

**Art Gallery of Ontario
Annual Report
2023 – 2024**

Highlights of the Year

April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024

Determined to rebuild and reconnect with our audience following the challenging pandemic years, the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) committed to a diverse and vibrant lineup of exhibitions and programs in 2023-24. This year, the museum welcomed 871,152 visitors – the 5th highest in the AGO's 124-year history. This achievement is a testament to the unwavering support and enthusiasm of our visitors, along with our private, public, and government partners.

The AGO curated a range of diverse exhibitions and collection presentations for the public. These exhibitions highlighted a broad range of artistic expressions, spanning various genres, times, and cultural perspectives. Visitors had the opportunity to explore artworks from local Canadian talents such as Leonard Cohen and as well as renowned international artists such as KAWS and Keith Haring, ensuring an educational and enriching experience for all who walked through the gallery.

At the outset of 2023, our strong lineup of exhibitions on view included:

Wolfgang Tillmans: To look without fear (April 7 – October 1, 2023) – a major retrospective of this artist, shown for the first time in Canada, featuring photography ranging from intimate observations to incisive commentary on the shape of our world today.

Sarindar Dhaliwal: When I grow up I want to be a namer of paint colours (July 22, 2023 – July 14, 2024) exhibits more than 40 years of artmaking by the South Asian Canadian artist. Characterized by intense colour and compelling imagery, Dhaliwal's art investigates memory, identity and migration.

KAWS: FAMILY (September 30, 2023 – August 5, 2024) is the artist's Canadian museum debut and features more than 75 artworks that reveal the artist's meticulous methods, creative process and range –blurring the boundaries between populist and elite art, bringing mass media imagery into traditional art spaces.

Building Icons: Arnold Newman's Magazine World (October 21, 2023 – January 21, 2024) presented the life and creative career of the acclaimed American photographer and highlighted his well-known portraits of artists such as Georgia

O'Keeffe, Henry Moore, and Pablo Picasso alongside many renowned composers, actors, political figures of the post WW II era.

Keith Haring: Art is for Everybody (November 11, 2023 – March 17, 2024) was organized by the The Broad, Los Angeles and making the only Canadian stop at the AGO – offered audiences a special opportunity to experience the artist's vast output through more than 120 artworks and archival materials on view.

Life Between Islands: Caribbean-British Art 1950s – Now (December 9, 2023 – March 31, 2024) examined the relationship between the Caribbean and Britain and reconsiders British art history in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries from a Caribbean perspective.

Complimentary to our major exhibition programs, a broad range of small and mid-sized exhibitions were on view for our visitors.

Her Space: Works from the Canadian Collection (April 1, 2023 – Summer 2024) featured works spanning nearly a century of representing the interior lives of women—at rest, at work, at play, or in a dream state. Created by women artists, the images depict subjects absorbed in thoughtful moments, each uniquely claiming her space.

Her Blood Spoke: Joscelyn Gardner, Kara Springer, Alberta Whittle (April 15 – October 29, 2023) presented 16 artworks by three artists of Barbadian descent, reflecting on contemporary and historical experiences with Black maternal health and bodily autonomy. As access to reproductive healthcare remains precarious globally, this installation offered a consideration of the ways in which Black women's bodies have long been sites of conflict.

Feels Like Home (May 6, 2023 – Summer 2024) includes works produced by the creative agency Sunday School, who invited audiences to consider contemporary conversations around the notion of home. Together with artists from across Africa and the diaspora, Sunday School strived to share diverse stories and perspectives that reflected their collaborative ethos.

Rosalie Favell: Portraits of Desire (June 24, 2023 – April 21, 2024) presented more than four decades of work by photo-based artist Rosalie Favell who explored questions of Métis identity, Indigenous futures and same-sex desire.

Let's go Quickstop (June 17, 2023 to Summer 2024) included works where artist Tarralik Duffy dreamed of a world where Inuktitut was the default language. In her drawings and sculptural works, she referenced objects from her own childhood that are iconic in Nunavut and embedded in Inuit contemporary culture.

Re-Mixing African Photography: Kelani Abass, Mallory Lowe Mpoka and Abraham Oghobase (June 30, 2023 – January 7, 2024) explored photographic histories in West and Central Africa—specifically studio portraiture—three contemporary African artists reimagined these traditions through a range of introspective, experimental, and critical approaches.

Cities in Flux (August 12 – December 3, 2023) this exhibition crisscrossed the globe from Chicago to Tokyo via Prague and Mumbai, with a stopover in Toronto, featuring a wide-ranging exploration of the city told through a selection of 100 photographs from the AGO Collection.

Defaced! Money, Conflict, Protest (November 11, 2023 – December 1, 2024) For more than two centuries, artists and individuals alike have taken out their discontent with governments on that money – punching it, scratching it, overprinting and even digitally manipulating it. In this inventive exhibition, historical examples of defaced coins and banknotes are exhibited alongside contemporary art works. From laboriously scratched pennies to re-imagined dollar bills, *Defaced! Money, Conflict, Protest* tells the stories behind the damage, from the French Revolution to the Troubles in Northern Ireland to the Black Lives Matter movement. This exhibit is organized by the AGO in collaboration with the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, U.K

Casa Susanna (December 23, 23 – April 14, 2024) From the mid-1950s to the late 1960s, a network of crossdressers found refuge in the Catskills region of New York State. Susanna with her wife Marie created safe spaces at two modest resorts for guests to freely crossdress en femme at a time of strictly defined gender roles. Guests used photography to build their femme identities and their network.

The AGO's Travelling Exhibition program has enjoyed another wonderful year – with projects being shown around the globe, as well as right here in Canada.

Anthropocene was presented at Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts (Taiwan) from August 12 to December 3, 2023 – making this the first time an AGO project has been presented in Asia.

Diane Arbus was presented at its third and final tour venue at Contemporary Calgary (Calgary) from May 11 – September 17, 2023

Robert Houle: Red is Beautiful opened May 25, 2023 at Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, DC and will be on view until June 2024.

Denyse Thomasos: just beyond was presented at Remai Modern (April 15 – September 24, 2023) and Vancouver Art Gallery (November 10, 2023 to April 1, 2024).

The AGO collaborated with the Arles Photography Festival (France) on a bespoke presentation of the AGO's Casa Susanna Collection, between July 3 – Sept 24, 2023.

Fragments or Epic Memory opened October 6th 2023 at Portland Museum of Art (Portland Maine) – and closed January 4, 2024.

The AGO's Education and Programming team kicked off 2023/24 with a robust lineup of programming and events, marking a continuous and strong return to onsite activities. As the gallery transitioned back to more in-person engagements, we remained dedicated to delivering enriching and engaging experiences for our visitors and the people of Ontario.

The following highlights our annual public programs, showcasing the breadth and range of our initiatives throughout the year: onsite included programming for Studio Courses, Children's Camps, public programs for Families and Young Learners, Schools, Youth, Older Adults and artists. Our robust schedule of onsite events engaged audiences in Performances, Live Music, Openings for Exhibitions, Talks and Screenings as well as a new Friday Night Series.

The gallery also continued an active virtual schedule of education through our virtual school programs, select courses and workshops, including online programs for seniors.

Virtual School Programs (VSP)

Continuing into the 4th year of online programming for schools, the VSPs ran three times a day. We continued to build on our success of the past three years, with free sessions five days per week. VSPs broadcasted worldwide from the gallery in our virtual recording studio space on the concourse level.

Designed to complement the Ontario curriculum, VSPs were delivered Monday to Friday, free of charge for all participants. The goal of the program was to expand geographical, economic, and cultural access to students and teachers as we inspire the ongoing love of learning with the arts. Our Art Educators and special guest presenters led conversations on cross-disciplinary explorations inspired by the AGO Collection. Open to parents, teachers, and caregivers everywhere, sessions were offered three times a day, tailored to students in JK to Grade 3, Grades 4 to 6, and Grade 7 and beyond with uniquely age-appropriate discussions. Sessions were organized thematically and draw on artworks and objects from the AGO Collection, from partners, and feature discussion and mini activities.

AGO Virtual School Programs was excited to collaborate with cultural institutions to explore intersections in visual arts, music, architecture, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). Partners over this fiscal year included the Rooms in Newfoundland and Labrador, Calgary Opera, The Audain Art Museum, and the Canadian Centre for Architecture in the Spring 2023. In the school year of 2023/24 our partnerships included The J Paul Getty Museum, Parks Canada, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Ocean Wise, and Toronto Zoo.

Reimagined Concourse Level

The AGO has continued to activate our multiple concourse level spaces. Visitors on the concourse level can view a mural, make in the Community Gallery, do a wall puzzle, visit our Hands On Center and enjoy two murals. More details follow below:

Community Gallery: Futurescape (opened August 17, 2023)

Dream up your futurescape! Inspired by the colours of Tom Thomson's *The West Wind*, visitors were prompted to create a futuristic landscape together. Visitors were encouraged to get creative with the supplies provided to construct the world around us, dreaming up hopeful architecture, fantastical wildlife, and lush greenspace.

Mural

To Infinity and Beyond, by Yen Linh Thai. This mural work by an emerging artist based in Mississauga, Ontario, featured in our Inner Space video series. Linh's design was inspired by the flora, fauna, animals, and landscapes echoed in the AGO's collection of art. Accompanying the mural is a finder's aid linking illustrations to the artworks that inspired them located throughout the galleries. The project acts as a scavenger hunt for families. Thai has also provided a video sequence illustrating how the painting was made, a wonderful peek into a painter's practice.

Magnet Wall

Our magnet wall is filled with ship models! Dating from the late seventeenth to the mid twentieth century, the collection of ship models comes to life as a tactile wall puzzle upon the waters. Visitors were able to learn about a diversity of model styles and ship types and consider the ways in which people moved or were moved across great distances. This puzzle wall is placed adjacent to our stunning collection of ship model sculptures.

Hands-On Center

The Dr. Mariano Elia Hands-On Centre includes an imagination play space that has been reinvented as an imaginary forest. It features night-lights evoking starry nights, and a video loop of nocturnal animals alongside day-time foragers in Algonquin Park, with animal figurines peppered throughout the main space. The walls of the smaller night scene space are a magical silver that create possibilities, a backdrop for imagining while seated in a wooden canoe an ever-changing space both known and unknown.

The South / Zhaawanong, Chief Lady Bird. Robert Harding Hall (opened May 2023)

Using a bold array of colours, local artist Chief Lady Bird represents the connection of past and future by looking to the southern quadrant of the medicine wheel. In *The South | Zhaawanong*, the artist contemplates the work of her ancestors and crafts a future narrative that features healing at its centre. She pays homage to the Woodland artists that laid the groundwork in dismantling the taboos of painting sacred stories, making room for the contemporary Neo-Woodland artists of today. Chief Lady Bird (born 1993) is an Anishinaabe artist from Chippewas of Rama First

Nation, whose work focuses on the connection between land and body, Anishinaabe cosmologies, and the subversion of colonial narratives.

The gallery also continued with an onsite schedule for some of our long-standing programs.

Courses

Courses for adults, youth, children and families continued over the four seasons of the fiscal year. Both in the Gallery School and in the Galleries, our courses and workshops combine art making with art conversation in intimate virtual classroom settings, providing a fun way to meet new people, share ideas and learn new skills.

AGO Camps

Camps were onsite in 2023 for the first time since COVID closures. The AGO offered a robust schedule of daily camps for children aged 5-12 years old. Our one and two-week camps emphasize self-expression and allow young artists to discover and play while exploring the AGO's galleries and collections. Campers create amazing art projects with our artist-educators, focusing on both contemporary and traditional art-making practices, using a wide range of materials.

Art Carts

Art Carts were out on Saturdays and Sundays in Walker Court from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Visitors of all ages were invited to draw, sculpt, build, explore art through the senses and more, at any of our roving maker stations.

AGO X RBC Emerging Artists Program

In 2023, thanks to the generous support of RBC, the AGO presented a trio of programs designed to celebrate and support early career artists. The projects included three paid artist residencies, three paid research residencies and a series of free mentorship workshops.

Black Tie Soup Night by Lauren Prousky, January 23 – April 18, 2023

Mechanism by Eva Grant, April 19 – July 13, 2023

The Goldberg Variations by Clayton Lee, July 14 – October 7, 2023

Youth Programs

Youth programs continued onsite with various community partnerships, engaging both youth audiences and general audiences.

In April 2023, the AGO welcomed back our community partner, Oasis Skateboard Factory, which involved having high school students from the TDSB alternative school teach skateboarding-building workshops to our youth in a drop-in 6-week program. The AGO also hosted a Vogue Ball celebrating Pride in the Spring.

In June 2023, the national Inner Space Youth Advisory Group convened in Toronto for a screening and celebration of Season 2 of Inner Space.

Inner Space was a monthly web series co-curated by AGO staff and the AGO youth advisory, an online group of youth ages 16-25 from across Canada. Youth were invited to curate emerging artists from their communities to give personal tours of their studios. Giving a platform to youth curators, Inner Space aimed to make visible and legitimize a new generation of diverse Canadian artists, while creating authentic youth-led digital content for youth audiences.

In Fall 2023, the AGO created a new community partnership with Insomniac Film Festival, a local collective of emerging filmmakers (two members were part of past AGO Youth Councils). Insomniac Film Festival held 6 DIY film production and prop-making workshops for youth and created the AGO Halloween Youth Party. We also brought back our House Dancing workshops that populated the AGO with the House Dance Community.

Youth Meet and Greets were new initiatives in Fall 2023, allowing youth to quickly visit and learn about the AGO and all the resources available to them by the Youth Programs Curator.

Talks

Committed to leading global conversations from Ontario, the AGO hosted onsite talks with German photographer Wolfgang Tillmans on March 30, 2023, and hosted the Canadian launch of a new book by writer Christina Sharpe, who the New York Times describes as “The Woman Shaping a Generation of Black Thought” on April 5.

The Fall and Winter season continued with a focus on emerging and established artists, students, and authors. A robust suite of public programming – special talks and events, screenings, fun family programs, as well as great courses and workshops have been presented around a number of exhibitions including:

Ningiukulu Teevee: Chronicles for the Curious – a talk with Kinngait-based artist Ningiukulu Teevee in conversation with Taqralik Partridge, Associate Curator, Indigenous Art.

Feels Like Home – a public opening, an in-gallery performance, and a panel conversation with filmmaker Alicia K. Harris, writer and filmmaker Sharine Taylor and photographer O'shane Howard moderated by the AGO's Emilie Croning with Sunday School creative director Josef Adamu,

Jónsi, Hrafninn (Obsidian) – we hosted Icelandic artist Jónsi for a conversation about his work with New York-based art critic and curator Gregory Volk.

Cassatt–McNicoll: Impressionists Between Worlds – a keynote curator's talk and a panel discussion with art historians discussing their research on these pioneering women Impressionist painters.

AGO Friday Nights

The AGO continued to offer a wide range of public engagements for audiences to enjoy on Friday nights in 2023. The program aimed to be an entry point for new and returning audiences, as an invitation to experience the museum through programming, year-round, with a pause in July and August.

Examples of Friday Night Programs over 2023 include:

Art Making: Textile Sculptures

Pop Up art making Studios

Music Performances

Youth Events (Halloween Party)

Performances

In 2023, continuing AGO's commitment to working with living artist and offering opportunities to experience engaging cross-disciplinary programming we organized multiple large-scale special events.

April 12, 2023 – the AGO celebrated the *Wolfgang Tillmans: To Look Without Fear* exhibition public opening, with Toronto's DJ Nino Brown and TR/ST as well as Wolfgang Tillmans himself. The event included special lighting by Karl Skene as well as extended opening hours, the gallery was open until 11PM.

May 12, 2023 – Toronto's renown percussion ensemble TorQ, treated our audience in Walker Court to a special repertoire of international, original, and classic compositions.

May 26, 2023 – Friday Night Deluxe program saw an original performance commission in response to the exhibition *Feels Like Home*, inviting National Ballet of Canada's prima ballerina Tanya Howard to respond to the works on view to the sounds of Strings From Paris ensemble.

June 7, 2023 – the AGO celebrated Pride Month with a special one-night-only show by Canada's music popstar drag performer, Priyanka. Opening this special show was the extraordinary Yovska,,self-described Drag Plushie of the Underworld on June 9 for a sold-out concert.

October 18, 2023 – the AGO was pleased to host the closing reception for the ImagineNATIVE film Festival art crawl with an immersive performance in Walker Court.

November 8, 2023 – the AGO also programmed Lydia Etok and Nina Segalowitz to celebrate the Arctic and all those who call it home for International Inuit Day. Their throat singing performance was held in Walker Court, a joyful and competitive duet of who can outlast the other, with the goal being to get the other performer to laugh, fall out of rhythm, or lose their breath.

November 17, 2023 – to celebrate the inimitable New York artist Keith Haring's only Canadian stop of the retrospective *Keith Haring: Art is for Everybody* tour, the AGO partnered with local queer collective Yohomo to bring New York based DJ Lina Bradford to a huge cross-generational audience.

December 8, 2023 – celebrating the landmark exhibition *Life Between Islands: Carribean-British Art 1950-Now*, showcasing 70 years of art from and inspired by the Caribbean, the AGO invited the legendary British artists and DJ Jazzie B to help us mark the occasion.

Our robust onsite programming continued for families at the gallery for March Break 2023

March Break at the AGO

The gallery created a free AGO Kids guide for March Break 2023. The kid-friendly activity booklet outlined adventures to see and do inside the museum -- from art making challenges to a scavenger hunt and close-looking activities. From 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily between March 11 and 19, families enjoyed nine full days of art making and adventure! Kid-focused March Break programming included art making, daily family-friendly tours of AGO's Collection of Indigenous and Canadian Art, a drop-in film screening in Jackman Hall and ongoing maker stations throughout the Weston Family Learning Centre on the Concourse Level.

Access and Learning

On World Autism Day, Autism Ontario and the AGO invited visitors to join in "Celebrating the Spectrum". It marks an opportunity for positive action to provide spaces of support and advocacy for our diverse communities while learning about autism and how to make our communities better for people on the autism spectrum.

Yoga in the Gallery

Grounded in creativity and self-expression, yoga and the arts made the perfect pair. Participants unwound with a restorative morning yoga session, drawing inspiration from the art and architecture of the gallery. Led by certified yoga teacher Karmit Ifrah, these gentle Hatha yoga sessions promoted balance, strength, flexibility, and stillness in the mind.

Relaxed Visits

The AGO's Relaxed Visit times were intended to be sensitive to and welcoming of neurodiverse visitors, including visitors on the autism spectrum, those with sensory and communication disorders, people with learning disabilities, or those who simply wanted a more relaxed visit experience.

Relaxed Visit Times differed from other times at the AGO in several ways:

All expressions were welcome at the AGO, and visitors had the freedom to move, stim, and make noise while they explored the Gallery.

Visitors had advance access to a Visual Guide that detailed the AGO experience step by step to reduce anxiety, and a Sensory Map with detailed information about navigating the AGO.

Visitors had access to Sensory Kits that included noise-reducing headphones, a visual timer, visual cues, fidget toys, and sunglasses provided at our Multisensory Art Cart, which also offered sensory-based activities.

Seniors Social

Make new artistic connections and spark conversations! The AGO hosted our Seniors Social: an engaging monthly workshop series for older adults. Dive into meaningful conversations weaved with art exploration and creation. At the AGO, we believe that engaging with art and expressing creativity enhances well-being.

Stroller Tour

The AGO's Strolling the Galleries tours offered a cultural experience for infants, toddlers, and their parents or caregivers. These relaxed one-hour tours provided a chance for caregivers of little ones to socialize and learn about art. While caregivers or parents made connections between art and their own lives, children were mesmerized by the colors and shapes they saw all around them.

Art as Therapy Workshops

The AGO offered a guided sensory journey, inviting visitors to experience hand movements inspired by rhythm and music, translated through the playfulness of watercolors and other paints. The practice of Art Therapy existed on a continuum, and this workshop series explored Art-As-Therapy, a non-clinical model of building community and fostering well-being through artmaking. Participants were invited to play and get curious with different art materials. This workshop included opportunities for sensory exploration, self-expression, and personal reflection.

Art and Ideas: Making Her Mark

Inspired by the exhibition, *Making Her Mark: A History of Women's Art in Europe, 1400-1800*, the AGO welcomed art historians and creatives for a series of three in depth conversations.

Partnerships 2023

Many of the programs and events listed above for 2023 would not be possible without the support of the partner organization that the AGO work collaboratively with to bring programming to life and the gallery.

A select sample of partners for 2023 included:

Urban Indigenous Education Centre (For Indigenous Hip Hop Symposium)
Dancing with Parkinson's (Access Programming Partner)
Warehouse Jacks (Youth Programming Partner)
Concrete Warriors (Youth Programming Partner)
Insomniac Film Festival (Youth Programming Partner)
Penguin Random House Canada (Talks Program Partner)
YoHomo (Keith Haring Opening partner)
ImagineNative (Art Crawl celebration)
Black Owned Toronto (for hosted December Market in the Weston Family Learning Centre)
Urban Indigenous Education Centre & TDSB

Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity and inclusion were key strategic drivers at the AGO. The gallery developed and implemented initiatives addressing equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility for both staff and volunteers, as well as in programming. Discrimination was not tolerated at the AGO. The gallery created a strategy through an inclusive process to reflect this commitment. This year, the AGO advanced its journey of listening, learning, reflecting, and taking action to strengthen DEIA. DEIA learning was a key component in building staff awareness, understanding, and skills, and it was a priority in the AGO 2028 strategy to provide learning opportunities across the museum and within specific departments. Progress was made in connecting action plans to the overall strategy.

In addition to educational exhibitions and accessible programming, the AGO played an integral role in building a strong, healthy, and motivated society. The gallery offered community access programs to remove barriers preventing the public from visiting. Free general admission on Wednesday evenings had been an AGO tradition for over 40 years. The gallery expanded partnerships in the education, social, and health sectors to ensure it was a welcoming, safe, and engaging destination for all. The Community Access Program worked with local organizations to reach marginalized individuals, families, and groups, providing free visits and reinforcing the AGO as a resource for all Torontonians. In 2023, the gallery provided over 31,000 tickets to local organizations through this program.

With the introduction of the Annual Pass — \$35 for unlimited access and free for anyone 25 and under — the AGO became more affordable and accessible. The AGO's audience grew younger and more diverse, with 58% of visitors in their 30s or younger and 60% being visible minorities.

Dani Reiss Modern and Contemporary Gallery

Building a strong Ontario together, the AGO Dani Reiss Modern and Contemporary Gallery (DRMC) made tremendous progress in 2023 and it is on track for ground-breaking in 2024.

Thanks to a monumental lead gift of \$35 million from Dani Reiss, the AGO is launching an expansion project to significantly increase gallery space for its growing collection of modern and contemporary art. DRMC will increase the museum's gallery space by 40,000 square feet, with at least 13 new galleries across five floors -- increasing the AGO's total space available to display art by 30%.

The DRMC team is comprised of Diamond Schmitt, Selldorf Architects and Two Row Architect. Inside the new building, galleries of various scale and ceiling height will be united by their beautiful proportions and consistency of clean and durable finishes. Spaces will allow visitors to have intellectually and emotionally intimate experiences, and connect, convene, sit and relax. The new column-free galleries will be highly functional and highly flexible – dynamic enough to display the works of today's great modern and contemporary artists, and adaptable to the needs of future generations of artists working across all media. Galleries will be designed to adjust to the needs of the program – as large open spaces, or divided into a series of more intimate galleries. These spaces for displaying great art will be robust in

their structural capacity, making complex immersive installations easier to install and more accessible to the public.

Thanks to an investment of \$25 million from the Government of Canada, the project is being designed to operate without burning fossil fuel. The all-electric mechanical plant will use no operational carbon and create no emissions, while seeking CAGBC Zero Carbon Building certification -- making it one of a very small number of museum spaces to accomplish this. It will also be built to Passive House standards, with exceptional insulation for maximum heating and cooling efficiency.

From the exterior, the expansion will quietly complement the AGO's existing built environment, respecting the scale of the surrounding neighbourhood. An outdoor terrace will have deliberate connections between the interior and exterior of the building. This project will expand the museum to the east, and sit one story above the existing loading dock, nestled between the AGO and the Ontario College of Art and Design University. It will seamlessly connect to, and be accessed by, a number of galleries in the AGO's existing galleries from four locations, increasing visitor circulation.

This exciting expansion project will ensure long-lasting social and economic benefits, including: reinforcing Toronto's position as a global hub for cultural tourism, expanding access to art for both Torontonians and visitors, creating more opportunities for local and global partnerships, and sustaining engagement with a young and diverse audience.

KEY PERFORMANCE AND OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) members of the museum began labour action on March 26, 2024, and concluded on April 26, 2024 after the two parties successfully negotiated a new agreement
- Total attendance for the year – 871,152
- The AGO remain engaged with over 21,692 member households.
- The museum has a strong social media presence with over 646,712 combined followers on Instagram, Facebook, and X/Twitter.
- The AGO's Net Promoter Score (NPS) achieved a favourable score of 77
- The proportion of self-generated revenue was approximately 48%

Acquisition Highlights

April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

The AGO's acquisition activity focuses on strategically adding works of the highest artistic quality to continue strengthening our collection. In 2023-2024, 332 works* were added to the AGO's holdings, bringing each area of our collection to a higher level of excellence.

The following list highlights key acquisitions for each of our collecting areas: European, Arts of Global Africa & the Diaspora, Indigenous & Canadian, Modern & Contemporary, Photography, and Prints & Drawings:

European: 272 works were approved for accessioning:

- Amélie Legrand de Saint-Aubin. *Portrait of a young artist drawing in her sketchbook*, 1831. Oil on canvas, 81.8 × 65.7 cm. Purchase, with funds from the Gail and Terence Sheard Endowment Fund, 2023. 2023/51

Global Africa & the Diaspora: 20 works were approved for accessioning including:

- Myrlande Constant. *Union des Esprits Sirenes*, 2020. Sequin on fabric, 208.3 × 261.6 cm. Purchase, with funds from Friends of Global Africa & the Diaspora and the Ivey Foundation Contemporary Art Fund, 2023. 2023/45
- Sahara Longe. *Police Man*, 2023. Oil on linen, each of two panels: 240 × 200 cm. Purchase, with funds from Friends of Global Africa and the Diaspora, 2023. 2023/172
- Manuel Mathieu. *Lit étoilé*, 2022. Mixed media on canvas, 183 × 173 cm. Gift of the artist, 2023. 2023/176

Indigenous & Canadian: 243 works were approved for accessioning including:

- Rosalie Favell. *I awoke to find my spirit had returned*, 2018. Oil on linen, 121.9 × 121.9 cm. Purchase, with funds from the Indigenous and Canadian Committee, 2023. 2023/267
- David Ruben Piqtoukun. *Thar She Blows!*, 2021. Blue Whale rib bone, steel stands, 84" x 100" x 30". Gift of David Ruben Piqtoukun and Keum Ryun Lee, 2023. 2023/277
- Florence Carlyle. *Roses and Copper*, c.1916. Oil on canvas, 48.3 × 63.5 cm. Purchase, with funds from the Beryl Ivey Fund, 2023. 2023/49

Modern & Contemporary: 49 works were approved for accessioning including:

- Kapwani Kiwanga. *Glow #10*, 2020. Marble sahara noir, wood, LED lights, acrylic glass, 180 × 40 × 60 cm. Purchase, with funds from the David Yuile and Mary Elizabeth Hodgson Fund, 2023. 2023/24
- John McCracken. *Yellow Slab in Two Parts*, 1966. Polyester resin and fiberglass on plywood, 188 × 122 × 53 cm. Gift of Irwin & Myrna Gopnik, 2023. 2023/306
- Ai Weiwei. *Marble Plate*, 2010. Marble, 100 cm, 75 lb. Gift of Phil Lind, 2023. 2023/297
- Duane Linklater. *The state that I seek to name*, 2014. Fisher fur, garment rack, hanger, hand printed bag, coat, 208.3 × 152.4 × 50.8 cm. Gift of Beverly and Jack Creed, 2023. 2023/308

Photography: 101 works were approved for accessioning including:

- Graciela Iturbide. 48 gelatin silver prints, various dates and sizes. Purchase, with funds from the Photography Curatorial Committee, 2023
- Rafael Goldchain. 7 chromogenic prints from the series, *Nostalgia for an Unknown Land* and various prints, 1985 – 1989. Gift of Rafael Goldchain, 2023. 2023/278
- Erin Shirreff. 4 prints from the series *Still*, 2016. Pigment prints, 59.7 x 69.9 cm (each). Gift of Diana Billes in memory of David and Donna G. Billes, 2023. 2023/279 – 2023/282

Prints & Drawings: 17 works were approved for accessioning including:

- Baldassare Franceschini. *Horse Skeleton study*, 17th century. Red chalk with pen and brown ink on coloured paper, Sheet: 35.7 × 43.3 cm. Purchase, with funds from the Marvin Gelber Fund, 2023. 2023/113
- Njideka Akunyili Crosby. *"The Beautiful Ones" May Have Arrived*, 2023. 43 colour screenprint on paper, 92.7 × 116.8 cm. Purchase, with funds from The Marjorie & Gerald Bronfman Works on Paper Endowment Fund; and with funds by exchange from the Ann and Harry Malcolmson Richard Hamilton Donation, 2024. 2023/273
- Henry Moore. *The Artist's Sister, Mary*, 1926. Wash, pen and ink on paper, Sheet: 26.3 × 17.5 cm; Mat: 50.6 × 37.3 cm. Gift of Alan & Elizabeth Bell, in memory of Alistair Bell & B.C. Binning, 2023. 2023/100

*2 works were acquired cross-departmentally in 2023/2024