

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Vancouver Art Gallery's Art Auction – the City's Premier Arts Fundraising Event –
Flashes Forward on October 18**

With Phenomenal Support of Visual Art Community 2008 Auction to be Gallery's Biggest

VANCOUVER, BC – The **Vancouver Art Gallery** will host more than 400 guests at ***Flash Forward: Art Auction 2008*** on **Saturday, October 18** at The Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. With 51 live auction and 34 silent auction works by such internationally recognized artists as Roy Arden, Rebecca Belmore, Rodney Graham, Fred Herzog, Zhang Huan, Huang Yong Ping, Jack Shadbolt, Gordon Smith and many more, the Gallery projects proceeds of more than \$800,000 to significantly provide for upcoming exhibitions and programs.

**FLASH
FORWARD**
VANCOUVER ART GALLERY
ART AUCTION 2008

“The Gallery appreciates the overwhelming support it has received from everyone who has rushed to buy tickets for the event,” said **David Aisenstat**, Art Auction 2008 co-chair and chair of the Gallery's Board of Trustees. “The funds raised will ensure the Gallery's ability to continue to create quality exhibitions and innovative programming.”

At the Gallery's 2006 bi-annual action, the Gallery celebrated its 75-year history in grand style by looking back to its past. In 2008, with \$50 million in lead funding for a new Gallery building from the Province of British Columbia and a proposed site on Vancouver's False Creek, the Gallery is celebrating the future and exciting things to come. Electricity will be in the air from the beginning when champagne toasts are made and Gallery Trustee, Barry Scott of Maynards Auctioneers begins the bidding on art by some of today's most respected artists, including a film-based work by Canada's representative to the 2009 Venice Biennale, Mark Lewis.

“We are extremely grateful to the many artists and private galleries who have come forward to donate these incredible works of art for the Gallery's fundraiser,” said **Claudia Beck**, Art Auction 2008 co-chair. “Their generous contributions represent tremendous support of the Vancouver Art Gallery.”

When the dust of the live auction settles, the black-tie-optional party will be led by a procession of drummers to a transformed British Columbia Ballroom completely draped in white and twinkling with light to symbolize the kinetic energy in the air as the Gallery prepares for the biggest move in its history. Before and during a sumptuous dinner, guests will browse and bid on silent auction works hung in a specially designed gallery setting. After dinner, Vancouver's premier party dance band, the Famous Players, will take to the stage for a night of high energy music.

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