

Family Memories Layered in Louise Laplante's Mixed Media Panels:
Exhibit at STCC Runs March 5 Through April 2

Mixed media artist Louise Laplante will show a selection of her recent work at the Amy H. Carberry Fine Arts Gallery at Springfield Technical Community College on March 5 through April 2. The exhibit is entitled *Here and Gone: Presence, Absence, Memory and Time*. Also, a reception for the artist will be held on Wednesday, March 10 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. in the gallery.

"I was raised in a household that reveled in its past, spending many hours listening to my parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles talk about their childhoods. They created many images for me, in their tales of eccentric neighbor, relatives visiting from Quebec (my grandparents' birthplace) and the trials and pleasures of life in a very small town. As they talked, I added the visual elements which made their stories come to life," says Laplante.



The public is invited to the gallery, free of charge. The Amy H. Carberry Fine Arts Gallery is located on the first level of Building 28 on the STCC campus. Hours are Tuesday through Friday 12:30-4:30 and Saturday 10:00-2:00.

Laplante's mixed media panels are created by layering collaged paper, drawn elements, and wax to evoke the nostalgia of memory. "This assembly of materials broadens the idea of 'painting' beyond the brush stroke and brings it closer to the layering that is more reflective of the mind's process of memory making," explains Laplante.

STCC gallery coordinator, Francie Riddle says, "The found letters, textbook pages and sheet music form their own archive of history. The overlay of iconic imagery recalls the disjointed narrative of the subconscious."

Laplante earned a Bachelor of Fine Art degree from the College of New Rochelle and a master's degree in Fine Art from SUNY Albany. Her work has been shown widely in New England, in both solo and group shows, and is represented in the permanent collection of Springfield's Museum of Fine Arts and the Mead Art Museum at Amherst College.

This exhibit is made possible by funding from STCC Student Activities and the School of Continuing Education.