

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Vancouver Art Gallery Announces 2018 Fall Season Headlined by Fashion Icon Guo Pei and Survey Exhibition of Artist Dana Claxton

August 9, 2018, Vancouver, BC –The Vancouver Art Gallery announces its 2018 Fall Season with two major solo exhibitions *Guo Pei: Couture Beyond* and *Dana Claxton: Fringing the Cube*. In a Canadian premiere opening on October 13, the Gallery presents designer Guo Pei’s fashion masterworks evoking China’s historic dynasties. Opening on October 27, the survey exhibition of Hunkpapa Lakota (Sioux) artist Dana Claxton showcases her powerful photography, video installations, text-based work and performances confronting colonialism and articulating Indigenous world views, histories and spirituality.

Additionally, two exhibitions illuminating the Gallery’s growing permanent collection open in the fall. In *A Curator’s View: Ian Thom Selects*, former Senior Curator—Historical highlights historical portraits and landscapes, as well as abstraction and pop works acquired by the Gallery throughout its history. *The Metamorphosis* delves into physical, spiritual and cultural transformation through photography, film, video, sculpture and performance by international and local artists. This exhibition brings together works largely acquired by the Gallery within the past five years.

This fall also offers a new exhibition at the Gallery’s *Offsite* outdoor public art space located at 1100 West Georgia Street. China’s Polit-Sheet-Form Office artist collective investigate the shared experience of group physical activity with the interactive installation *Fitness for All*.

Fall 2018 Exhibitions

A Curator’s View: Ian Thom Selects

September 22, 2018 to March 17, 2019



For this exhibition, former Senior Curator—Historical Ian Thom unites historical and contemporary works of pop, abstraction, portraiture and landscape dating back as far as the 19th century from the Gallery’s permanent collection. Visitors will encounter works by Henri Beau, Emily Carr, Robert Davidson, Gathie Falk, Leon Golub, David Hockney, Ann Kipling, Beatrice Lennie, David Milne, Paul Peel, George Segal, Graham Sutherland, Andy Warhol, John Vanderpant and Zacherie Vincent, among others.

[Image: Jock Macdonald, *Fall (Modality 16)*, 1937, oil on canvas, Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Acquisition Fund, Photo: Vancouver Art Gallery]

Guo Pei: Couture Beyond

October 13, 2018 to January 20, 2019



Exquisite, theatrical, inimitable, China's illustrious couturière's immaculately-crafted masterpieces evoke the decadence of China's historical dynasties and have secured her place amongst the world's premier fashion designers. Organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery in collaboration with SCAD FASH Museum of Fashion + Film, this exhibition—a Canadian premiere—traces the evolution of Guo's design sensibility over ten years and showcases more than forty pieces from her most iconic runway shows.

[Image: Guo Pei, *One Thousand and Two Nights*, 2010 (detail), silk mesh gown embroidered with silk, 24-karat gold- and silver-spun thread, and embellished with crystals, gems, beads, sequins and pearls; embroidered silk cape trimmed in fox fur; brass crown embellished with gems, Swarovski crystals, diamantes and pearls, Photo: Courtesy of SCAD.]

Dana Claxton: Fringing the Cube

October 27, 2018 to February 3, 2019



This survey exhibition of Vancouver-based, Hunkpapa Lakota (Sioux) artist Dana Claxton looks at the artist's work from the mid-1990s to now. Through Claxton's practice combining Lakota traditions with Western influences, she critiques the representations of Indigenous people in art, literature and popular culture. Known for using an emotive "mix, meld and mash" approach, the artist investigates notions of Indigenous identity, beauty, gender and the body, as well as broader social and political issues.

[Image: Dana Claxton, *Cultural Belongings*, 2016, LED Firebox with transmounted chromogenic transparency, Collection of Rosalind and Amir Adnani.]

The Metamorphosis

November 24, 2018 to March 24, 2019



Presenting contemporary art from the Gallery's permanent collection, *The Metamorphosis* highlights the significance of transformation in a variety of forms: physical, spiritual and cultural. Featured artists physically alter the outward appearance of the materials they employ, repurpose everyday objects in evocative ways, or create works that suggest a movement between different realms or states. Others engage the issue of cultural context as objects and ideas are shifted from one milieu to another. Artists include Beau Dick, Pedro Reyes, Althea Thauberger, Babak Golkar, Skeena Reece, and more.

[Image: Beau Dick, *Sculpin Mask*, 1985–92, red cedar, acrylic paint, cedar bark, rope, Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Acquisition Fund.]

Offsite: Polit-Sheer-Form Office

November 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019



The Chinese artist collective Polit-Sheer-Form Office (PSFO) comprised of Hong Hao, Xiao Yu, Song Dong, Liu Jianhua, and curator/critic Leng Lin imagines a new Socialism based on the possibilities of shared experience through collective activities. For this eighteenth edition of *Offsite*, PSFO presents *Fitness for All*, a series of customized and interactive fitness machines inspired by exercise equipment commonly found in public spaces throughout China. Acting as both contemporary sculpture and an outdoor gymnasium, *Fitness for All* creates a space for collective gathering.

[Polit-Sheer-Form Office, *Fitness for All*, 2014 (installation view at The Armory Show, New York, 2014), Courtesy of the Artists]

IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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About the Vancouver Art Gallery (vanartgallery.bc.ca)

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 ground-breaking exhibitions, extensive public programs, and emphasis on advancing scholarship all focus on historical and contemporary art from British Columbia and around the world. Special attention is paid to the accomplishments of Indigenous artists, as well as to the arts of the Asia Pacific region—through the Institute of Asian Art that the Gallery founded in 2014. The Gallery's programs also explore the impacts of images in the larger sphere of visual culture, design and architecture.

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.

Vancouver Art Gallery is situated on traditional, ancestral, and unceded Coast Salish territory of the *xʷməθkʷəy̓əm* (Musqueam), *Skwxwú7mesh* (Squamish), and *səlilwətaɣ̓* (Tseil-waututh) peoples, and is respectful of the indigenous stewards of the land it occupies, whose rich cultures are fundamental to artistic life in Vancouver and to the work of the Gallery.