



**DESIGN HOPE  
TORONTO**

**2007**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

16 January 2007

**Design Hope Toronto – Meet the Artists, See the Art**

**What:** A chance to “pre-preview” paintings, sculpture and photography created by Toronto’s architects and designers, and to meet the creators.

**When:** Friday, 26 January 2007, 6-8 pm

**Where:** Philip Sung Design, 35 Camden Street

On the evening of Friday, 26 January, some of Toronto’s most talented designers, architects and visual artists will converge on Camden Street in the city’s entertainment and design district. They will be delivering their submissions to this year’s Design Hope Toronto event, an annual charitable auction that raises funds for Dixon Hall and its work to combat homelessness in Toronto.

What better occasion for a party? As the drop point for this year’s auction, Philip Sung Design is hosting a wine and cheese event, at which the artists will be able to meet and mingle, and discuss their work with members of the media.

Appropriately, the theme of the submissions is “shelter” – however the artists choose to define the concept – and DHT organizers expect a broad and thought-provoking range of work that explores the idea in all its artistic, social and philosophical implications.

Design Hope Toronto is a collaboration of members of Toronto’s creative community, a grassroots response to the ongoing problem of homelessness in the City. DHT’s principal event is an annual auction of visual arts produced by the city’s architects, designers and visual artists. In 2006, 19 pieces were auctioned, raising over \$5,000. All of the funds raised by DHT in 2006 – 100% of the money raised through the auction and subsequent corporate donations, totaling some \$7,400 – made its way to Dixon Hall.

This year’s Design Hope Toronto auction, conducted by William Kime of Waddington’s, takes place at 7 pm on 16 February 2007, at Gallery 1313 (1313A Queen Street West). The pre-sale preview is at Gallery 1313 between 14-16 February 2007.

For more information, contact Mary K. McIntyre at 416.528.0533, or [media@designhopetoronto.ca](mailto:media@designhopetoronto.ca).



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**Backgrounder: Design Hope Toronto 2006**

**Design Hope** began in 2002, when a group of Dundas, Ontario architects decided that if they could not literally build homes for the homeless, then they would do so symbolically. They created works of art inspired by the idea of “shelter” and then raffled them off, with the proceeds going to programs that help the homeless. Since its inception, Design Hope Hamilton has raised over \$130,000 for Hamilton’s “Out of the Cold” program.

Inspired by the Hamilton program, a group of Toronto designers decided to bring the Design Hope idea to the seat of provincial Government, and to ‘ground zero’ for homelessness in Ontario. In February 2006, the premiere Design Hope Toronto auction was held at Gallery 1313 in the West Queen West art and design district. MC’d by CityTV personality Nadine Hinds-Powell, the gala and art auction raised over \$7,400, well above the goal of \$5,000. The proceeds went to Dixon Hall’s Homeless, Hostels & Housing program.

Design Hope Toronto is continuing its association with Dixon Hall and its important work. Dixon Hall takes a holistic approach to combating homelessness, offering a variety of services that not only give immediate aid to those in need, but also provide people with the tools that will help build their confidence and allow them to take control of their own future.

Design Hope Toronto distributes its Call for Entry in print and on the Web throughout the design community. Commitments to submit are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis; this year, the deadline for submitting artwork falls on 26 January. The inaugural event in 2006 drew submissions from some of the most talented artists in the Toronto area, and 2007’s submissions promise to be even better.

This year’s Design Hope Toronto auction, conducted by William Kime of Waddington’s Auctioneers, will take place on Friday, 16 February 2007 at 7 pm, at Gallery 1313, 1313A Queen Street West.

Artwork will be on display at a pre-sale preview between 14–16 February 2007, at Gallery 1313.

For more information, contact Mary K. McIntyre at 416.528.0533, or [media@designhopetoronto.ca](mailto:media@designhopetoronto.ca).



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**A History of Design Hope**

Back in 2001, Vermeulen/Hind Architects of Dundas, Ontario took what was normally a family day dedicated to making gingerbread houses and decided to broaden the scope in order to raise funds for a worthwhile local initiative. The idea of building gingerbread houses to raise money for homeless people was developed and Design Hope was born.

They researched community agencies that assist individuals in need and decided on Hamilton Out of the Cold which Design Hope has now been supporting since its inception. Based on the tradition of making gingerbread houses during the holiday season, local artists and designers are approached and asked to donate an object in the “spirit of a gingerbread house.” The objects are then raffled off, and in the past 5 years, more than \$130,000 has been raised.

**Design Hope Toronto** aims to replicate this initiative, with the same mission and goals as the original Design Hope. We had our first event in February 2006 and along with being a lot of fun – great food, great conversation, great cause – it was a wonderful success. Unlike the original Design Hope, most of the art was auctioned with only a handful of pieces won by raffle. Our goal was \$5,000, and thanks to the generosity of our participants – both the artists and those doing the bidding – we ended up with almost \$8,000.

Instead of focusing on the idea of a gingerbread house, Design Hope Toronto opens up the art to include anything inspired by the idea of “housing” in general. We received a wonderful array of both literal and abstract interpretations based on this idea. Our next gala/auction is in February 2007 and will mostly follow the same guidelines as our first event, with hopefully even better results.

As with our inaugural event, all of the proceeds will go to Dixon Hall’s Homeless, Hostels & Housing program, which, among other things, includes support for the hundreds of volunteers operating the various “Out of the Cold” programs throughout Toronto.

For more information, contact Mary K. McIntyre at 416.528.0533, or [media@designhopetoronto.ca](mailto:media@designhopetoronto.ca).



**Dixon Hall** first opened its doors in the winter of 1929 as a soup kitchen during the Great Depression. The agency has changed a lot over the years. Today Dixon Hall does not give out soup, but its basic purpose remains the same. The goal of our programs and services is to help people make major changes and improvements in their lives and ultimately to make a better future for themselves. It stresses a 'hand up' rather than a 'hand out' approach.

The area that Dixon Hall predominantly serves is defined by Gerrard St. Lake Ontario, River Street and Sherbourne Street in Downtown East Toronto. Occasionally, this area is expanded on a program-by-program basis.

Most programs are targeted to residents of local public housing and transient homeless men & women. Regent Park - Canada's largest public housing complex - is a central focus for the agency and the needs of its 9,500 residents include: stable housing, meaningful employment, and activities that challenge and empower growth.

Dixon Hall is proud of its success in helping:

- high-risk youth find constructive activities as a positive alternative to the drug and gang culture;
- disadvantaged children grow and develop through the enriching experiences of our Homework Club, Summer Day Camp and Music School programs;
- people looking for work receive the training and skills they need to join the work force or begin their own businesses and achieve independence from government assistance;
- homeless women and men find temporary shelter and employment opportunities as they try to regain self-sufficiency;
- women who experience family violence find both emotional support and practical assistance;
- isolated seniors gain companionship and support, allowing them to stay in their own homes.



### **Waddington's – Canada's Auction House since 1850**

In business for over 150 years, Waddington's is a name you can trust. We have the people, the resources and the experience to meet your estate needs and collecting desires.

Waddington's employs over 30 full-time staff and a roster of specialists to support all aspects of the auction and appraisal business. The company's success has been based on the ability to adapt to the changing demands of the business and to continuously look for opportunities to expand our horizons. Whether conducting unique sales (such as the contents of Maple Leaf Gardens), specialty auctions and bi-annual internationally acclaimed fine art auctions, Waddington's remains "Canada's auction house".

Each year, thousands of items cross our auction floors in weekly estate auctions, monthly art auctions, specialty and Fine Art auctions. Our specialists are experts in over 30 categories - representing virtually everything you may collect or need to have appraised.

We conduct in excess of 80 varied auctions each year offering you the opportunity to buy or sell from a broad range of items, including Canadian, American and European Fine Art, 20<sup>th</sup> Century Decorative Arts, Ceramics, Glass, Silver, Jewellery, Inuit Art, Furniture and more.

#### *Our Strategy*

Waddington's combines old-fashioned service, cutting edge technology in communications, marketing, catalogue production, on-line services and accounting, and creative strategic thinking. Our strength is in our teamwork and collaborative approach to meeting our clients' needs. Our philosophy is to partner with external experts and create networks of knowledge to augment our own expertise. We are a forward-thinking organization, always looking for the next opportunity to achieve our mission.

#### *Community Service*

Waddington's works within the community, donating our time to charity fundraising events such as the Design Hope Toronto gala. We have worked with countless museums, galleries, art organizations and fund-raising events.

### **Design Hope Toronto Auctioneer – William Kime**

Bill Kime heads up the Decorative Arts department at Waddington's and is one of the company's senior auctioneers. He was educated in England, and joined Waddington's in 1975, following studies at Sotheby's (London) and at the Victoria & Albert Museum. Bill has over 30 years' experience and a wealth of accumulated knowledge in his field. A well-known face on CBC's **Canadian Antiques Roadshow**, Bill enjoys a reputation as one of North America's foremost experts in 19th and 20th century decorative arts.