

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 16, 2006

Raging Grannies and Guerilla Tour Guides at the Vancouver Art Gallery's Next *FUSE*

VANCOUVER, BC — The Vancouver Art Gallery's November 24th *FUSE*, the last of 2006, will be a raucous event with performances by the Vancouver Raging Grannies, art inspired dance in gallery spaces, and provocative tours led by guerrilla guides. With jazz and food in the Gallery Café, drinks in the *FUSE* lounge and an expert tour of the current exhibition *Emily Carr: New Perspectives on a Canadian Icon*, *FUSE* is Vancouver's most unique night of art, music and performance.

Known for their delightfully provocative protests songs and outrageous thrift store attire, the Vancouver Raging Grannies have been raising awareness of important social justice issues for more than twenty years – often from the steps of the Vancouver Art Gallery. This *FUSE*, the Grannies come inside the Gallery to share their unique approach to public descent, using satirical songs and skits to highlight issues concerning peace, the environment and social justice.

Kathryn Ricketts, artistic director of Vancouver's MainDance and Plan B Dance Productions will perform choreography inspired by current exhibitions throughout the Gallery. Ricketts will perform a routine responding to the work of Emily Carr in the rotunda, set to the singing of SongRise choir director Laurel Murphy and the spoken word poetry of Carl Leggo. She will also perform a work in *PAINT* during which graphic artist Keith Martin will project his live digital drawing on her body using a projector and computer illustration pallet.

In addition to a traditional tour of *Emily Carr: New Perspectives on a Canadian Icon*, *FUSE* will offer guerilla tours to provide alternate perspectives on current exhibitions. Vancouver performance, installation and video artist Julianna Barabas will lead visitors through the *PAINT* exhibition and challenge assumptions along the way, while Gallery Animature Gabriella Szalay takes visitors on a tour of the Carr exhibition focused on everything but the paintings. Forget polite and reflective, these tours promise to be challenging trips through the best of British Columbian art.

The Vancouver Art Gallery's *FUSE* is the city's most intriguing night of art, music and performance. Taking place the last Friday of every month, *FUSE* offers an ever-changing array of programming drawing on Vancouver's thriving artistic communities. From aerial dancers performing on the Gallery walls, to pop culture lectures on Picasso, *FUSE* puts Vancouver's leading visual arts destination in an entirely new light – at night. *FUSE* tickets are \$10 per person, \$5 off the regular adult admission price. Members of the Vancouver Art Gallery receive free admission.

–30–

Media contact:
Andrew Riley, Public Relations Manager, 604-662-4722
ariley@vanartgallery.bc.ca

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.