galerie de la ville
centre des arts de dollard centre for the arts
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Media Release **October , 2011**

Galerie de la Ville presents in November/December a duo exhibition of recent paintings by **Branka Marinkovic Forte** and **Bev Wight** entitled "**Stories"**. Both artists use representation to create their images, but do so at different points and in different ways in their creation process. Marinkovic Forte creates portraits in oil referencing Impressionism and Symbolism: the portrait itself is the story. Wight's acrylic and mixed media paintings are influenced by Abstraction and Expressionism: her process is the story. However, these are not stories in the narrative sense as in literature. Settings and plot lines are evoked through their choice of tone, colour and composition, and the 'characters' are revealed as in a mystery, by the relationship of elements and the atmosphere created by their forms and treatments.

Branka Marinkovic Forte has been working on a series of portraits based on people's experiences of themselves. She finds her subjects through the self-portraits they post on social networking and personal web sites, and interprets what she feels they reveal about themselves, whether consciously or unconsciously. She then in turn posts pictures of the portraits she creates online, establishing a loop of interpretation between "self" and "other". **Bev Wight** sees the underlying movements and connections between the inside and outside, Form is born of colour and the interaction of colour as it defines or re-defines form expresses life forces at work. The fluidity or density of her media, the layering of materials and the interaction of light and dark express sensation itself, whether hers as she paints, or her subject's as it reveals itself stroke by stroke, gesture by gesture. This juxtaposition of styles and techniques is a good opportunity for viewers to "read" images through these artists' different visual and emotional languages.

Branka Marinkovic Forte has studied art techniques in France, art history at the University of Toronto, graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design with a BFA in 1994 and recently completed her Masters in Art Education at Concordia University. She has exhibited in Toronto and Montreal and currently teaches art techniques in oil painting and drawing in Montreal, at the Visual Arts Centre, and at the Dollard Centre for the Arts in Dollard des Ormeaux.

Bev Wight is a graduate in Visual Design of Brandon University in Manitoba (84) and has participated in group exhibitions in Winnipeg. She has exhibited in solo exhibitions in and around Montreal since 2003, and as a member of the Lakeshore Artists Association. Her works are part of numerous private and corporate collections. She currently teaches art techniques in acrylic and mixed media painting in Beaconsfield and at the Dollard centre for the Arts in Dollard des Ormeaux.

The **opening reception** for this exhibition will be held on **Sunday, November 20, 2011 from 1 to 3 pm**.

The **exhibition** runs from **Friday, November 18 to Sunday, December 18, 2011,** at Galerie de la Ville, located in the lower level of the Dollard Cultural Centre, at 12001 de Salaberry Boulevard, in Dollard-des-Ormeaux. Opening hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 12 to 4 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays from 2 to 5 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m.

For further information, or to arrange **free, guided tours** of this exhibition for your group of six or more people, please call 514-684-1012, extension 298 or consult our web site at www.dollardartcentre.com/gallery

Reminder!!!!!

If you wish to receive our information via e-mail, please respond at brwight@ddo.qc.ca to have your e-address added to our list. We will begin e-mailing to respondents in January; others will continue receiving the paper card.

Source : Claudine Ascher, Director/Curator, Galerie de la Ville