

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Oshawa, Ontario – September 20, 2016
The Robert McLaughlin Gallery presents *Jay Dart: Greetings from Yawnder!*

Greetings from Yawnder!

Curated by Sonya Jones

October 8, 2016 – January 15, 2017

This fall, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery (RMG) is pleased to present *Jay Dart: Greetings from Yawnder!*

Jay Dart has created fictional worlds known as Yawnder and Elsewheres in order to explain his creative process. The main character, referred to by Dart as his alter ego, Jiggs, is on a journey to discover an original idea. Each of his illustrations contributes to the evolving narrative about the mystical nature of inspiration, the search for innovative creation, and the dissemination of ideas.

As the subjects of his work wander through the horizonless expanse of the blank page, they encounter a whimsical wilderness complete with allegorical characters and elements such as Magical Mystery Beards, Foredad Clouds, and Geist Trees. The term geist, defined as the spirit of an individual, is used to describe the colourful swatches that appear throughout his drawings, representing the spirit of an individual's ideas.

Greetings from Yawnder! will bring Dart's world to life. Each illustration will recount a different layer to the story, inviting the viewer to help Jiggs on his journey. There will be installations of geist trees, jars with Magical Mystery Beards, and twig libraries, bringing Yawnder beyond the pages and into the gallery space. Visitors will be asked to participate in the creation and dissemination of ideas. With activity stations throughout the gallery space, this participatory exhibition will have the visitor contributing to both the story and the creative process.

Greetings from Yawnder! is curated by Sonya Jones.

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THE ROBERT McLAUGHLIN GALLERY

72 Queen Street, Civic Centre, Oshawa, Ontario L1H 3Z3

905-576-3000 communications@rmg.on.ca | www.rmg.on.ca

Connect with us! twitter.com/theRMG | facebook.com/theRMG | instagram.com/RMGOshawa

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Directions: From Toronto, 401 E to Oshawa, exit Simcoe St, North to Bagot St. Turn left at Bagot, 2 blocks to Gallery.

Gallery Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Thursday: 10:00 am - 9:00 pm Saturday & Sunday: 12 noon - 4:00 pm. Admission by donation. Parking available. Accessible location.

Jay Dart: Greetings from Yawnder!

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Exhibition Dates

October 8, 2016 – January 15, 2017

About the Exhibition

Jay Dart has created fictional worlds known as Yawnder and Elsewheres in order to explain his creative process. The main character, referred to by Dart as his alter ego, Jiggs, is on a journey to discover an original idea. Each of his illustrations contributes to the evolving narrative about the mystical nature of inspiration, the search for innovative creation, and the dissemination of ideas.

Dart also uses allegories to toy with current challenges (and opportunities) facing contemporary artists and creators: new technologies such as cloud computing, social networking, and the global community of the internet. As an artist, Dart sees the experience of inspiration as a private process with the internal ingestion of external influences taking place, and new ideas taking shape. The world Dart has created allows him to communicate his own challenges and exploits as a visual artist, as well as connect with the universal experiences of all creators.

As the subjects of his work wander through the horizonless expanse of the blank page, they encounter a whimsical wilderness complete with allegorical characters and elements such as Magical Mystery Beards, Foredad Clouds, and Geist Trees. The term geist, defined as the spirit of an individual, is used to describe the colourful swatches that appear throughout his drawings, representing the spirit of an individual's ideas.

Jiggs, the main character, finds a source of geists in the lights in the sky over Yawnder. These lights are a source of inspiration not only for Jiggs, but for all those who wander over Yawnder. When he procures a geist, by building himself a very tall ladder in order to fish them out of the sky, Jiggs proclaims his first invention: the Magical Mystery Beard. Soon enough, other wanderers happen upon this source of inspiration and he finds out his invention was not so inventive after all, forcing him to dig deeper to create something unique.

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About the Collection

The RMG's collection consists of over 4500 works of art, acquired either by purchase or gift. About 60 of these works are on view at any one time in the Permanent Collection galleries. Works are also loaned to other institutions locally, nationally and internationally. The RMG collects historical, modern and contemporary Canadian art, and holds Canada's largest collection of works by Painters Eleven. The RMG also has a growing collection of Public Art.

Events and Programming:

[RMG Fridays: Greetings from Yawnder!](#)

October 7, 2016 from 7-10pm

We're opening *Jay Dart: Greetings from Yawnder!* with all things mystical and magical, including performances from The Unfaithful Dog and Kim the Lion. Get a taste of Canadian with a knock out musical performance. Make your own Magical Mystery Beard in the studio to wear during the evening. We are also opening Emily Smit-Dicks: Fichu in Gallery A and Karolina Baker: Do You Hear What I Hear? Investigating Sonic Art in the Art Lab. Our community partner, Visual Feast, will be creating magical face paintings.

Free to attend | 7-10pm | Cash Bar | All ages welcome.
Follow the twitter feed at #RMGFridays!

[Artist Talk](#)

November 16, 2016 from 1-3pm

Credit Line

Organized by The Robert McLaughlin Gallery.

Please note the credit line must be used on all published materials.

For all press inquiries, please contact:

Amy Breedon – Manager of Marketing and Communications
abreedon@rmg.on.ca | 905-576-3000 x109

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Contact Sheet

Please note that all images must be accompanied by complete credits



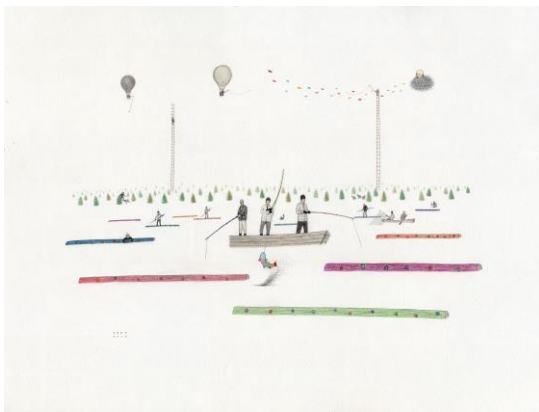
Jay Dart, *BeforeYeKnowit*, 2015, drawing; courtesy of the artist.



Jay Dart, *Geist Tree Loggers*, Stump Portrait, 2014, drawing; courtesy of the artist.



Jay Dart, Now Entering Beyawnder,
2015, drawing; courtesy of the artist.



Jay Dart, the Main Stream, 2015,
drawing; courtesy of the artist.

For all press inquiries and high resolution images, please contact:

Amy Breedon – Manager of Marketing & Communications

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