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## **The new “Red Hot Art Spots” AND visual artists light the 2009 Junction Arts Festival on fire**

**Toronto, ON, August 20, 2009** – The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Junction Arts Festival (September 9 – 13, 2009) presents a mosaic of unique visual, dance, literary and musical arts, and visual artists light the festival on fire, competing in the 2009 Juried Art Exhibit and showcasing in (and out) of the brand new ‘Red Hot Art Spots’; from opening day on Wednesday, September 9 through to Sunday, September 13.

The 2009 Juried Art Exhibit takes place at the Academy of Realist Art (2968 Dundas Street West at Pacific), and new to the festival this year are the “Red Hot Art Spots”, where many Junction businesses, shops, galleries and restaurants step up and provide venues and space for the visual artists (plus performance, readers/writers and music artists) to showcase their works.

Juried Art Committee and Junction Forum for Art and Culture board member Colleen Johnston states, “I am extremely excited at the number and the calibre of artists participating this year. This community based juried art exhibition is growing at an amazing rate year to year and 2009 looks to be one of the best; the judges are going to have a very difficult time choosing the winners.”

72 visual artists are entered in the Juried Art Exhibit this year, including Ontario artist Kathleen Coyle, whose stained glass horse mosaic (called “Painted Pony”) acts as the 2009 Junction Arts Festival logo.

The juried art pieces, submitted based on photography, sculpture or painting/drawing categories, will be judged by three Toronto professionals (Rhonda Nolan, Rhonda Nolan Designs & Illustrations; Fernando Freitas, Academy of Realist Art and Felix Russo, Publisher, Editor PhotoEd Magazine) and the winners will be announced on September 9 at 9:00 p.m., during the opening night celebrations in the Junction City Square (2960 Dundas St. West at Pacific Ave.). The first prize is a one-year scholarship to the Academy of Realist Art (\$7,500.00 value), and Picture it Framed is providing \$5000.00 in framing for the subsequent awards.

**NOTE:** All juried artist names, images and biography information is available at [www.junctionartsfest.com/new2009test/sites/juriedart](http://www.junctionartsfest.com/new2009test/sites/juriedart).

The new “Red Hot Art Spots” represents the Junction community and festival coming together in true creative collaboration. The participating venues, within the festival footprint and a number of satellite sites, open their doors to provide unexpected indoor and outdoor settings for festival programmed visual artists (painters, photographers), which include seven installation artists such as Reid English (outdoor/Junction artist) and Aaron Mitchell (indoor/Toronto artist).

In addition to visual artists, the “Red Hot Art Spots” also host travelling minstrels, writers, poets, dancers or street performers; some venues also present their own entertainment.

**NOTE:** All venue scheduling and corresponding artist information is available at [www.junctionartsfest.com/new2009test/sites/redhot/](http://www.junctionartsfest.com/new2009test/sites/redhot/).

**Red Hot Art Spots (in alphabetical order):**

Agora Mediterranean Café – 3015 Dundas St. W.  
Aquila – 347 Keele St. (satellite site)  
Axis Bar & Grill – 3046 Dundas St. W.  
Delight – 3040 Dundas St. W.  
Fit2dance – 406 Pacific Ave.  
JPC Host Studios – 3083 Dundas St. W. (satellite site)  
Latitude 44 Gallery – 2900 Dundas St. W.  
Little Bird Fly – 2955 Dundas St. W.  
Margret – 2952 Dundas St. W.  
Pandemonium – 2862 Dundas St. W.  
Philipa C. Photography – 3063 Dundas St. W.  
Picture it Framed – 3047 Dundas St. W.  
Relax Shack – 3026 Dundas St. W.  
SMASH – 2880 Dundas St. W.  
Studio Cycle – 2923 Dundas St. W.  
Tango Tanning – 3060 Dundas St. W.  
The Hair Lounge – 2940 Dundas St. W.  
Triple Z – 2910 Dundas St. W.  
Troubadour – 3071 Dundas St. W.  
Urbanscape Gallery – 2959 Dundas St. W.  
Vesuvio – 3010 Dundas St. W.  
West Toronto Paint – 2975 Dundas St. W.  
Wise Daughters – 2975 Dundas St. W. (satellite site)

Attracting 200,000 visitors in 2008, the Junction Arts Festival (produced by the Junction Forum for Art and Culture) takes place along Dundas Street West between Keele Street and Quebec Avenue, and features five free days of artistry and innovation; Visual Art Exhibits (Sept. 9 to 13), Live Music Concerts (Sept. 10, 11 and 12), and during the weekend – Street Performance Artists, Literary Artists, KidZone, Green Village and Artisan/Vendor Market (Sept. 12 and 13).

The 2009 Junction Arts Festival is generously supported by title sponsor the Junction Business Improvement Area, the Toronto Arts Council and the active involvement from Junction area businesses and residents.

The Junction Forum for Art and Culture (JFAC) is a non-profit arts presenting organization and its main project is the annual Junction Arts Festival. The JFAC Board of Directors, chaired by

Councillor Bill Saundercook, consists of dedicated cultural producers, artists, residents, business owners and politicians, all of whom are based in the Junction.

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