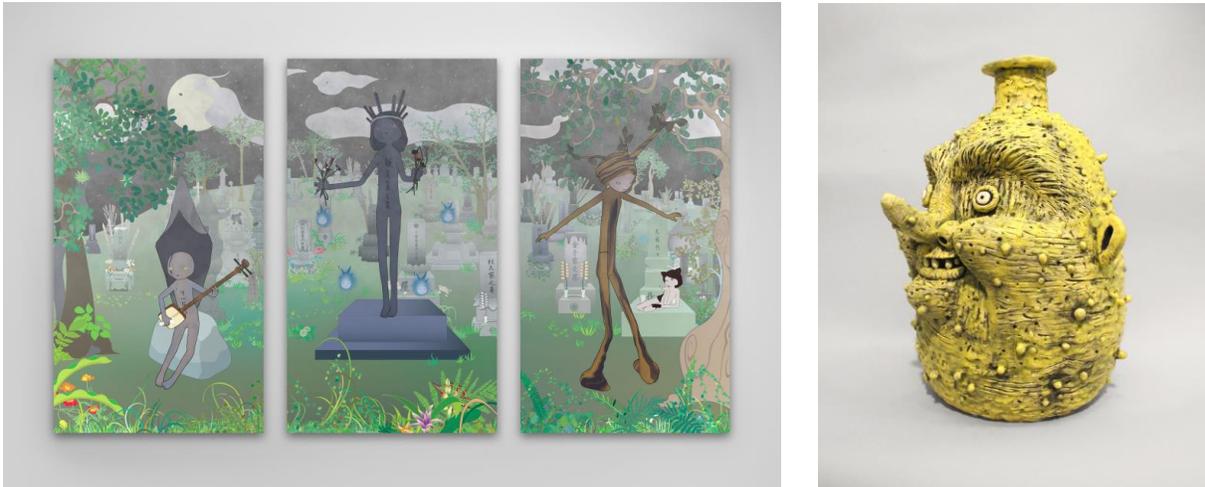


For Immediate Release



## ***Juxtapoz x Superflat* opens at the Vancouver Art Gallery this November**

**October 3, 2016, Vancouver, B.C.** – The Vancouver Art Gallery is pleased to present *Juxtapoz x Superflat*, a dynamic exhibition conceived by the renowned Japanese artist Takashi Murakami and co-curated with Evan Pricco, Editor-in-Chief of *Juxtapoz Art & Culture*, a legendary San Francisco-based magazine committed to contemporary art, design, fashion and graffiti. Featuring the work of more than 30 artists from Japan, Korea, Canada, the United States and Europe, this exhibition opens at the Vancouver Art Gallery on November 5, 2016 and runs until February 5, 2017.

*Juxtapoz x Superflat* is a manifesto for new creative practices that can no longer be adequately described by the traditional categories of art and modes of production. Takashi Murakami and Evan Pricco conceived the exhibition as a survey of the most exciting visual art to emerge in recent years, with a heavy emphasis on artists who operate outside of the central hubs of the global art world. Expanding upon Murakami and *Juxtapoz* magazine's interest in flattening high and low cultures, this exhibition includes work by artists whose practice has been shaped by a variety of sub-cultures including skate, surf, graffiti, street art, comics, design, illustration, painting, digital and traditional arts.

The idea of “superflat” was famously declared by Takashi Murakami in 2001 as he described that the future of Japanese art was ‘superflat’. For Murakami, “superflat” meant many things — a recognition of the formal qualities of contemporary design, anime and manga; the fundamental importance of sub-cultures in the conception of contemporary art; the persistent presence of a banal and superficial consumer culture; a flattening of traditional hierarchies; and a reconfiguration of the edges and boundaries that have traditionally shaped meaning in contemporary cultural production.

*Juxtapoz x Superflat* includes work by Nina Chanel Abney, Chiho Aoshima, Urs Fischer, GATS, Kim Jung Gi, Kazunori Hamana, Trenton Doyle Hancock, John Hathway, Todd James, James Jean, Friedrich Kunath, Austin Lee, MADSAKI, Geoff McFetridge, Christian Rex van Minnen, Rebecca Morgan, Takashi Murakami, Kazumi Nakamura, Elisabeth Higgins O'Connor, Otani Workshop, Paco Pomet, Parra, Erin M. Riley, Mark Ryden, David Shrigley, Lucy Sparrow, Devin Troy Strother, Swoon, Katsuya Terada, Toilet Paper Magazine, Yuji Ueda, Yuji Ueno, Sage Vaughn, Ben Venom, He Xiangyu and Zoer & Velvet.

*Juxtapoz x Superflat* is organized by Kaikai Kiki Co. Ltd., and High Speed Productions, and co-curated by Takashi Murakami and Evan Pricco.

**About the Vancouver Art Gallery:**

Founded in 1931, the Vancouver Art Gallery is recognized as one of the most respected and innovative visual arts institutions in Canada and is committed to strengthening ties between artists and diverse communities throughout the city, province, and beyond. As the largest public art museum in Western Canada, the Gallery features contemporary and historical exhibitions all year round, and provides a global platform for British Columbia's dynamic artistic community, including the work of First Nations as well as art of the Asian Pacific artists. Its growing collection of over 12,000 artworks represents the most comprehensive resource for art in British Columbia and is the principal repository for visual art produced in the region, as well as related works by other notable Canadian and international artists.

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. [www.vanartgallery.bc.ca](http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca)

**Image credits:**

(left) Chiho Aoshima, *Little Miss Gravestone's Absent Musing*, 2016, interactive monitor, video animation, © 2016 Chiho Aoshima/Kaikai Kiki Co., Ltd. All Rights Reserved.

(right) Rebecca Morgan, Pittsburgh Joely Jug, 2014, stoneware, Courtesy of Asya Geisberg Gallery

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