

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CCGG Launches Fundraising Campaign to Permanently Display *Embrace II* by Local Artist Sharl G. Smith

WATERLOO (ONTARIO) CANADA, October 17, 2023 – The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery is thrilled to launch a fundraising campaign to support the acquisition of *Embrace II*, an artwork by Waterloo-based artist Sharl G. Smith. Currently on temporary display at the front steps of the Gallery, our acquisition of this monumental work would allow for its long-term exhibition. The purchase of this work will ensure that it can be enjoyed by our community day and night for years to come. The first step in the reinvigoration of our outdoor public art, this major acquisition marks our commitment to making art and diverse stories accessible to our community.

To realize the permanent display of *Embrace II*, including costs for this piece's acquisition, permanent installation, insurance, and maintenance, we need your support! We ask you to please consider donating to support this acquisition for the enjoyment of our community well into the future. For more information, [visit our website](#).



Sharl G. Smith, *Embrace II*, 2023. Stainless steel spheres, stainless steel wire rope.
6' x 3' x 2'. Collection of the artist.

ABOUT THE ARTWORK

Sharl G. Smith expands her beadwork to stunning installations using custom-made stainless-steel beads instead of traditional glass seed beads. In a medium often seen as “women’s work” and thus subject to the disparity of value between male and female labour, Smith alters our perceptions with life-size public sculpture. The tiny details of traditional beading have become magnified. In the mirror-polished stainless steel, we also experience the addition of a clear reflection that multiplies and expands within the work. This mirroring also creates an additional implication of the viewer. The piece not only demands our attention through its scale but also reflects our own image back at us. As we explore the form, we find ourselves.

ABOUT THE CANADIAN CLAY & GLASS GALLERY

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery is an award-winning national institution based in Waterloo Region, celebrating the art and craft of clay, glass, and enamel. In an inclusive community space and cultural hub, we engage artists and the public through exhibitions and collaborate in accessible education programming. We amplify diverse and often untold stories to open dialogue and inspire social change. For more information, visit: www.theclayandglass.ca

CONTACT

To schedule a media interview or for more information, contact Denis Longchamps, Executive Director & Chief Curator, at 519-746-1882 ext. 231 or director@theclayandglass.ca

