

PRESS RELEASE
November 20, 2009

On December 4, Gallery Connexion's Annex Gallery reveals two new exhibitions by Chris Giles and Joss Richer. The exhibition by photographer Chris Giles titled "still photographs from Venus in Flames" displays stills taken from his latest short film "Venus in Flames". The exhibition by sculptor Joss Richer titled "Inflection Points" is a series of relief sculptures in metal where the line between landscape and the human figure is blurred.

Still photographs from Venus in Flames by Chris Giles are images taken directly from the 10-minute short film, "Venus in Flames". These stills represent the major characters in this latest film by Fredericton artist Chris Giles. The premise of the film is that fantasy and revenge combine to depict the untold drama and politics that led to the burning of the Fredericton Exhibition Palace, in 1877. A farmer dreams up an industrialized potato harvester, and stumbles upon the secret carnage behind the erection of the Fredericton Exhibition Palace. Revenge for evil deeds ensues, resulting in the tumultuous and fiery end of the palace. This is Chris Giles' fourth short film, which was funded by the Cultural Capitals of Canada 2009 Program and the Short Film Venture Program. Chris Giles' third and recent film, "Birth of a Nicola" was specially selected for the CBC Atlantic Gala Shorts at the Atlantic Film Festival in Halifax.

In his exhibition entitled *Inflection Points*, Joss Richer—a Fredericton sculptor—melds human and landscape elements into hybrid topographies. The inspiration for this body of work came to him at 35,000 feet, flying high and wide over land where the hand of man can be seen everywhere. Pressing, folding and pounding aluminum sheets with hand and fist, Joss re-enacts on a small scale what humans have been doing to the earth since they first appeared on it. The result is a series of nine relief sculptures where the line between landscape and the human figure is blurred.

Still photographs from Venus in Flames by Chris Giles and *Inflection Points* by Joss Richer open at the Annex Gallery located in the Playhouse at 686 Queen Street on Friday, December 4th at 5pm. Please join us for an opening reception. Both exhibitions will run until December 29, 2009.

The Annex Gallery is an initiative between Gallery Connexion and the Fredericton Playhouse to provide a juried exhibition space for Gallery Connexion members and for the Playhouse to include programmed exhibitions in its galleries.

The Annex Gallery is organized by a Gallery Connexion committee and facilitated by the Fredericton Playhouse. For more information, contact Rita Sassani at ritasassani@gmail.com