

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday 13 November 2006

GET CRAFTY! AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA WITH SPINS & NEEDLES CRAFT + DJ NIGHT

Ottawa, Canada - **Spins & Needles Craft + DJ Night** is proud to be associated with the **National Gallery of Canada** with their sparkling new program called **Artsparks**, where interactive art, music and commentary intersect in the spaces of Canada's foremost art institution. **Artsparks**, which debuted last September, promises to be even bigger and better when the Gallery hosts Ottawa-based arts & cultural phenomenon, Spins & Needles, on Thursday 30 November starting at 7 p.m.

Visitors can get crafty and creative in the Gallery's workshop area with several hands-on art & craft projects presented by Spins & Needles. Exciting projects include: using prepared silkscreens to reimagine and copy images from the **Edwin Holgate** and **Clarence Gagnon** exhibitions, creating collage landscapes or portraits on panels, and creating plush monsters and hip holiday stockings. Visitors are also invited to bring and work on their own fun art & craft projects.

"Our association with the dynamic and young organisation Spins & Needles is a great way for The National Gallery to reach out and to create educational events that will appeal to young urban crowds", says David Monkhouse from Educational and Public Programs of the National Gallery.

Gallery guides will lead Artsparks-goers through two major retrospectives of Canada's most admired artists: Edwin Holgate and Clarence Gagnon. Holgate, dubbed the eighth member of the Group of Seven, was considered one of the finest Canadian artists specializing in portraiture and the representation of the human body. Gagnon was considered one of the greatest landscape artists in the history of Quebec and Canadian art. Tours are every half hour, starting at 7:30 p.m.

Visitors are also invited hit the dance floor in the Tour Group Lobby, where **DJ Jason Pelletier** will be spinning funky dance beats throughout the night. A cash bar will be available. Admission to **Artsparks** is \$9.90 per person, \$7.90 for Gallery members. Advance tickets are available for purchase at the Gallery.

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Media Contacts

Melanie Yugo, Spins & Needles Craft + DJ Night, 613-314-6232, spinsandneedles@gmail.com, www.spinsandneedles.com

David Monkhouse, National Gallery of Canada, 613-990-0575, dmonkhou@gallery.ca _ Nadia Seraiocco National Gallery of Canada 613-990-6835 nseraioc@gallery.ca

About Spins & Needles Craft + DJ Night

Spins & Needles is an independent, monthly craft night and music night open to all creative types to work on projects and listen to DJs play funky beats. Created in 2005 and based in Ottawa, it is the first event of its kind in Canada and been recognized locally, nationally and internationally. Diverse venue, workshop and sponsorship collaborators include the National Gallery of Canada, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, the University of Ottawa, the Gladstone Hotel (Toronto), and Pop Montreal. For more information visit www.spinsandneedles.com.