

GALLERY GALERIE CONNEXION

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PRESS RELEASE – January 26, 2010

GALLERY CONNEXION ANNOUNCES ITS FIRST OPENING RECEPTION AT 440 YORK STREET ON FEBRUARY 11, 2010 WITH ARTIST JOSÉ LUIS TORRES.

The Board of Directors of Gallery Connexion are excited to invite the public to the first opening reception in the Chestnut Complex at 440 York Street! Please join us to celebrate the opening of a new community space in Fredericton and to unveil our inaugural exhibition by Argentinean/Quebec artist José Luis Torres on Thursday, February 11 at 5pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome. Torres returns to complete a gallery component of a residency he began in July of 2009 where he built an on-site installation behind the Charlotte Street Art Centre. Torres will see the gallery through the transition from 'homeless' to 'having a home'. Gallery Connexion has produced a catalogue for his residency titled *Nomadic Landscape: The Sculpture of José Luis Torres* with essays by Carol Collicutt and the artist.

In her essay Collicutt writes, "His constructions offer an interaction with place, and a reference to our relationship with landscape. They are architecture on a human scale, charged with our desire to belong and settle. They also address the nomadic condition and the varying environments experienced by a moving society. At once familiar and aloof, his sculptures contain ideas of movement, adaptability and identity. In a formal sense, they speak to the viewer about the present, the past, and the concept of emotional shift. They silently draw the visitor into a world that is dynamic and fraught with change, while at the same time providing a space for connection and reflection".

Since 2004 Torres has worked as the coordinating artist for the Ice Hotel in Quebec City. His studies in architecture and the visual arts allow him to design and realize the majority of the public spaces within the hotel and coordinate groups of sculptors. Each year Torres receives the plans for the hotel and along with the Artistic Director create a new and exciting structure to stretch the imaginations of the public and make for a memorable experience for those who visit. Torres has exhibited his work extensively across Canada and in Argentina and has created permanent sculptures in public spaces across the world. He has participated in international symposiums and has received a long list of awards and distinctions for his work.

Everyone is welcome to share in the excitement of opening the first exhibition in a newly renovated artist-run center, one year and a half in the making and a continuing work in progress. The artist will be in attendance. A grand opening is being planned for a later date at which time the main gallery will be dedicated as the Rick Burns Gallery.

For more information please contact Meredith Snider at 454-1433 or connex@nbnet.nb.ca.

Studios still available for rent! Contact the gallery for more information.