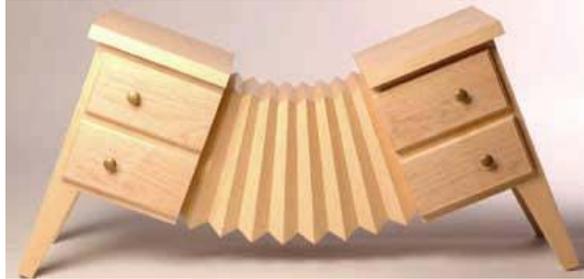


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, May 20, 2005

Incredible objects on offer at EXTRAORDINARY! Design.Auction.Party



Accordion cabinet, donated by Straight Line Designs Inc.

Vancouver, BC – A truly ‘extraordinary’ selection of exclusive designer goods furniture, fashion, jewellery, art and more – will go under the hammer and be sold to the highest bidder as Bell presents “EXTRAORDINARY! Design. Auction. Party,” the Vancouver Art Gallery’s original design event and auction, Saturday June 4, 2005.

"With auction items valued from \$200 to \$30,000, we truly have something for everyone," said Rick Graham, EXTRAORDINARY! 2005 Chair. "Thanks to the amazing generosity of our committee members and donors, we're anticipating another smashing success in support of the Vancouver Art Gallery."

The first EXTRAORDINARY!, held in 2003, raised more than \$100,000 for the Gallery. One critic lauded it as a “radical departure from the traditional art auction dinner.” The 2005 edition promises to be even more memorable with more than 120 highly desirable designer goods and luxury items to tempt every taste and temperament, including:

- a 2004 Harley Davidson V-Rod motorcycle, personally autographed by Willie G. Davidson
- an enchanting Bellinzona solid wood dining table and chairs designed exclusively for EXTRAORDINARY! by Nicolas Meyer of Nico Spacecraft
- the ingenious Softwall, created by Vancouver-based Molo and recently added to the permanent collection at New York’s Museum of Modern Art
- an original sculpture by award-winning architect and artist Richard G. Henriquez
- a unique bench crafted in alder wood by west coast artist and sculptor Brent Comber
- Fabulous furnishings and accessories from Martha Sturdy, Phillippe Starck, Todd Oldham, Richard Schultz, Francis Lemieux, Kozai, Bombast and many other leading designers and design studios.

- more -

EXTRAORDINARY! will held in an unusual and intriguing venue known more for heavy industry than high fashion: the former Finning factory on Great Northern Way, now reborn as a world-class centre for multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary research and learning in art, design, science and technology. The Great Northern Way Campus is a fitting stage for the transformative vision and creative sprit which EXTRAORDINARY! celebrates.

Inside, guests may wander at will among lavish displays of designer goods while enjoying exotic drinks at the Bombay Sapphire Martini Bar and mouth-watering gourmet foods prepared by some of Vancouver's finest restaurants, caterers and specialty food merchants, including Aurora Bistro, Bin 941 + 942 Tapas Parlours, Bis Moreno Ristorante, Chambar Restaurant and many more.

The evening will be hosted by Ian Hanomansing, host of CBC News: *Canada Now*. The evening's main event will be a spirited live auction conducted by veteran auctioneer Barry Scott, Director and President of Maynard's Auction House. A dazzling array of fine jewellery, fashions, furniture, lifestyle accessories and travel adventures will be sold in a silent auction. Following the auction, there will be music and dancing with DJs Dan Bacon and Mr. Rumble.

The Vancouver Art Gallery is a registered charity. Funds raised will support the Gallery's public programs and exhibitions. Tickets for EXTRAORDINARY! are \$175 per person or \$3000 for a premium table of eight. Tickets may be purchased by calling Jackie Stickney at 604 662 4700 X 408 or jstickney@vanartgallery.bc.ca. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.extraordinary05.com.

Media contact: Sue Lavitt, Vancouver Art Gallery 604 662 4700 x 309.

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The Vancouver Art Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of the City of Vancouver, the Province of British Columbia through the BC Arts Council, the Government of Canada through the Canada Council for the Arts, the Department of Canadian Heritage Museums Assistance Program and the Greater Vancouver Regional District.