 7, 2010

THE SYMBOLIST MUSE  
November 19–March 6, 2011



## The Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition Program

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta (Trex Region 2)

This provincial Travelling Exhibition Program was established in 1981 by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts with the vision that every Albertan would have the opportunity to experience visual art exhibitions in their own communities. The Trex program is a coordinated effort between The Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) and the Prairie Art Gallery (Region 1), the Art Gallery of Alberta (Region 2), The Alberta Society of Artists/Calgary (Region 3) and the Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre (Medicine Hat Museum & Art Gallery – Region 4).

From May of 2010 to February of 2011, more than 135,000 visitors enjoyed 109 exhibition bookings offered by the Art Gallery of Alberta (booking rate of 100%). Exhibitions were held at 63 venues in 39 communities. The AGA created four new exhibitions for 2010/11, continued to travel five developed in 2009/10 and borrowed another 10 from our three partner organizations to offer a total of 19 for travel throughout the 2010/2011 year.

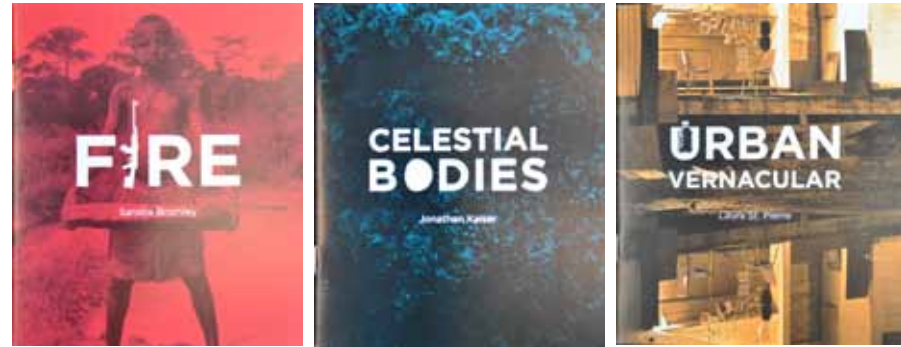
As our corporate partner, Syncrude Canada continues to enable us to continue producing First Nations based exhibitions each year. In 2008 Syncrude agreed to sponsor each First Nations exhibition developed in this program for a period of three years. Because of Syncrude's commitment, The AGA is able to offer each exhibition to the three other divisions (and more Alberta communities). The first of these exhibitions developed through this agreement, *Half-Breed Mythology: New Works by Aaron Paquette*, will be retiring in December of 2011. The second of these exhibitions, *Maskwacis* (Bear Hills), an exhibition examining the community of Hobbema, transferred to Region 3 (The Alberta Society of Artists) in January of 2011. The third and final exhibition in this agreement, *Creator Paints the World...the Colour of Our Voice*, an exhibition developed by Blue Quills First Nations College near St. Paul, AB., began travelling Region 2 (AGA) in January of 2011.

In January of 2011 Syncrude renewed its sponsorship of this program for a further three years. Work is presently underway for the production of the first exhibition in this new agreement.



## Publications

The AGA's RBC New Works Series features new work by Alberta artists. The program was initiated in 1998, and continues in the new AGA with a devoted space on the Gallery's second level. In 2010, the AGA introduced publications for each of the RBC New Works Series exhibitions, featuring essays by local writers and scholars



**SANDRA BROMLEY:** *Fire*, RBC New Works Series

Editors: Catherine Crowston and Anthea Black  
 Essay: Amanda Boetzkes  
 Design: Cut+Paste Design Inc.  
 ISBN: 978-0-88950-154-6

**JONATHAN KAISER:** *Cestestial Bodies*, RBC New Works Series

Editors: Catherine Crowston and Anthea Black  
 Essay: Mark Clintberg  
 Design: Cut+Paste Design Inc. and Pamela Clark  
 ISBN: 978-0-88950-156-0

**LAURA ST. PIERRE:** *Urban Vernacular*, RBC New Works Series

Editor: Catherine Crowston  
 Essay: Katherine Ylitalo  
 Design: Cut+Paste Design Inc. and Pamela Clark  
 ISBN: 978-0-88950-157-7



**POLAROIDS:** *Attila Richard Lukacs and Michael Morris*

Editors: Catherine Crowston and Reid Shier  
 Essays: Michael Turner, Scott Watson, Vince Aletti and Stan Persky  
 ISBN: 978-1-55152-295-1  
 Co-published by the AGA, Presentation House Gallery  
 Illingworth Kerr Gallery and Arsenal Pulp Press

**TIMELAND:** *2010 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art*

Editors: Catherine Crowston and Anthea Black  
 Essay: Richard Rhodes  
 Design: Pamela Clark  
 ISBN: 978-0-88950-153-9

## Acquisitions

The Art Gallery of Alberta collection has grown to almost 6,000 works by artists including A.Y. Jackson, Tom Thomson, Anthony Caro and Edward Burtynsky. After an acquisitions moratorium during the construction period, we are now settled in our new home and recommitted to building the permanent collection.

The following acquisitions were made in 2010:

**Catherine Burgess** (donation made by John & Maggie Mitchell)  
*Be*, 2001  
 Steel, Terracotta  
 182.7" x 122.4" (464 cm x 311 cm)

**Edward Burtynsky** (donation made by Gloria Mok)  
*Mines #15*  
 Inco Tailings Pond, Sudbury, Ontario, 2005  
 Chromogenic Print  
 67.8 x 85.7 cm (image)

**John Hartman** (artist donation)  
*Fort Steele*, 2005  
 Oil on Linen  
 60" x 66" (152.4 cm x 167.6 cm)

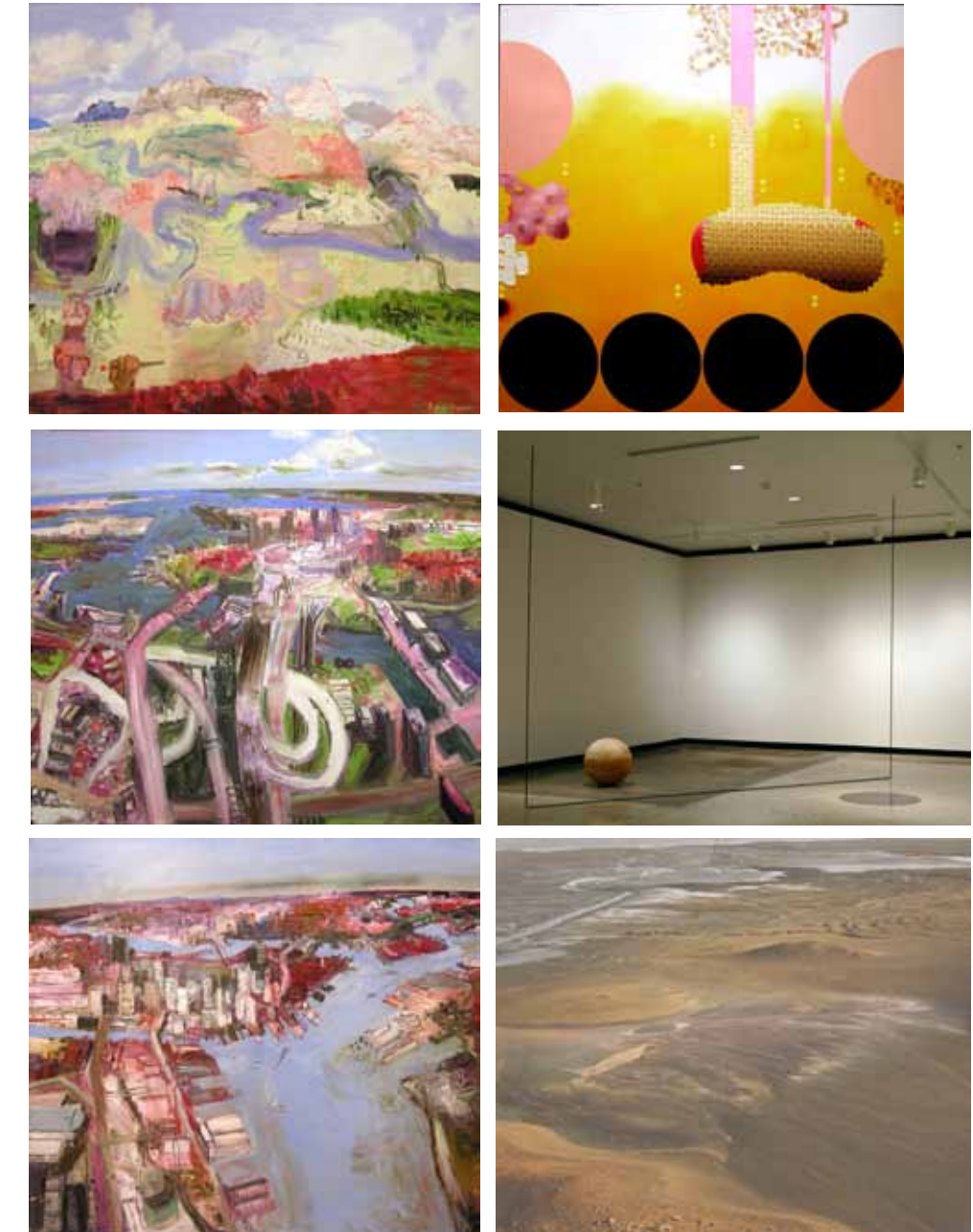
*Boston Harbour*, 2007  
 Oil on Linen  
 48" x 54" (121.9 cm x 137.2 cm)

*Boston from above Zakim Bridge*, 2007  
 Oil on Linen  
 48" x 54" (121.9 cm x 137.2 cm)

**George Hunter** (artist donation)  
*Alberta/B.C Coal Mining*, 1951  
 92 Silver Gelatin Prints  
 8 x 10 inches (20.3 x 25.4 cm)

**William Johnstone** (donation made by Don Jaeger)  
*Lake Kinney*, Date 1915?  
 Watercolour on Paper, 35 x 46 cm

**Mark Mullin** (artist donation)  
*Absorption Rates II*, 2007  
 Oil and Acrylic on Canvas  
 72" x 72" (182.9 cm x 182.9 cm)



## Programs

### Art for Lunch

AGA staff and special guest speakers led this series of casual and informative discussions about current exhibitions. Art for Lunch talks are free to the public and take place from 12:10-12:50 pm on the last Thursday of every month.

In 2010, more than 800 people attended the following Art for Lunch talks:

Thursday, February 18  
*Images of War: Goya and the birth of the Modern Political Cartoon*

Thursday, March 18  
*Degas: Sculptures in Motion*

Thursday, April 15  
*Karsh: Iconic Portraits*

Thursday, May 20  
*The Innovative Techniques and Materials of Edgar Degas*

Thursday, June 17  
*The Alberta Scene: Who's Afraid of Contemporary Art?*

Thursday, July 15  
*Piranesi's Labyrinths: Voids, Utopias and "Other Spaces"*

Thursday, August 19  
*M. C. Escher: The Mathemagician and the Mobius Strip*

Thursday, September 16  
*Conversation with Artist: Jonathan Kaiser*

Thursday, October 21  
*Surveying the Canadian Landscape: From the Group of Seven's Gaze to Burtynsky's Aerial Views*

Thursday, November 18  
*Tracing the Lyrical Lines of Matisse*

Thursday, December 16  
*Symbolist Aesthetics: Suggestion, Mystery, Dream*



### Lectures Panels & Artist Talks

These events bring leading international scholars, thinkers and artists to the AGA to engage with Members and the general public about current AGA exhibitions in a casual and informal atmosphere.

More than 2,000 people attended the following programs in 2010:

Thursday, January 28, 7 pm  
**The Cardiff/Miller Lecture**  
Co-presented with the University of Alberta, this lecture featured the renowned Canadian artists behind the AGA exhibitions *The Murder of Crows* and *Storm Room*.

Wednesday, February 24, 7 pm  
**The Degas Lecture: Ann Dumas**  
Renowned scholar and curator examines the role of sculpture in Degas' work. Presented in conjunction with the AGA exhibition *EDGAR DEGAS: Figures in Motion*.

Wednesday, March 17, 7 pm  
**The Goya Lecture: Janis Tomlinson**  
Professor Janis Tomlinson's lecture on the evolution of Goya's paintings of war and atrocities, as seen in the exhibition *Francisco Goya: The Disasters of War and Los Caprichos*.

Thursday, April 29, 7 pm  
**One Night of Dreaming**  
This evening brought together author Stella Calahasen, Dr. Phyllis Marie Jensen, Dr. Jane E. Brindley and Dr. Melinda Pinfold to discuss and debate shared ideas and diverse experiences from their various backgrounds.

Wednesday, May 5, 7 pm  
**The Karsh Lecture: David Travis**  
David Travis' in-depth look at the work of Canadian photographer Yousuf Karsh, this lecture was presented to compliment the exhibition *Karsh: Image Maker*.

Friday, May 28, 6:30 pm  
**Richard Rhodes on TIMELAND: 2010 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art**  
Curator's Introduction to the AGA exhibition *TIMELAND: 2010 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art*.

Thursday, June 10, 5:30 pm  
**Sandra Bromley Conversation with the Artist**  
Informal conversation with the RBC New Works artist in conjunction with the exhibition *SANDRA BROMELY: Fire*.

Friday, June 25, 6:30 pm  
**Catherine Crowston on M.C. ESCHER: The Mathemagician**  
Curators introduction for the exhibition *M.C. ESCHER: The Mathemagician*.

Tuesday, June 29 7 pm  
**TIMELAND: Panel & Party**  
Panel discussion and celebration of the opening of *TIMELAND: 2010 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art*. Panelists: Candice Hopkins, Andrew Hunter, Robert Enright (moderator), Richard Rhodes, Nancy Tousley

Thursday, July 8, 7 pm  
**The AGA Presents: Gary Panter, Special Artist Lecture**  
In conjunction with the exhibition *The Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons*, the AGA presented this artist talk with Emmy award-winning illustrator / cartoonist Gary Panter.

Friday, September 10, 7 pm  
**The Warner Bros. Cartoon Film Night with Gene Walz**  
Screening of classic Warner Bros. animation and talk hosted by Gene Walz, animation historian and Professor of Film Studies at the University of Manitoba.

Saturday, September 18, 2 pm  
**The AGA Presents: Edward Burtynsky, Special Artist Lecture**  
Presented with the opening of the AGA exhibition *EDWARD BURTYNSKY: OIL*

Wednesday, October 6, 7pm  
**The Tom Thomson Lecture: Sherril E. Grace**  
Professor of English at the University of British Columbia, Sherril E. Grace spoke in conjunction with the AGA exhibition *Reframing a Nation*.

Friday, October 29, 5 pm  
**Conversation with the Artist: Laura St. Pierre**  
Informal conversation with the RBC New Works artist in conjunction with the exhibition *LAURA ST. PIERRE: Urban Vernacular*

Friday, October 29, 6 pm  
**Jay M. Fisher on HENRI MATISSE: A Celebration of Light and Line**  
Curator's Introduction by Deputy Director of Curatorial Affairs at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Jay M. Fisher.

Wednesday, November 10, 7 pm  
**The Matisse Lecture: Stephanie D'Alessandro**  
Presented in conjunction with the AGA exhibition *HENRI MATISSE: A Celebration of Light and Line*, this lecture was given by Art Institute of Chicago curator, Stephanie D'Alessandro.

Wednesday, December 1, 7 pm  
**The Munch Lecture: Elizabeth Prelinger**  
This Lecture was presented in conjunction with the exhibition. *The Symbolist Muse: A Collection of Prints from the National Gallery of Canada*.

## Courses

Nearly 300 people attended the following nine programs in 2010:

Tuesday, March 9, 6 pm  
Art-in-Context: Image, Power and Identity: The Portrait Photographs of Yousuf Karsh  
Art history class based on the exhibition *Karsh: Image Maker*

Tuesday, March 23, 6 pm  
Art-in-Context: Inside the Art of Edgar Degas  
Art history class based on the exhibition *EDGAR DEGAS: Figures in Motion*

Wednesday, April 7, 14, 21, 6:30-8 pm  
Contemporary Art 101  
Course explaining the basic ideas and histories behind artistic practice today.

Tuesday, May 4, 6 pm  
Art-in-Context: The Murder of Crows and Storm Room  
Art history class based on the work of Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller.

Tuesday, May 18, 6 pm  
Art-in-Context: Francisco Goya: Ushering in Romanticism  
Art history class based on the exhibition *Francisco Goya: Disasters of War and Los Caprichos*

Tuesday, June 22, 6 pm  
Art-in-Context: The Visual Culture of Incarceration  
Art History class based on the exhibition *PIRANESI'S PRISONS: Architecture of Mystery and Imagination*

Tuesday, September 14, 6 pm  
Art-in-Context: Contentious Images: Canadian Visual Identity in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries  
Art history class based on the exhibition *Reframing a Nation* Absolute Magnitude Workshop.

## Films

More than 900 people attended or participated in the following programs:

Friday, February 26, 7 pm  
Karsh is History  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *Karsh: Image Maker*.

Friday, March 12, 7 pm  
Goya's Ghosts  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *Francisco Goya: The Disasters of War and Los Caprichos*

Friday, March 26, 7 pm  
The Red Shoes  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *EDGAR DEGAS: Figures in Motion*

Tuesday, July 6, 7 pm  
The Golden Age of Looney Tunes  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *The Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons*

Wednesday, July 7, 7 pm  
Best of Bugs Bunny and Best of Daffy & Porky  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *The Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons*

Friday, July 9, 7 pm  
Road Runner versus Wile E. Coyote  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *The Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons*

Friday, July 23, 7 pm  
Achieving the Unachievable  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *M. C. ESCHER: The Mathemagician*

Friday, August 13, 7 pm  
American Splendor  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *The Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons*

Friday, October 1, 7 pm  
Edward Burtynsky: Manufactured Landscapes  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *EDWARD BURTYNSKY: OIL*

Friday, October 15, 7 pm  
Petropolis  
Held in conjunction with the exhibition *EDWARD BURTYNSKY: OIL*

## Public Tours

More than 5000 people attended a public tour in 2010.

The AGA was proud to partner with the following organizations to support original programming in 2010; M.A.D.E in Edmonton, the Alberta Ballet and the Creative Age Festival.

## Community Connections

### Gallery Walk Association of Edmonton

The AGA continued its involvement in Gallery Walk in 2010. Participants received free admission to the AGA upon presentation of a 'Passport to Art', on which they collected stamps from different galleries along the Walk.

### Global Visions Film Festival at the AGA

The AGA and Global Visions Film Festival partnered for a program on November 13 entitled ENERGY. Presented in conjunction with the exhibition *EDWARD BURTYNSKY: OIL*, films shown were selected through a call for

## Singhmar Centre for Art Education

Education programs at the AGA take place in the Singhmar Centre for Art Education. Made possible by a generous and visionary donation by Edmonton's Prem and Saroj Singhmar, the Centre features three state-of-the-art studios, which provide the opportunity for students of all ages to engage with a variety of art education programs. The Centre also houses the TD Education Gallery, where work by community groups, schools and AGA art class students is presented.

AGA Education programs include school programs, family activities, camps and art classes for children, youth, adults and those with special needs. Each program offers a unique access point to the AGA and to current exhibitions. Education Programs works hand-in-hand with Interpretive Programs to create experiences that connect participants to art in all of its forms in a variety of interesting and meaningful ways.

### AGA Art Education:

- Provides a point of entry to the AGA and current exhibitions that is engaging and accessible for people of all ages with a variety of backgrounds and experiences.
- Provides high quality, unique programming experiences that allow patrons to connect and learn about art and exhibitions through gallery explorations and studio projects.
- Strengthens visual literacy skills through both the conceptual and technical side of art and the art-making process.
- Strengthens the communication and understanding of messaging from exhibition interpretive programming.
- Provides leadership in art education in the community through various initiatives and partnerships.
- Supports the goals of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework through programming that builds and strengthens innovation skills and information literacy skills.

## School and Teacher Programs

AGA School and Teacher Programs build bridges between viewers and artwork, strengthening the connection of art to life. Through interactive explorations of exhibitions, an array of studio opportunities, dynamic full-day programs and a variety of professional development opportunities for teachers, AGA Education Programs connect art, ideas and schools.

### 2010 Highlights:

- New program connections to Alberta Education's Programs of Study including science, social studies and language arts
- Introduction of French Programming for French Second Language, French Immersion and Francophone groups
- Specialized programming for early childhood groups
- New online resources and lesson plans for Teachers
- New unique Teacher PD opportunities

In 2010, the AGA hosted 14,546 students in 617 school programs.

School programs at the AGA are generously supported by Imperial Oil Foundation.



## Family Programs

The AGA offers a variety of programs for kids and families to make connections with the art at the AGA. Family Programs provide a fun and accessible way to experience current gallery exhibitions through hands-on art making and in-gallery explorations.



### All Day Sunday

All Day Sundays are family programs that take place on the last Sunday of each month. All Days Sundays offer families the opportunity to spend an afternoon exploring art at the AGA as a group, with new programs planned for each month. Activities and projects are scheduled throughout the day and are themed around current exhibitions.

In 2010, the AGA presented the following All Day Sundays:

February 14 My Vintage Valentine	August 8 Through the Looking Glass
March 14 Fame and Fortune at the AGA	September 12 AGA Animated Sunday: The Sequel
April 11 DEGAS in Motion	October 10 Imaginary Worlds
May 9 Make Some Noise!	November 14 Matisse and more!
June 13 Time for Land	December 12 Winter Wonderland
July 11 Animated AGA	

### Tours for Tots

Tours for Tots is a new program for 2010, offered once weekly. Tours for Tots provides opportunities for families with young children to explore exhibitions through play activities, movement and hands-on art-making. With a new theme each week, the Tours for Tots program engages both parents and children aged 3-5 with art in an exploratory manner. Each week focuses on developing skills related to early literacy, numeracy and creative development.

In 2010, the AGA hosted more than 350 participants in this new program.



### Let's Explore Art Family Booklet

In 2010 the AGA introduced the Let's Explore Art! family-focused booklet. This in-gallery resource is an interactive booklet that allows families to discover the art and architecture of the AGA together. Visitors are encouraged to search, move, play and share throughout the Gallery, and they can continue the experience at home by visiting the AGA online to find project ideas for 'At Home'.

### Birthday Parties

AGA Birthday Parties are fun-filled studio explorations for children aged four years and up. Birthday Parties include a Gallery visit and interactive studio project led by Gallery Educators.

In 2010, the AGA hosted 90 birthday parties with more than 700 participants.

## Art Classes and Camps

### Saturday Art Classes

Saturday Art Classes teach students new techniques and skills as they draw inspiration from original artworks. Art Classes are led by professional artists and art educators. These classes provide an opportunity for students to experiment, take chances and participate in an open dialogue about art in a fun and low-pressure environment.

In 2010, the AGA hosted more than students in Saturday Art Classes.

### ArtBreak Camps

ArtBreak Camps at the AGA are offered throughout the spring, summer and winter breaks. Each camp includes theme-related excursions, exhibition explorations and a variety of studio projects that allow students to explore their creativity. 2010 Summer ArtBreak Camps included Zoo Camp, Green Camp, Imaginary Architecture Camp, Cartoon Camp, Horse Camp and Art Adventure Camp.

300 students participated in ArtBreak Camps in 2010.

### Studio Y Youth Workshops

Studio Y is a new weekly program designed especially for youth aged 13-17. These workshops allow teens and young adults to explore their own style while learning about art fundamentals and contemporary art-making techniques through projects and activities.

300 youth participated in Studio Y Workshops In 2010.

### Adult Registered Classes

Adult Registered Classes range from art history and theory courses to hands-on art-making opportunities. All adult programs are designed to connect viewers to artwork in meaningful ways and aim to provide educational opportunities for a wide range of audiences.

In 2010, the AGA offered the following classes, which were attended by nearly 100 participants:

Drawing with Degas  
February 23- April 6

Karsh's Studio: Working with Light and Photography  
April 13-May 25

Memory Land: Landscape Painting  
June 1- July 6

Absolute Magnitude  
Saturday, July 10

Landscape Photography  
September 21-October 19

Matisse's Studio Workshop: Draw, Print, Paint  
November 9-December 14

### Art Express Studio Art Classes

Art Express and similar community programs, such as the Cerebral Palsy Art Expressions Program, offer hands-on studio art-making opportunities for adults with developmental or physical challenges.

Class sessions take place in seven-week intervals throughout the year and involve drawing, printmaking, painting, sculpture and mixed media art. Funded in part by Edmonton Community Adult Learning Association and partnered with the Winnifred Stewart Association, Art Express classes offer projects that are inspired by current exhibitions and focus on students expressing their creativity.

In 2010, 250 people attended Art Express Studio Classes.

*Sponsored by Edmonton Community Adult Learning Association (ECALA)*

## Special Events

### Art on the Block

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual Art on the Block silent auction took place at the Art Gallery of Alberta on Wednesday, May 12, 2010 and raised approximately \$120,000. More than 500 people attended the cocktail party and participated in the art auction supporting the Gallery's exhibitions and educational programming.

We thank the following individuals and companies for their donations to Art on the Block 2010. Please join us in supporting these businesses in the year to come through your patronage.

**Presenting Sponsor**  
Zinc Restaurant & Zinc Catering

**Hospitality Sponsor**  
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**Art on the Block Committee**  
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**Art Inspired Sponsors**  
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Brian Webb Dance Company  
Edmonton Opera  
Edmonton Symphony Orchestra  
The Artworks  
The Bothy Wine & Whiskey Bar  
The Fairmont Hotel Macdonald



### Refinery

In 2010, the AGA introduced Refinery, a series of late-night art parties themed around current exhibitions. Guests enjoy the exhibitions, performances, art projects, music and a party atmosphere that takes over the AGA. Each night includes a mix of local artists and arts organizations contributing their talents to the evening's programming.

Featured artists and arts organizations from 2010 Refinery parties include:

Alberta Ballet's Jennifer Faulkner, Citie Ballet's Francois Chevennement, Josh Holinaty, Sarah Jackson, Stephanie Lilley, MILE ZERO Dance, Trevor Anderson & Aaron Munson, Rapidfire Theatre's Amy Shostak & Arlen Konopaki, Adolfo Ruiz and Gabe Wong.

Saturday, February 6, 2010  
Themed around the exhibition *EDGAR DEGAS: Figure in Motion*

Saturday, July 10, 2010  
Themed around the exhibition *The Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons*

Saturday, November 20, 2010  
Themed around the exhibition *EDWARD BURTYNSKY: OIL*

A total of 1,700 people attended the Refinery series in 2010.



## Zinc and Zinc Catering

Zinc Restaurant at the Art Gallery of Alberta offers a relaxed fine dining experience focused on fresh Alberta ingredients and local artisan food products with a seasonally changing menu inspired by featured AGA exhibitions. Zinc was named one of the Best New Restaurants of 2010 by Where Magazine.

Catering at the Art Gallery of Alberta is provided by Zinc Catering. In 2010, 367 private and corporate events took place at the AGA including wedding receptions, corporate holiday parties, fashion shows, Pride ceremonies and memorial services.



## Art Rental and Sales Gallery

The Art Rental and Sales Gallery benefited from increased traffic in the new AGA and finished 2010 with a boost in year-over-year revenues. The Art Rental and Sales Gallery is committed to supporting local and regional artists, and currently offers 1,300 works in all media and sizes, ranging in subject matter from traditional landscape to contemporary abstraction.

For over fifty years, the Art Rental and Sales Gallery has been a bridge linking artists and the public through our innovative service. By offering clients an economical way to enjoy original artwork in their homes and/or workplaces, the Art Rental and Sales Gallery increases public awareness of Alberta's vibrant artistic community.



## Shop AGA

Shop AGA opened its doors with the new Gallery in early 2010. Combining one-of-a-kind pieces from Canadian and international artisans including sleek jewellery and eclectic gadgets, and a diverse selection of art publications, Shop AGA is a destination for creative shoppers.

We thank our patrons for their support in making 2010 a very successful inaugural year.



## Membership

The number of AGA Members increased to almost 5,300 at the end of 2010 compared to 1,600 the year before – a growth of 700%. Growing membership is integral in helping the AGA to provide a wide range of exhibitions, education and public programs each year. Members receive numerous benefits including unlimited free admission, exclusive event invitations, discounts on classes and programs and at Shop AGA and Zinc.

The AGA offers a variety of membership categories in an effort to meet the needs of a wide range of Albertans. In 2010, we expanded these to include the Ultra Membership for Individuals or Couples.

The AGA has seven membership categories:  
Family, Adult, Senior, Student, Ultra, Curator's Circle and Corporate Members

To learn more about AGA Membership visit [youraga.ca](http://youraga.ca).







# Volunteers

The AGA is grateful to all of our generous volunteers—the success of our programs and special events could not be achieved without you. Thank you to all of you!

Albert Hong  
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As of December 2010



**asa**

art gallery of alberta

Report to the Community 2010