

## **Wanda Sawicki, MPS, OATR**

### **Professional Experience:**

- 2010 – present Associate Instructor in Thanatology, King's University College of Western University, London, Ontario
- 2000 – present Art Therapist, Support Group Facilitator, Wellspring London and Region Cancer Support Centre, London, Ontario
- 2010 – present Art Therapist, 1:1 Program, McCormick Home Centre for Long-Term Care, London, Ontario
- 1994-2017 Art Therapist and Counsellor, private practice, London, Ontario
- 1992 – 2004 Instructor, Diploma in Art Therapy Program, Western University, London, Ontario
- 1989-2006 Art Therapist and Program Facilitator, London InterCommunity Health Centre, London, Ontario

### **Education:**

- 1971 Bachelor of Arts, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
- 1977 Diploma, Special Arts Program, H.B. Beal Secondary School, London, Ontario
- 1988 Certificate in Cultural Interpretation, Continuing Studies, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
- 1994 Diploma in Art Therapy, Continuing Studies, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
- 2009 Master of Psychotherapy and Spirituality, St. Stephen's College, Edmonton, Alberta

### **Selected Publications:**

Sawicki, W. "Transformation in Hand: Holding Special Moments", *Tapestry*, 21, ISS2, Spring 2016, 14-17. Ontario Art Therapy Association, London, Ontario.

Sawicki, W. "Desire, Transformation and Presence: a Counsellor's Experience of Embodied Pilgrimage Spirituality", Chapter 12, *A Sociology of Pilgrimage: Embodiment, Identity, Transformation* (Lesley D. Harman, Ed.). London, Ontario: Ursus Press, 2013.

Sawicki, W. "Walking the Inner Pilgrimage at Home: Reflections on Labyrinth as Pilgrimage and Process". Chapter 16, *A Sociology of Pilgrimage: Embodiment, Identity, Transformation* (Lesley D. Harman, Ed.). London, Ontario: Ursus Press, 2013.

Sawicki, W. "A Journey Unknown: Wellspring Art Therapy Program", *Tapestry*, 17, 2, Spring 2012, 9-12. Ontario Art Therapy Association, London, Ontario.

Sawicki, W. "We Are Not Like Other People: Identity Loss and Reconstruction Following Migration", *Counting Our Losses*, D.L. Harris, (Ed.), (pp. 151-161). New York: Routledge, 2011.

Sawicki, W. *Juggling Cultures*: a multi-media resource for working with Multicultural, Immigrant, and Refugee Youth. Video and manual. London InterCommunity Health Centre, London, Ontario, 1991.

### **Selected Workshops and Presentations:**

***I Create, I Am.*** London Brain Tumour Information Day, Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada, London, Ontario, October 17, 2015.

***When Words Become the Way.*** An Interdisciplinary Conference Sponsored by the Institute for Pilgrimage Studies and the International Consortium for Pilgrimage Studies, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, October, 2013. Joint presentation by Sawicki, W. (KUC) and Russell, L. (HOFSTRA).

***Drawing Upon Spirit: Art Therapy and Pilgrim Transformation.*** Traveling Traditions: Pilgrimage across Time and Cultures, An Interdisciplinary Conference Sponsored by the Institute for Pilgrimage Studies and the International Consortium for Pilgrimage Studies, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, October 12-14, 2012.

***The Way of Being: Pilgrimage Spirituality, 4-part series for returned pilgrims of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela,*** London Camino Pilgrims' Group, London, Ontario, October 1, November 12, 2011, January 7, February 11, 2012.

***How I Am, Why I Am: The Art of Presence in Long-Term Care.*** Canadian Art Therapy Association and Ontario Art Therapy Association joint conference, Niagara Falls, Ontario, November 5, 2011.

***Art Therapy and Chronic Pain: Art Making as Witness and Release.*** Complex Regional Pain/RSD Support Group, Pain Clinic, St. Joseph's Health Centre, London, Ontario, Oct. 15, 2011.

***Closure and New Beginnings: The Jubilee Journey as Inner Pilgrimage.*** Jubilee Spiritual Direction Program, Huron University College, London, Ontario, June 11, 2010.

***Creative Expression and Self Care: Who Walks With the Counsellor/Therapist?*** Canadian Association for Child and Play Therapy, Phoenix Centre for Children and Families, Pembroke, Ontario, November 21-22, 2008.

***Labyrinth: A Healing Journey for Cancer Survivors.*** Wellspring London and Region Cancer Support Centre, London Canada. December 5, 2006 and 4-part series in June, 2008.

***Suffering, Compassion and Caritas: A Pilgrim's Way in Life.*** Presentation to graduate Sociology class, King's University College, November 19, 2008.

***Two by Two: Come, Walk With Me. Spiritual Retreat for Camino Pilgrims.*** Toronto, Ontario, May 15-17, 2005. American Pilgrims on the Camino. Annual Gathering of Pilgrims, co-hosted by Canadian Company of Pilgrims. Co-authored and co-facilitated with Fr. Wayne Manne and Canon Christopher Pratt.

***Bringing Home the Gold: Transformative Experience in Walking Pilgrimage from the Camino de Santiago de Compostela.*** American Pilgrims on the Camino, Annual Gathering of Pilgrims, Santa Fe, New Mexico, March 2001.

## **Exhibitions**

2013      *Seeing the Gold: Visual and Soulful Experiences from the Camino de Santiago de Compostela*, 3-person show and presentation; Vitali Lounge, King's University College, Western University, London, Ontario

*Arts of Pilgrimage: Experiencing the Medieval Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela.* London and area pilgrims exhibit their art and artifacts in collaborations with Visual Arts History 2253E (Romanesque and Gothic Art). On display at D.B. Weldon Library galleries and archives collections centre, Western University, London, Ontario. November 3, 2012 – January 4, 2013.

2009      *Sacred Steps: Pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago.* Exhibition of artworks by American and Canadian pilgrims of the Camino, toured North America 2007 - 2009. Curated by Professor George Greenia of William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia. Sponsored by S.A. de Xestión do Plan Xacobeo, and Dirección Xeral de Turismo de la Consellería de Innovación e Industria Galicia, the office of tourism for the Spanish region of Galicia. In London, Ontario at King's University College, January 23-February 15, 2009.

2007      Annual group show, Strand Fine Art Services, London, Ontario

2005      *Blush*, group show, by invitation, The Arts Project, London, Ontario

2004      *El Camino de Santiago*, exhibition of pilgrim artworks and artifacts, group show. St. James Cathedral gallery, Toronto, Ontario

1995 – 2001 Annual group shows, Strand Fine Art Services, London, Ontario

- 1994 Women's Community House Art Show and Auction, by invitation, London, Ontario
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Annual group show, Strand Fine Art Services, London, Ontario
- 1992 Women's Community House Art Show and Auction, by invitation, London, Ontario
- 1991 Forest City Art Gallery, juried show, London, Ontario
- 1991 Annual group show, Strand Fine Art Services, London, Ontario
- 1990 London Cares, Aids Hospice, Art show and Auction, by invitation, London Ontario  
Juried show, Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery, Owen Sound, Ontario  
Group show by invitation, Sandy Snelgrove Gallery, London, Ontario
- 1989 *Wanda Sawicki and Geri Binks*, McIntosh Gallery, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario  
Juried show, Del Bello Gallery, Toronto, Ontario  
Solo show, Auberge du Petit Prince, London, Ontario
- 1988 Juried show, Forest City Gallery, London, Ontario  
Juried show, Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery, Owen Sound, Ontario
- 1987 Juried show, Del Bello Gallery, Toronto, Ontario  
Juried show, London Regional Art Gallery, London, Ontario
- 1986 Juried show, Del Bello Gallery, Toronto, Ontario  
Krakow Print Biennale (juried), Krakow, Poland.  
Juried show, Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery, Owen Sound, Ontario
- 1985 Solo show, Galerie d'art Drummond, Drummondville, Quebec.  
Group show, London Regional Art Gallery, London, Ontario

- Group show, Embassy Cultural House, London, Ontario
- 1984 Group show, Atelier de l'Île, Val David, Quebec
- Group show, Woodstock Art Gallery, Woodstock, Ontario
- Juried show, St. Thomas-Elgin Art Gallery, St. Thomas, Ontario
- 1983 Solo show, Auberge du Petit Prince, London, Ontario
- 2-person show, Galeria Stara Kordegarda, Lazienki Palace, Warsaw Poland, also toured to Krakow, Rzeszow and Tarnow
- London Regional Art Gallery, London, Ontario
- 1982 *Trois-Pistoles 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition and Artist Exchange*, McIntosh Gallery, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, and Ecole Polyvalente, Trois-Pistoles, Quebec.
- Group show, Lynnwood Arts Centre, Simcoe, Ontario
- 1980 Solo show, London Regional Art Gallery, London, Ontario
- Solo show, Forest City Art Gallery, London, Ontario
- Solo show, R.E. Crouch Library and Resource Centre, Extension Services of London Regional Art Gallery, London, Ontario
- 1978 Group show, St. Thomas-Elgin Art Gallery, St. Thomas, Ontario
- 2-person show, *The London Free Press* Building, London, Ontario

### **Related Visual Arts Experience**

- 2009, 2013 Co-coordination of pilgrimage-related exhibitions (see above)
- 2006 Co-coordination of *On Eagles' Wings*, displays of artwork, poetry and testimony by Polish survivors of deportations of Poles from Kresy (borderlands of Poland) to Siberia by Russians, 1940-1944; held at Polish Combatants Halls in London, Kitchener, Toronto Ontario as well as in England, Australia and South Africa.

- 1994-2002 Biennial curation and installation of art exhibitions of the Friday Art Group of the London InterCommunity Health Centre, London, Ontario. Exhibitions held at galleries in the branches of the London Public Library.
- 1990-2004 Facilitation of the community mural projects for the London InterCommunity Health Centre. Two murals installed on outdoor walls, many in the interior of the building.
- 1991-2004 Facilitation of experiential art workshops to promote communication in areas of cross-cultural understanding, conflict resolution, health promotion, and creativity and spirituality. Selected list of participating agencies:  
 Thames Valley District School Board, London, Ontario  
 Scarborough District Health Unit, Scarborough, Ontario  
 Children's International Summer Village, Kitchener, Ontario, and Newcastle, England  
 The Circle, Brescia College, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario  
 The Palliative Care Institute, Ontario Ministry of Health; administered by Continuing Studies of The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario  
 Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Professional Educators' Conference, London and Thunder Bay, Ontario

## **Awards**

- 1987 International Miniatures Exhibition, Purchase Award, Del Bello Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- 1984 St. Thomas-Elgin Art Gallery Purchase Award
- 1983 Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant
- 1977 Mackie Cryderman Memorial Award, H.B. Beal Secondary School, Special Arts Program, London, Ontario

## **Press**

*American Pilgrim*; a Magazine of the Camino de Santiago and Pilgrimage, V.2, No.1, Spring 2007. American Pilgrims on the Camino, Palo Alto, California.

*Canadian Art Collection*, McIntosh Gallery, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, p. 187

*East Side News*, London, Ontario, December 2001 Vol.6, No.12, p.1

*Gazeta Ontario*, Toronto Ontario, December 2001 Vol.247, p.31

*The London Free Press*, London, Ontario: January 19, 2009; October 25, 2001; June 23, 1995; May 30, 1994; December 17, 1991; October 30, 1983; February 23, 1980

*Panorama Polska*, Warsaw, Poland; November 1983, v.28, n.11/328, p.41

## **Collections**

St.Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre, St. Thomas, Ontario

Del Bello Gallery, Toronto, Ontario

The London InterCommunity Health Centre, London, Ontario

McIntosh Gallery, Western University, London, Ontario

Numerous private collections, London, Ontario