



Oakville galleries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oakville Galleries is excited to announce its exhibition of *Sustenance*, a series of large photographic prints by British artist Neeta Madahar. This exhibition represents Madahar's first solo exhibition in Canada. *Sustenance* will be open to the public from **8 September to 4 November 2007** at Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens.

Curated by Marnie Fleming, *Sustenance* examines the complexities of human domesticity through images of birds gathering and feeding. For over a year, Madahar recorded the activity of birds as observed from her balcony in an apartment complex.

The artist says of this work: "It is around the concept of 'home' and the intangible qualities associated with dwelling that many of my ideas converge: familiarity and strangeness, belonging and migration, prolonged routine and repetition. *Sustenance* examines these complexities within the domestic environment. Here, various species of birds come to feed at the apartment balcony of my former home in Farmingham, Massachusetts and become the subject of exploration, with their activities documented using a large-format camera."

This exhibition also includes an early sculptural piece by Canadian artist Liz Magor from Oakville Galleries' permanent collection. Titled *Birdnester*, 1977, it is a wagon filled with sixty blackbirds' nests and demonstrates the need that both humans and birds have for order and purpose. Seen within the context of the former private home of Gairloch, the notions of nesting, feeding and domesticity addressed in this exhibition's imagery are certain to have a lively resonance.

Neeta Madahar graduated with an MFA in Studio Art from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and Tufts University in Boston, USA in 2003 and with a BA in Fine Art from Winchester School of Art and the University of Southampton in England in 1999. She has exhibited nationally and internationally, including solo shows at the Rencontres d'Arles Photography Festival, France, 2004, the Institute of International Visual Arts, London, 2005 and the Danforth Museum of Art, Massachusetts, 2006. Her work is in several private and public collections, including the Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, California and the Victoria & Albert Museum, London. Madahar is a visiting photography lecturer at the University College for the Creative Arts in Farnham, England.

Exhibition opening & reception: **Friday 14 September 2007** from 8:30 to 10 pm at Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. The artist will be in attendance.

Reception Sponsor:



Supported by:



Oakville Galleries
at **Centennial Square**
120 Navy Street
Tuesday to Thursday, 12–9pm
Friday 12–5pm
Sunday 1–5pm

in **Gairloch Gardens**
1306 Lakeshore Road East
Tuesday to Sunday, 1–5pm

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