

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 17, 2007

CHANEL Presents Exclusive showing of New Collection at Vancouver Art Gallery's *Monet to Dalí Ball*

VANCOUVER, BC — CHANEL will present the North American début of its Fall/Winter 2007/08 Ready-To-Wear Collection with a runway show at the **Vancouver Art Gallery's** premier fundraising event the ***Monet to Dalí Ball*** on **June 8, 2007**. Together with an exclusive preview of the Gallery's highly anticipated exhibition ***Monet to Dalí: Modern Masters from the Cleveland Museum of Art***, the evening includes a lavish outdoor champagne reception held in a Monet-inspired garden on Robson Square, a sumptuous dinner and live auction. The evening promises to be Vancouver's most glamorous fundraising event this year.

"The *Monet to Dalí Ball* will set a new standard for charitable events in Vancouver," said co-chair, Jamie Pitblado who is joined by co-chair and Gallery trustee Sherry Killam in bringing the Ball together. "Not only will Ball guests be first to see the most important showing of European art ever presented in the city, they'll also be the only audience in North America to preview the latest creations of the world's most revered fashion house. It is the perfect marriage of art and fashion, offering a truly amazing evening of entertainment."

Upon arrival, partygoers will be ushered into a lush interpretation of Claude Monet's beloved garden at Giverny created for Robson Square Plaza by internationally renowned floral designer Hitomi Gilliam, recipient of the American Institute of Floral Designers' prestigious Design Influence Award. Ball guests will sip champagne and enjoy French-inspired hors d'oeuvres under the dappled shade of willow armatures while being soothed by the music of Ravel and Debussy played by a classical string quartet. As they mingle amid Impressionistic floral sculptures scenting the warm evening air and lily-filled reflective ponds, guests' spirits will be buoyed as they prepare to be among the first to view *Monet to Dalí: Modern Masters from the Cleveland Museum of Art*, the most comprehensive showing of European painting and sculpture in Canada this summer. With more than 80 artworks by such masters as Cézanne, Dalí, Degas, Gauguin, Manet, Matisse, Modigliani, Monet, Picasso, Renoir, Seurat and van Gogh, the preview is the first opportunity for an intimate encounter with paintings by some of history's greatest artists.

The black tie evening continues in The Fairmont Hotel Vancouver's grand BC Ballroom, which will receive a full makeover by CHANEL. Transforming the room to represent an icy environ, the renowned fashion house will make changes to highlight their Fall/Winter 2007/08 Ready-To-Wear Collection. In the midst of the dramatic black and grey

Ball
MONET
TO DALÍ



Marie-Yolande de Fitz-James, 1867. Oil on fabric; 50.2 x 42.2 cm. The Cleveland Museum of Art, Gift of Lewis C. Williams 1982.256. © The Cleveland Museum of Art

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décor created to replicate the design of line's début runway show at the Grand Palais in Paris, Ball guests will sit for a decadent three-course dinner followed by a live auction of nine luxury items conducted by Barry Scott of Maynard Auctions. Among the fabulous items up for auction are two CHANEL watches with a value of \$11,450, an exclusive \$30,000 golf package to Palm Springs with transport on a private jet, and a wine package that includes exclusive use of Mission Hill Family Estate's "by invitation only" guest house.

The highlight of the evening belongs to CHANEL with a runway show which, when it premiered in Paris, inspired style.com to write that chief executive of design, "Karl Lagerfeld proved yet again that he is a canny barometer of every change in the fashion atmosphere."

Premium Tables seating 12 guests are \$10,000, with tables seating 10 guests priced at \$5,000. Individual tickets are \$500 per person. Event proceeds provide vital support for Gallery operations, exhibitions and programming. Those interested in attending can contact the Gallery by calling the special events line at 604-662-4747.

The *Monet to Dalí Ball* is presented by The Private Residences at Hotel Georgia with additional support given by Mercedes-Benz Canada Inc.

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AT HOTEL GEORGIA

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The Vancouver Art Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of the City of Vancouver, the Province of British Columbia through the BC Arts Council and Gaming Revenues, the Government of Canada through the Canada Council for the Arts, the Department of Canadian Heritage Museums Assistance Program and Cultural Spaces Canada.