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## Exhibition *Out of Sight* makes meaningful connections among recent acquisitions in Vancouver Art Gallery's Permanent Collection

March 20, 2014, Vancouver, BC – Opening on March 29, 2014, Vancouver Art Gallery's new exhibition *Out of Sight: New Acquisitions* explores artists' engagement with ideas around perception and representation. This exhibition features close to 100 contemporary and historical works that have been added to the Gallery's permanent collection in the past three years, the majority of which are on view for the first time.

"The Vancouver Art Gallery is extremely proud of the significant growth we have experienced in our permanent collection, and this exhibition is an acknowledgement of some of the recent generous donations that have enriched our holdings," said Kathleen S. Bartels, the Vancouver Art Gallery's Director. "*Out of Sight* exemplifies our strategy to activate the Gallery's permanent collection by showcasing works in meaningful and engaging ways."

Artists presented in *Out of Sight* investigate the ambiguities of perception—the imperfect nature of what we see and experience—by creating intriguing depictions that exist on the edge of representation. The exhibition was inspired by a recent donation of photographs by visionary scientist and photographer **Harold Edgerton**. Taking pictures of events that occurred too quickly, or too slowly, to be discernable by the human eye, Edgerton is credited with inventing ultra high-speed, stroboscopic and stop-action photography. In his photographs of the splash from a drop of milk, the exact moment a bullet strikes an object or the trajectory of a golf club as it is swung, Edgerton extends the capacity of human perception by making time stand still.

"Taking Edgerton's remapping of the possibilities of space and time as a thematic starting point, *Out of Sight* offers stimulating juxtapositions of contemporary and historical artists who collectively encourage us to reconsider what we see in our everyday encounters," said Stephanie Rebick, Assistant Curator at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

The works included in *Out of Sight* are diverse in media and scale. Artists such as **Gary Lee-Nova** and **Michael Morris** engage with the mechanics of vision and the optical effects of linear and geometric composition to present new ways of seeing, creating intense perceptual experiences for the viewer. While **Etienne Zack** and **Holger Kalberg** challenge the conventions of pictorial space, defying perspectival depth and creating new spatial possibilities, **Robert Youds**, **Richard Artschwager** and **Elspeth Pratt** use everyday materials to explore perspective, depth and surface, and create visual and physical encounters that confront the viewer's perception. Artists such as **Iain Baxter** and **Diana Thater** examine the limits of representation, challenging traditional modes of display and conventional ways of seeing. **Angela Grossmann**, **Monique Fouquet** and **Graham Gillmore** create visceral and tactile representations of inner worlds that highlight the coexistence of that which can be perceived and that which is hidden or concealed.

From explorations of the limits of representation and perception to questioning how time is represented and perceived, the works in *Out of Sight: New Acquisitions* consider the inadequacies of optical vision. By making the invisible visible and deconstructing how we process and comprehend what is in front of us, these artists transcend the conventions of human vision to confound expectations and challenge our typical view of the world.

*Out of Sight: New Acquisitions* is Organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery and curated by Stephanie Rebick, Assistant Curator.

**A media tour of *Out of Sight: New Acquisitions* with Stephanie Rebick will take place at 9:00am, Thursday March 27, at the Vancouver Art Gallery. Please RSVP to Debra Zhou ([dzhou@vanartgallery.bc.ca](mailto:dzhou@vanartgallery.bc.ca)) to attend.**

#### **Related Event**

*Out of Sight: New Acquisitions* Curator's Tour

Tuesday, April 29, 2014 7pm at the Vancouver Art Gallery

Stephanie Rebick, Assistant Curator, tours the exhibition and discusses key themes and approaches to curating from the collection. Free for Members or with Gallery admission.

#### Image credits:

(Left) Etienne Zack, *Official*, 2011, oil on canvas, Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Purchased with the proceeds from the Audain Emerging Artists Acquisition Fund and the support of the Canada Council for the Arts Acquisition Assistance Program VAG 2012.12.5

(Middle) Michael Morris, *Untitled*, 1965, gouache, graphite on paper, Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Gift of Ken and Lorraine Stephens, Photo: Trevor Mills, Vancouver Art Gallery

(Right) Harold Edgerton, *Bullet Through Card*, 1964, dye transfer print, Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Gift of Angela and David Feldman, the Menkes Family, Marc and Alex Muzzo, Tory Ross, the Rose Baum-Sommerman Family, Shabin and Nadir Mohamed, VAG 2013.18.81

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**Images are available upon request.**

#### MEDIA INFORMATION:

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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