

For Immediate Release, Toronto April 3, 2008

SPENCE GALLERY presents an exhibit on the timeless theme “Mother and Child”.

From early representations by religious artists to Picasso, the theme Mother and Child has captured and continue to capture the imagination of artists. Starting on Friday, April 11 you can experience how five Spence Gallery artists interpret this classic theme. This exhibit gives viewers an opportunity to see various cultural interpretations of one of the most enduring themes. The exhibit, which celebrates motherhood, will end on Mother’s Day, Sunday May 11.

Exhibited Artists

Rosslyn Berot-Burns’ use of watercolour and light lends itself appropriately to her delicate stories of mother-child relationships. She develops a narrative that is just as much about what is present as what is not.

Opal Dunbar-Adams’ haunting figures create just enough unease to keep you looking and intrigued by the complex, multi-layered relationship between mother and child. Her stories of motherhood leaves viewers with questions only they can answer.

The maternal relations in **Bushra Junaid’s** pieces are constructed through a seamless collage. Printed materials are assembled to create a puzzle of muted moments.

In a naïve style, **Betty Mirembe** continues her exploration of the Black Madonna. Her Madonna is a symbol of hope and peace. Her fascination with the religious icon began in honour to her mother and has led to the creation of a series in acrylic that expresses her own spirituality.

Originally from Zimbabwe, **Leon Soriano** gives life to the familiar metaphor of Mother Earth. In his mixed media pieces, mother is larger than life and protects her young. She is fertile and fruitful and occupies the warm, colourful and vast southern African landscape.

A wine and cheese reception that is open to the public will be held on Friday, April 11, 2008 starting at 6 p.m. All the artists will be in attendance.

SPENCE GALLERY, located in Mirvish Village, is a one of a kind gallery in Toronto. The gallery was founded to share culturally diverse artistic expressions. It provides a taste of contemporary art of Caribbean, Latin American and African artists and the Diaspora. It is dedicated to diversity and celebrates the cultural influences of the artists.

For further information contact: Joan Spence, Director – 416 795 2787

Gallery Hours: Wednesday – Friday 5 – 8 pm; Saturday and Sunday 12 - 6 pm
spencegallery@sympatico.ca
www.spencegallery.ca