

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Summer Gala 2017, a celebration of visual art and *Claude Monet's Secret Garden*



Image Credit: Claude Monet, *Champ d'iris jaunes à Giverny, 1887*, oil on canvas, Musée Marmottan Monet, Paris, Photo: © Bridgeman Giraudon/Press

### When: June 16, 2017

**May 30, 2017, Vancouver, BC** – The Vancouver Art Gallery is excited to host **Monet's Secret Garden Summer Gala 2017** on **June 16** to celebrate the opening of the summer feature exhibition *Claude Monet's Secret Garden* (June 24 to October 1, 2017).

On June 16, the heart of Vancouver will be transformed into a floral paradise by three of Vancouver's top florists and an array of Canada's finest event professionals. Large-scale floral installations and digital projections will rise up during the experience of the evening around which art lovers will mingle and celebrate the genius of Claude Monet. Co-chaired by Pamela Richardson and Priscilla Lam, with Kathleen S. Bartels, Director, this annual fundraising Summer Gala will bring together Canada's top art enthusiasts and philanthropists for the benefit of the Vancouver Art Gallery's exhibitions and public programming.

The Gala will feature custom cocktails and hors d'oeuvres reception, along with an exclusive, behind-the-scenes glimpse of the installation of Monet's works. The night will also include a Monet-inspired dinner by Culinary Capers and a live auction. Andrew Chang, the Canadian Screen Award-winning host of CBC Vancouver News at 6, will be this year's master of ceremonies, and social butterfly Fred Lee will be the Gallery's Guest Auctioneer. Artistic performances for the evening include Vancouver's premiere dance academy, Goh Ballet, as well as Vancouver's much beloved Chor Leoni's Men's Choir.

This year's Gala committee members are Angela Bi, Susie Crang, Irene Fernandes, Don Stuart, Ava Vorwaller and Eric Woo.

For more information, please visit: [http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca/events\\_and\\_programs/gala.html](http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca/events_and_programs/gala.html)

**About the exhibition:**

*Claude Monet's Secret Garden* is the most comprehensive exhibition of Monet's work in Canada in two decades. The exhibition presents thirty-eight paintings spanning Monet's long career from the unparalleled collection of the Musée Marmottan Monet, Paris, and will culminate in a major series of paintings executed in his famous gardens in the French village of Giverny, where Monet lived from 1883 to the end of his life. His distinctive renderings of weeping willows, waterlilies and the Japanese bridge in his renowned garden are among the most iconic images of Western painting. The Vancouver showing will be the only presentation of the exhibition in North America.

**Presenting Sponsor:**



**Event Legacy Sponsor:**



-30-

**MEDIA CONTACT**

Justin Mah, Communications Specialist  
[jmah@vanartgallery.bc.ca](mailto:jmah@vanartgallery.bc.ca), Direct: 604-662-4722

**About the Vancouver Art Gallery**

Founded in 1931, the Vancouver Art Gallery is recognized as one of North America's most respected and innovative visual arts institutions. The Gallery's innovative ground-breaking exhibitions, extensive public programs and emphasis on advancing scholarship all focus on the historical and contemporary art of British Columbia and international centres, with special attention to the accomplishments of Indigenous artists and the art of the Asia Pacific region—through the Institute of Asian Art founded in 2014. The Gallery's programs also explore the impacts of images in the larger sphere of visual culture, design and architecture. [www.vanartgallery.bc.ca](http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca)

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.