Call for Submissions - Then & Now

The City of Kingston invites Kingston-based emerging artists to submit two-dimensional artworks that respond to a selection of historic images of Kingston (Appendix I) for Then & Now, a temporary exhibition in the newly redeveloped Market Wing at Kingston City Hall. Artists are being asked to create and submit artworks that consider how the community has evolved and changed over time in relation to its landscapes, landmarks, values, and/or ideologies. The exhibition will feature the historic images “then” and the selected artworks that reflect Kingston “now”.

Artists must respond to one historic image only and six artists will be selected. The exhibition will be displayed for a minimum of 6 months, with the City of Kingston’s option to extend up to 8 months. For the submissions, new works are welcome but due to the accelerated timelines for this exhibition, artists may also submit works in progress or completed works.

An emerging artist is defined as an artist in the early years of their career who may have had some previous professional exhibitions, commissions, presentations, or installations. The focus on emerging artists also aligns with Council’s Strategic Priorities related to fostering innovative arts, culture and social enterprise that includes using City Hall to support emerging artists and creative industries.

Artist Fee: $600
Note: a materials budget up to $400 per artist will be supplied to the artist following submission of receipts
Submission Deadline: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 by 5p.m. EST

Goals
The artwork should be thought-provoking and engage in a conversation with one of the pre-selected historic images about how the community has changed over time. The artworks should reflect contemporary Kingston, its people, and its values.
Context
The redevelopment of Market Wing located in Kingston City Hall, a National Historic Site will create a newly accessible space designed to house exhibitions and programs that combine history and the arts to highlight Kingston, and to explore a diversity of histories, stories and ideas relevant to residents and visitors alike. In future, the space will also include dedicated space to showcase Indigenous history and culture and the people who have lived in this area since time immemorial. The development of this content will be led by an Indigenous curator and involve ongoing consultations with the community.

The exhibitions and programs will respond to the findings that have emerged through the City’s “Your Stories, Our Histories” project that call for sharing stories and installations that reflect diversity and inclusion; that create space for new and/or alternative perspectives on history; that share Indigenous history and culture; and that disrupt the dominant colonial narratives presented throughout City Hall. The new Market Wing will also provide a space to foster innovative arts, culture and social enterprises and support emerging artists and the creative industries.

The inaugural Market Wing exhibitions will include a re-mount of the popular exhibition Ontario Street: Brewers, Bakers and Boiler Makers, 1830-1970 previously presented at the PumpHouse Museum along with Then & Now, a temporary exhibition that highlights the work of Kingston-based artists who have been asked to respond to a selection of historic images of Kingston.

Eligibility
- Open to Kingston-based emerging artists
- Accepting photographs, drawings, paintings, collage, prints, text and digital works on paper, textiles, craft and new media
- All submissions must be original artworks
- Applicants must ensure that all copyright and intellectual property rights are respected.
- City of Kingston employees are not eligible to submit proposals for this call.

Submission Requirements
Artwork submissions must meet the following size requirements:
- Two-dimensional works in a minimum size of artwork of 3 x 3 feet
  - A compilation of smaller works to make up minimum dimension is acceptable to a maximum of 5 x 5 feet

Please include the following information in your submission:
- Information Page: name(s), contact information (mailing address, email address, phone number)
- Artist CV: qualifications or other relevant experience
- Project Proposal: Maximum one-page project description and artist statement that demonstrates how the artwork responds to the project goals
- Please identify which historic image your artwork is responding to
- Please include up to five (5) images of your proposed artwork
- Please include title of artwork, medium, size and date
- Support Material: up to three (3) images of your past work, labeled with date, title and medium (JPEG).

Please submit all information as one (1) PDF file. For images, a WeTransfer or Dropbox link is accepted.

Submission Deadline and Delivery
All proposals must be submitted via e-mail to mcruse@cityofkingston.ca no later than Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 5 p.m. EST. Please use the following text in the email subject line: Your Name, Then & Now.

Selection Process
Submissions to the call will be reviewed and assessed by the City of Kingston’s Curatorial Team, as well as the Cultural Heritage Working Group. Proposals will be reviewed based on their response to the project’s theme, goals, and context.

Accommodations
The City of Kingston provides fair and equitable opportunities for all. Should you require any accommodations to complete this submission we are happy to assist. Please see staff contact information below.

Project Schedule
September 10, 2020 – Call for Submissions Issued
October 7, 2020 – Call for Submissions Closed
October 14, 2020 – Artists Selected
October 23, 2020 – Artwork Production
October 30, 2020 - Installation

Copyright
Copyright, including any and all designs, images and drawings, remain the property of the artist(s). Artists agree to let their work be reproduced for the purposes of this project and to be photographed, reproduced online, in print and used for promotional purposes related to this project. Credit will be given to the artist when possible.

Contact
For questions about the call for submissions, please contact:

Melissa Cruise
Curator
City of Kingston
mcruise@cityofkingston.ca
613-546-4291 ext.1666
Appendix I

Image 1

Looking westward along the Cataraqui Bridge, C. 1890, Queen’s University Archives

The Cataraqui Bridge shown here opened in 1829. It was known as the Penny Bridge as it cost a penny for a pedestrian to cross, rates increased with the load. It was a sturdy wooden construction with stone piers, but the rough road surface was a "regular liver shaker" according to historian, Edwin Horsey. The bridge was originally constructed with a toll booth on the west end [not pictured here] and a drawbridge that was later replaced with a swing bridge to allow passage for larger vessels. It was replaced by the LaSalle Causeway in 1917.
Kingston City Hall, about 1865, Queen’s University Archives

Kingston City Hall, surrounded by the Market Battery, about 1865. Residents take advantage of the sunny winter day to skate on the frozen lake. The scaffolding surrounding City Hall’s clock tower help to date the photograph as we know the Market Shambles (now the Market Wing) was destroyed by a fire in 1865. The rebuild included adding a clock and belfry to the main dome. The Market Battery was constructed in the 1840s in response to growing tensions between the United States and Great Britain and was in place until 1885 when it was removed to make room for the Kingston to Pembroke railway.
Many of the buildings seen in this view from the corner of Brock and Wellington remain in place today.
Kingston Shipyards, about 1968, Queen’s University Archives

Kingston’s waterfront has seen incredible change over the last few decades. This view shows the Kingston Shipyards in 1968 at Ontario and Lower Union. The site was first occupied by the Marine Railway Company in the mid-1830s and was occupied until the 1970s. It is now home to an Apartment building. The building (black roof, white walls just above the red pick-up truck) in the background is the Kingston yacht club – it remains unchanged today.
Kingston’s Public Market is one of the oldest markets in Ontario, officially founded in 1801 it has operated as a community gathering space ever since. Market Square was not only a centre of commerce, it was also used for parking horses and cars well into the 1960s.
The Montreal Transportation Company (MTC) grew out of a small shipping company founded by brothers John and Hugh McLennan in 1853 and was one of several shipping companies that moved grain through the Great Lakes. The MTC grain elevator here is located at the base of what is now Tragically Hip Way and the Wolfe Island Ferry Terminal, you can see Fort Frontenac to the right of grain elevator.
Crowds gather to watch a military parade at the corner of Brock and Ontario Street, the East end of City Hall. We know this photograph dates from after 1893 based on the "K.P & C.E.R" company name on the Street railway car in the foreground as well as the Kennedy House in the background. Founded in the 1870’s the Kingston Street Railway Company started with a horse drawn streetcar along Princess Street and expanded to include extend and electrified rails. When the operations ceased in 1930 the company was known as the Kinston Portsmouth & Cataraqui Electric Railway.