

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Join the Beat Nation at Vancouver Art Gallery's *FUSE*
Friday, February 24th, 2012

VANCOUVER, BC – Join the beat on Friday, February 24th as the Vancouver Art Gallery brings the latest edition of *FUSE* to the city. This hip hop-inspired event will feature a mashup of performance, music, dance and art in the galleries in celebration of the opening of *Beat Nation: Art, Hip Hop and Aboriginal Culture*.

FUSE: BEAT NATION takes place from 8:30pm to 1am. Performers include:

- **Jackson 2Bears:** this Halifax-based Kanien'kehaka (Mohawk) artist and DJ brings music and visuals to his Gallery performance;
- **Bear Witness:** award-winning multimedia artist and filmmaker Bear Witness brings his DJ skills to *FUSE*;
- **A Tribe Called Red:** this DJ collective's signature dubstep re-mixes of native American drum circles have been called "the most exciting music in Indian Country";
- **Dedos:** recognized as one of Canada's graffiti/b-boy pioneers, this Juno Award-winning artist brings his dance style to the Gallery;
- **Silver Jackson (Nicholas Galanin):** showing another side of his artistic expression, Tlingit/Aleut multimedia artist Galanin picks up his guitar and performs as Silver Jackson;
- **Skeena Reece:** a multi-disciplinary Tsimshian/Gitskan and Cree artist, Reece brings her special humour and "sacred clowning" performance to the Rotunda;
- Vancouver-based aboriginal artist **Raymond Boisjoly** makes a special handstamp for the night.

Since its launch in July 2005, thousands of *FUSE*-goers have gathered at the Gallery for this hugely popular adult event. On Friday evenings three times annually, art, live performance, music, DJs, eclectic Gallery tours and unexpected surprises have made *FUSE* Vancouver's favourite see-and-be-seen event. Admission: \$17.50 for adults and free for Gallery Members.

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