



deer crossing the art farm is currently accepting concept submissions for its annual open house **RETURN** August 8th and 9th 2009.

RETURN will be a multi-disciplinary event featuring site-specific installations and performances at various locations around the farm and surrounding forest. We are looking for artists from a variety of disciplines to create innovative pieces inspired by the title theme.

*There was a forest fire long before this land was logged. Some of the charred trunks of old growth forest still remain. Mushrooms appear every spring: white lines in the black soil. Eighty years ago, the old growth was cut down. Twenty-five years ago, the second growth. There is a distinct line at the back where old forest ends and new forest begins. There is another line that marks the transition from forest to cleared cultivated land, a small millhouse and a fenced in garden; lines between lawn and pasture, between pasture and gravel, between gravel and road. Walk from one side of any one line to another and you move – quite literally – into a different stage of **RETURN**.*

***RETURN** is everywhere we look, from the mushrooms to the small alders in the pasture to the blackberry vines in summer. But is **RETURN** within us? If this is nature and we are nature, what then are we returning to?*

Winding pathways through the alder and cedar/fir forests will lead audiences through the proposed installations and performances. Please visit our website at <http://www.deercrossingtheartfarm.org/image/tid/1?page=1> to see some of the installations from the open house last year. Our website is currently under renovation. If the page is unavailable, contact us directly for sample photos. Please keep in mind that last year's open house featured sculptural, canvas and ceramic-based installations only. We are encouraging all disciplines to apply for 2009.

All work will be constrained by site-specific limitations – including power, light, and the elements. Set-up: August 5th – 7th. Strike: August 10th – 11th.

About the art farm: Located on five acres two kilometers from the Langdale ferry terminal on the sunshine coast, deer crossing the art farm is a not-for-profit arts organization whose mission is to “provide and sustain an accessible rural space for artists of all disciplines to create, perform and display innovative work”.

Payment: As a young not-for-profit organization, deer crossing the art farm has limited funds at its disposal. Our goal for this year is to expand our infrastructure to accommodate more artists and their work while continuing to promote these artists to a growing community of audience members, donors and sponsors. While we'd like to pay

all artists honorably for their time, energy and talent, we're unable to provide the appropriate compensation at this time. The art farm will:

- cover all reasonable transportation and shipping costs
- prepare media and marketing for the event
- provide meals for all participating artists during set-up, strike and the event itself
- find reasonably priced or billeted accommodation for all out-of-town artists
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During the Spring and Summer 2009, the art farm is offering four residencies, each one-week in length. Priority for these residencies will be given to all artists participating in **RETURN**. If you are interested in applying for a one-week residency, please indicate this in your application.

How to apply: Please send in a one-page description of your idea, including:

- who you are
- your contact information
- what draws you to **RETURN**
- what your medium is
- what your concept is
- what location on the art farm is best suited for your proposal
- what materials you'll be transporting and using
- if an installation, whether it will be temporary or permanent
- what, if any, assistance you'll need for set-up and strike
- if you are interested in applying for an artistic residency

If you are a group of artists, answer the same questions collectively, including information about the size, history and ambition of your group. Please also attach any media or links to showcase previous work. We are aware that most submissions will come from artists unfamiliar with the art farm. We're not looking for a precise description of your concept, more a general idea of what your performance or installation will look and/or sound like.

Deadline for submissions is March 30th, 2009. E-mail all submissions to: contact@deercrossingheartfarm.org or send them snail-mail to the address below.

Thank you for your interest in the art farm!



■ 1747 Storvold Road, Gibsons, British Columbia, Canada V0N 1V6 ■ www.deercrossingheartfarm.org ■ T. 604 886 0955 ■

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