

Press Release

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Walter Wick

Games, Gizmos and Toys in the Attic

At the Arkell Museum at Canajoharie

November 15, 2009-February 15, 2010



Puss and Boots © Walter Wick from *Can You See What I See?*

(Canajoharie, NY) ***Walter Wick: Games, Gizmos and Toys in the Attic*** is an exhibition of enlarged photographs and models that transport both adults and children into a magical world. The exhibition **opens at the Arkell Museum at Canajoharie on Sunday, November 15th** with an opportunity to meet Walter Wick and see and hear how he creates his photographs of fairy tales and optical tricks.

Walter Wick's interest in puzzles and optical illusions led to work for *Games* magazine in the 1980s. Wick's playful photographs of toys and household objects came to the attention of Jean Marzollo, and in 1991 the two collaborated on *I Spy*:

A Book of Picture Riddles. Wick and Marzollo went on to create over twenty *I Spy* books. Wick also pursued his own independent interests that lead to the books *A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder*, *Optical Tricks*, and the popular series *Can You See What I See*.

The exhibition at the Arkell Museum includes the artist's early black and white photographs as well as his photographic puzzles from his *I SPY* and *Can You See What I See?* books for children. Visitors will also get a glimpse at his creative process by seeing the three dimensional models he used to create his photographs.

The Walter Wick exhibition was organized by the New Britain Museum of American Art in Connecticut. Visit the Arkell Museum web site for information on related programming and events www.arkellmuseum.org. For more information on Walter Wick visit his web site at www.walterwick.com

The Arkell Museum at Canajoharie completed a major addition in September 2007 which included new galleries, classroom and program spaces. Permanent exhibitions include paintings by Winslow Homer, American Impressionists, and The Eight. Mohawk Valley history and Beech-Nut Packaging Company advertising are also featured in exhibitions. The museum presents concerts, films, family activities, and school programs. The Arkell Museum is open Monday-Friday 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Saturday –Sunday 12:30 - 5:00 pm. (hours may change in January 2010 so please call ahead or check the website for current hours) The Arkell Museum is located half way between Albany and Utica — just three blocks from exit 29 on the New York State Thruway (I-90). For information call 518-673-2314 or visit www.arkellmuseum.org.

Digital images of works in this exhibition are available to the media. Please contact Diane Forsberg dforsberg@sals.edu for a complete list of available images.