

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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VANCOUVER ART GALLERY TO MARK 80th YEAR
with OUTSTANDING EXHIBITIONS and PUBLIC PROGRAMS
Gallery Announces Highlights of Early 2011 Program

VANCOUVER, B.C. – The Vancouver Art Gallery will celebrate its 80th year with an exceptional selection of historic and contemporary exhibitions and dynamic new public programs. From a monumental exhibition of Surrealist art with key works from major public and private collections around the world, to the first solo survey of internationally-renowned Vancouver artist Ken Lum, to a visual exploration of time, movement and memory, as well as an innovative look at Vancouver through the actions and ideas that shape this city, the Gallery will be the place to see and experience outstanding art in 2011.

The Gallery also debuts an innovative public program offering new voices, views and ideas. The Gallery's *Culture Series* will feature influential individuals from around the world who are changing the way we think about art, creativity and culture.

“In our 80th year, I could not imagine a more fitting roster of exhibitions and programs featuring outstanding Canadian and international artists,” said Kathleen Bartels, director of the Vancouver Art Gallery. “We are proud to have organized several groundbreaking exhibitions for 2011, including *The Colour of My Dreams: the Surrealist Revolution in Art*, the largest exhibition of this important movement ever to be presented in Canada, and the first major survey of the work of Vancouver artist Ken Lum. We also continue to showcase key works from our expanding collection of more than 10,000 artworks in exhibitions such as *Unreal*. In every way, it is a dynamic time for the Gallery and the expansion of our exhibition and education programs.”

Early 2011 exhibitions include:

Ken Lum

February 12 to September 25, 2011

Ken Lum marks the first large-scale solo survey of the work of this internationally-acclaimed Vancouver artist known for his powerful work exploring themes of identity and public/private space. The exhibition showcases the vast range of Lum's creativity, including photography, sculpture and installations. *Ken Lum* is generously supported by Presenting Sponsor, Polygon Homes Ltd.; Arts Partners in Creative Development and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.



Presenting Sponsor: **POLYGON**

Unreal

January 22 to September 5, 2011

Drawn primarily from the Gallery's permanent collection with select loans, this exhibition considers the work of over 60 modern and contemporary artists who explore beyond the realm of the real and open our eyes to the marvelous, the fantastical, the weird, even the monstrous. From Jock Macdonald, Jack Shadbolt and Sandra Meigs to Francis Bacon, Cindy Sherman and Paul McCarthy, the exhibition includes local and international artists.

We: Vancouver – 12 Manifestos for the City

February 12 – May 1, 2011

WE: Vancouver examines the city of Vancouver through the extraordinary range of practices, actions and ideas that shape and activate it. The exhibition is organized around twelve manifestos of fundamental actions which shape urban space today: MOVE, ACTIVATE, CHOOSE, LISTEN, REMEMBER, SEE, USE, CONSUME, DETOUR, SPEAK, OCCUPY and DEMONSTRATE. Artists, architects, designers, writers, filmmakers, activists and citizens-at-large shift our perception of the city and open up alternate models for living and new possibilities for thinking about this place. *WE: Vancouver* is supported by Presenting Sponsor, Vancity.

Presenting Sponsor: 

The exhibition is also supported by the City of Vancouver's 125th Anniversary Partnership Grants Program, with the participation of the Government of Canada.



Walking + Falling: Jim Campbell, Chris Marker, Eadweard Muybridge

April 2 – September 5, 2011

Walking + Falling explores how three unique artists whose work spans more than a century have contributed to expanding media art. Eadweard Muybridge (1830-1904), Chris Marker (b. 1921) and Jim Campbell (b. 1956) have all utilized what-was-then 'new' media to explore and represent complex ideas of time, movement and memory. Through their work, this exhibition provides a unique insight into the important role of research and experimentation in art.

The Colour of My Dreams: the Surrealist Revolution in Art

May 28 – September 25, 2011

The Colour of My Dreams will be the most comprehensive Surrealism exhibition ever shown in Canada. Organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery, it will feature art by all of the leading figures of Surrealism including Salvador Dalí, Max Ernst, René Magritte, Joan Miró, Man Ray, Dorthea Tanning and Yves Tanguy. Renowned scholar and guest curator Dawn Ades has selected approximately 300 works from leading museum and private collections in North America and Europe that will both underscore the radical sense of experimentation that underlies the founding of Surrealism in the 1920s and reveal the rich diversity of painting, sculpture, drawing, photography and film created in the ensuing decades. In addition to providing a comprehensive overview of one of the twentieth-century's most important artistic movements, the exhibition will, for the first time, examine the passionate interest in the indigenous art of the Pacific Northwest by Surrealist artists such as André Breton, Robert Lebel and Kurt Seligmann. *The Colour of My Dreams* is supported by Presenting Sponsor, The Keg Steakhouse & Bar.

Presenting Sponsor: 

THE CULTURE SERIES

Debuting in the Gallery's 80th anniversary year, *The Culture Series* is a year-long celebration of innovative ideas in culture. Artists, writers, critics, historians and performers from around the world will share their ideas in this special series of talks designed to enlighten and encourage debate. Presentations in The Culture Series include:

Barbara Hammer

January 11, 2011

Vancity Theatre, 7pm

American film-maker Barbara Hammer is famous for her ground-breaking experimental films dealing with issues such as gender roles, lesbian relationships and coping with aging and family. Her work includes *Dyketactics* (1974) and *Women I Love* (1976). Hammer received the first Shirley Clarke Avant-Garde Filmmaker Award in October 2006, the Women In Film Award from the St. Louis International Film Festival in 2006, and the Teddy Award for the best short film for *A Horse is Not a Metaphor* at the International Berlin Film Festival in 2009. Tickets: www.viff.org

Althea Thauberger

February 8, 2011

Vancouver Art Gallery, 7pm

Vancouver artist Althea Thauberger's collaborative, lens-based practice has gained international recognition. Often concerned with documenting social enclaves and group dynamics, her work has examined such varied subjects as Canadian tree-planters in remote regions and Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan. Free with Gallery admission.

Peter Samis

March 15, 2011

Vancouver Art Gallery, 7pm

Peter Samis, associate curator of interpretation at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, served as art historian/content expert on the first CD-ROM on modern art. He continues to break ground in the field of museum education and new technology. Free with Gallery admission.

Mark Allen/Machine Project

April 16, 2011

Vancouver Art Gallery, 2pm

Mark Allen is the founder of Machine Project, a Los Angeles based non-profit organization which investigates art, technology, natural history, science, music, literature and food. Machine Project produces workshops, performances and other events to make rarefied knowledge accessible.

For a complete list of programs in The Culture Series and other Gallery public programs and events, visit the Gallery's website at www.vanartgallery.bc.ca.

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