

# press release

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The Akron Art Museum  
– Western Reserve PBS  
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## Witness Firsthand the Installation of Jean-Pierre Gauthier: Machines at Play

*Exhibition installation will be open to the public  
for the first time in the Akron Art Museum's history*

Akron, Ohio, September 15, 2008 — Inquiring minds want to know — “How exactly does a ‘kinetic sculptural installation’ come to fruition? What makes the sculpture chatter, jump, jitter and sing?” During regular gallery hours on September 17-21 and 23-26, visitors can find the answer as they watch artist Jean-Pierre Gauthier install his exhibition, *Jean-Pierre Gauthier: Machines at Play*, in the museum’s Karl and Bertl Arnstein galleries. Eleven installations, several of which fill an entire gallery by themselves, will then be on view September 27, 2008 – January 4, 2009.

The open installation, the first in the museum’s history, will allow the public access to a process that’s normally off-limits. Visitors will be able to watch as Gauthier and his team build his mechanized art from the ground up, an experience sure to amaze and delight all in attendance.

Another first for the museum is a collaboration with Western Reserve PBS (a service of Western Reserve Public Media), formerly PBS 45 & 49, to broadcast the installation via both webcam and a specially produced television documentary. Western Reserve Public Media’s live webcams will allow people to watch the installation on the Akron Art Museum’s Web site, [www.AkronArtMuseum.org](http://www.AkronArtMuseum.org), and several air dates are scheduled to televise the documentary.

**Jean-Pierre Gauthier: Machines at Play** will air on Western Reserve PBS on Friday, September 26 at 8:30 p.m., Sunday, September 28 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, October 4 at 3:30 p.m.

In conjunction with this production, Western Reserve PBS is working with the education team at the Akron Art Museum to create a K-12 standards-based multimedia package related to Gauthier’s works. Focusing on sound, electronics and art, the materials will include short video segments taken from the documentary (made available online as video on demand) to illustrate sound and electronics principles and how they are expressed in Gauthier’s art, a teachers guide with classroom lesson plans and other interactive activities online. This package will be made available free of charge to all teachers via the Internet. In fall 2008, the station will also host three free professional workshops on the implementation of the curriculum materials. The materials will also be available to teachers statewide.

**Free Lecture**

After watching the install, listen as Gauthier reveals the inspiration behind his playful sculptures during a lecture on Thursday, September 25 at 7 p.m. in the museum's Charles and Jane Lehner Auditorium. The lecture is free and open to the public with first-come, first-serve seating available.

*The Akron Art Museum and Western Reserve PBS collaboration is made possible by a generous gift from the Summa Foundation.*

Jean-Pierre Gauthier: *Machines at Play* is organized and circulated by the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, a provincially owned corporation funded by the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du Québec.

*This exhibition is made possible by a generous gift from the Ohio Arts Council and the Mary and Dr. George L. Demetros Charitable Trust with additional support from Lockheed Martin Corporation, the Mirapaul Foundation, Karl and Gayle Galan Reuther and Haltec Corporation.*

**Museum Information**

Address: One South High, Akron, OH 44308

Tel: 330.376.9185

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Website: [www.AkronArtMuseum.org](http://www.AkronArtMuseum.org)

Gallery and Store Hours: Tuesday – Sunday: 11 am – 5 pm, Thursday: 11 am – 9 pm, Closed Mondays, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Café Hours: Tuesday – Sunday: Open at 11 am

Library Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 11 am – 4 pm, Thursday: 3 – 8 pm

Admission: Adult general admission is \$7, Student and Senior (65+) general admission is \$5, Children (12 and under) are FREE, members are FREE. On the first Tuesday of every month, individual admissions to the collection are FREE. Special exhibitions may require paid admission. No tours available on these days.

**About Western Reserve Public Media**

Western Reserve Public Media (formerly PBS 45 & 49) is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation and consortium of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University. A trusted community resource, Western Reserve Public Media uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. The only broadcast television service that reaches all of northeast Ohio, Western Reserve Public Media is available to 1.8 million households and 4.4 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average week, over 500,000 households tune in. Through funding from eTech Ohio, the organization provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 256,700 students in eight Ohio counties. For more information about PBS 45 & 49, visit [www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org](http://www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org) or call 1-800-554-4549.

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