

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Art Gallery of Northumberland's Signature Event Spotlight Series Returns for the Fall *Annual arts education fundraiser will showcase two award-winning performers.*

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COBOURG, ON (Monday, October 24, 2022) – The [Art Gallery of Northumberland](#) (AGN) is pleased to announce the second installment of *Spotlight Series 4*, its signature annual arts education fundraiser on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 7 p.m.

*Spotlight Series 4* brings together music, multimedia, poetry, performance, and the visual arts. Now in its fourth series of connecting audiences with diverse artists, the fall 2022 installment features award-winning singer-songwriter and Curve Lake First Nation community member Missy Knott, known for her rich vocal tone and blend of country, pop and folk. Sharing the spotlight is Cobourg-based published poet and writer and inter-disciplinary artist MERKAT (Meredith K. Hoogendam) whose published works appear across Canada and the United States.

“The return of Spotlight Series to an in-person event in June was such a success and everyone who attended could feel a real sort of invigoration in the room,” said Olinda Casimiro, Executive Director of the Art Gallery of Northumberland. “The Art Gallery of Northumberland is excited to welcome our fall installment with two extremely talented performers.”

Spotlight Series 4 will host both entertainers with an intermission and interactive audience question and answer period at the end. Each performer will transform a one-hour ‘blank slate’ into a unique presentation of their story, passion, and process. All funds raised from the event will go towards specialized arts education community programming for children, adults, and seniors.

#### About the Spotlight Series 4 Performers



**Missy Knott** (Singing Wild Rice Girl) is a mother, business owner, educational assistant, active Curve Lake First Nation Community member and Award-Winning Singer-Songwriter. Her most recent release, “Our Song Acoustic” (2021), made it to #3 on the Indigenous Music Countdown playing widely on Sirius XM. In 2018, Missy launched her Wild Rice Records label which was founded in Nogojiwanong (Peterborough), but soon after, accepted jobs as an Afternoon Drive and Weekend Live Radio Personality at both ELMNT FM in Ottawa and Toronto.



**MERKAT** (Meredith K. Hoogendam) is a poet, writer, and interdisciplinary artist; other incarnations include high school teacher and local community radio host and producer. She holds B.A.s in English, Communications and Education and an M.A. in English and Film Studies. Folklore, feminism, archetype, and the natural world inform her work. Her writing and images appear in publications across the U.S. and Canada, including Room Magazine, Geez Magazine, Mutha and catapult, among others.

#### How to Purchase Tickets

Tickets will be sold on [Eventbrite](#) for \$25 including HST. Light catering and refreshments will be included. All health and safety precautions will be implemented and those who do not feel well should stay home.

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### **About the Art Gallery of Northumberland**

The mandate of the Art Gallery of Northumberland (AGN) is to promote and provide access to art and related programs as a community gallery for the enjoyment and education of the people of Northumberland County. The AGN exists to serve all of Northumberland County as a public gallery. We present intellectually stimulating exhibitions and programming, as well as maintain a permanent collection of visual arts. Along with exhibitions we fulfill our mandate through educational activities which encourage active dialogue between the Gallery audience and the visual arts; including lectures, films, workshops, artist talks and tours.

For more information about the Art Gallery of Northumberland or to arrange a time to visit, visit [artgalleryofnorthumberland.com](http://artgalleryofnorthumberland.com), or call 905-372-0333. Be sure to also follow the AGN on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) for the latest exhibitions and gallery news.