

For Immediate Release

FUSE: THIS IS NOW
8pm–12am, Friday, April 15, 2016
Vancouver Art Gallery (750 Hornby St.)

Admission: \$24. Tickets at the door
Free to the Vancouver Art Gallery Members

April 1, 2016, Vancouver, BC – The city’s favourite art party *FUSE* will come back to transform the Vancouver Art Gallery again on Friday, April 15, 2016, turning the Gallery into a space for live happenings and unexpected encounters. This edition of *FUSE* is in conjunction with *MashUp: The Birth of Modern Culture*, the Gallery’s largest exhibition to date, featuring 371 artworks by 156 artists from around the world. Guest-curated by Joyce Rosario (Associate Curator, PuSh International Performing Arts Festival), *FUSE: THIS IS NOW* takes a look at “mashup” as expressed by the body, through movement, dance, and live performance.

Enjoy dance by Justine A. Chambers, Natalie Tin Yin Gan, Project Soul and RARUFU; experience immersive installations by Milton Lim and Remy Siu; relax in the lounge with dance and music mashup Kareem Abdul Jabaastard and Deanna Peters/Mutable Subject; catch a feature-length dance music video by Jacob Krupnick – the evening’s dynamic program will bring your art-viewing experience to another level.

Highlights of the evening:

Back it Up by Justine A. Chambers – In this performance, contemporary dance artist Justine A. Chambers brings the back-up dancer to the forefront by prioritizing individuality using a step, a touch and a snap as a shared movement. Every movement is given equal rhythmic value, and over time, the distinctive movement of each dancer engulfs the initial choreography.

Chinese Vaginies by Natalie Gan (Hong Kong Exile) – Described as “soft and fluffy”, this campy and playful dance performance aims to address the interconnected issues of food, consumption, exotification and violence on the female body.

SQUIN by RARUFU– Ralph Escamillan (aka RARUFU) is no stranger to *FUSE*, having performed with House of Ladouche, Out Innerspace and Company 605. In this collaboration with sound designer Stefan Seslija, RARUFU serves up what it means to be grande, iconic and alluring with sequins, sound and the body.

okay.odd by Milton Lim (Hong Kong Exile) – Based on the tenets of concentration, mindfulness and visualization, *okay.odd* is a multimedia meditation session that guides participants through a stream of consciousness. Part spiritual retreat and part commentary on our image-inundated affect-obsessed society, this performance/installation invites you to encounter the version of you that you feel, but do not know.

New eyes – study #2 by Remy Siu (Hong Kong Exile) – An audio-visual performance and a generative light sculpture, this piece seeks to subvert the standard relationship between player and instrument by creating consequence and complication for every action.

Girl Walk // All Day (2011) by Jacob Krupnick - This feature-length dance music video, set to tracks of an entire Girl Talk album, is a tale of urban exploration, following three dancers across New York City as they turn the city’s sidewalks, parks and architecture into an evolving stage. Expanding the boundaries of the single-track music video, this project is an epic musical film about self-discovery and love, about finding community and vitality in shared public space.

Dancers from Project Soul will roam the Gallery space and create ciphers in various locations, these dancers will bring energetic pop-up hip-hop dance up and close to the audience.

Throughout the evening on the Gallery's fourth floor pavilion, *FUSE*-goers can relax and get their groove on to a mashup-inspired playlist ranging from Missy Elliott to Joy Division's Ian Curtis, designed by Kareem Abdul Jabaastard, with dance by Deanna Peters/Mutable Subject and guests.

Tickets: \$24 at the door | Free for Gallery Members

Website: http://vanartgallery.bc.ca/events_and_programs/fuse.html

About *FUSE*: Since its inception in July 2005, thousands of *FUSE*-goers have converged at the Vancouver Art Gallery for this unique adult event. Live performances and music in the Gallery spaces, DJs, eclectic Gallery tours, contemporary dance and unexpected surprises have made *FUSE* Vancouver's favourite art party—a place to see and be seen. ***FUSE: THIS IS NOW*** is guest-curated by Joyce Rosario, produced by MediaLab, and presented by the Vancouver Art Gallery.

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MEDIA INFORMATION & EVENT 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.