

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Family FUSE Weekend: Inspiration Everywhere**  
**July 9 – 10, 10am-5pm**  
**Vancouver Art Gallery (750 Hornby Street)**

FREE for children aged 12 & under when accompanied by an adult and for Gallery Members.  
Regular adult admission rates apply.

July 4, 2016, Vancouver, BC – Vancouver Art Gallery’s popular all-age program Family FUSE Weekend will return on Saturday, July 9 and Sunday, July 10. Organized in conjunction with the Gallery’s summer exhibitions *Picasso: The Artist and His Muses* and *BHARTI KHER Matter*, this Family FUSE Weekend takes on the theme of “Inspiration Everywhere.” This energetic event features performances by celebrated Vancouver Sitar player **Mohamed Assani**, tabla wizard **Amarjeet Singh**, singer/electronic duo **Rup Sidhu**, Odissi classical Indian dancer **Scheherazaad Cooper**, singing and story-telling duo **Sharada Eswar** and **Sonja Rainey**, as well as dance workshops by educator **Caroline Liffmann**. In addition, grownups and kids can enjoy the exhibitions with a team of friendly and engaging **Art Agents**, and explore hands-on art-making activities at the **Making Place**. This event is free for children aged 12 and under.

**Things to see and do:**

- Catch dynamic performances that weave together Hindustani Classical music, freestyle rap and beat boxing. On Saturday, July 9, sitar player Mohamed Assani will be accompanied by tabla wizard Amarjeet Singh to present a recital that takes the audiences on an enthralling and emotive journey. On Sunday, July 10, enjoy the music by Lapis (Mohamed Assani and vocalist/electronic musician Rup Sidhu), known for their improvisation and original compositions with unexpected sonic pairings.
- Dancer Scheherazaad Cooper will guide you through the narrative world of Odissi classical Indian dance, where poetry and movement are one. Then learn a few dance moves.

- Get inspired by the work of Bharti Kher and explore the exhibition through a range of drawing activities with educator Kate Dawson.
- Join dancer and choreographer Caroline Liffmann to explore the exhibition *I Had an Interesting French Artist to See Me this Summer: Emily Carr and Wolfgang Paalen in British Columbia* through a range of movement and activities.
- Using traditional Indian shadow puppets, Victorian toy theatre and overhead projectors, Sharada Eswar and Sonja Rainey tells the story of *The Blue God & the Serpents*. This piece is inspired by stories from Indian mythology, particularly the story of Dashavatar (ten avatars of Vishnu, the Hindu god of preservation), while making connections to contemporary issues such as climate change and global warming. Afterwards, make your own puppet and write your own story.
- Make your own creative button at our popular Button Station.
- Use paint and experiment with lines and forms, inspired by the candid video of Picasso painting on glass.
- Take a break and relax in our Family Film Lounge, eat your lunch or a snack while watching a selection of great animated and live action films programmed by Reel 2 Real International Film Festival for Youth.

Website: [http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca/events\\_and\\_programs/familyfuseweekend.html](http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca/events_and_programs/familyfuseweekend.html)

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#### MEDIA INFORMATION AND PASSES:

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About the Vancouver Art Gallery: The Vancouver Art Gallery is a not-for-profit organization supported by its members, individual donors, corporate funders, foundations, the City of Vancouver, the Province of British Columbia through the BC Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts. We thank everyone for their continuing generosity.