

NEWS RELEASE

The first 2009 Pop et Frye lecture goes *Beyond Words*

(Moncton, January 5, 2008) The first Pop et Frye lecture for 2009 will be held during the opening of the *Beyond Words* exhibit at the Louise et Reuben-Cohen art Gallery on the Université de Moncton campus, Wednesday January 14 from 5 to 7. The public is invited to hear renowned artist, George Fry, lecture on the work of 19 of New Brunswick's most accomplished artists around the theme of the book. Fellow artists Brigitte Clavette will offer a lecture in French. A reception will follow.

Sometime ago craftsman and writer George Fry began to make one-of-a-kind books. He then communicated his enthusiasm to friends and fellow artists and decided to gather painters and craftspeople together to further explore the theme. Each artist used his own genre to interpret the concept of "book." The exhibit is meant to be a profound exploration of what books mean to us, their role within our culture, our conscious, and subconscious selves.

As the catalyst for this exhibition, George Fry is a driving force and mentor in the NB arts community; his enthusiasm is truly contagious. His past roles as Director of Art Education for the Saint John School Board (1966-1976), Director of Craft Development for the Province of New Brunswick, and Director of the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design (1976-1993) have put George in a position where he could effectively influence young artists and nurture their development into the future. George Fry came to Canada in 1963, and since then has contributed to many art exhibits, locally, nationally and internationally. His talent has stretched across the dividing lines of art to include theatrical sets and costumes, masks, publications, and television performances.

Artists taking part in the project are: George Fry, Brigitte Clavette, Jim Boyd, Darren Byers, Fred Harrison, Kathy Hooper, Susan Vida Judah, Andrea Meeson, Alison Murphy, Peter Powning, Peter Thomas, Linda Brine, Toby Graser, Suzanne Hill, Sue Hooper, Elma McKay, Brian Meeson, John Murphy, and Karen Shackleton.

More information on the Beyond Words project can be found at www.beyondwordsexhibit.ca.

The Pop et Frye series will feature four lectures in total, leading up to the 10th annual Frye Festival, April 17-26, 2009, in Moncton.

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INFORMATION OR INTERVIEW

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