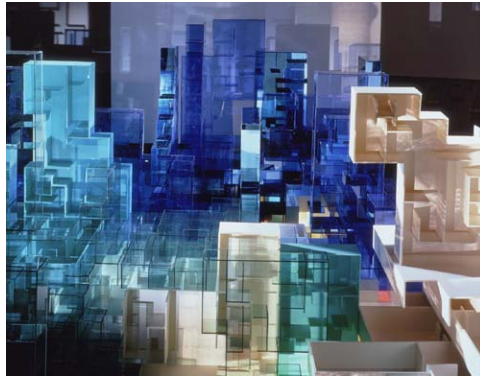




**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Wednesday, October 9, 2002**

## **Vancouver Art Gallery launches a new series on emerging artists of the Pacific Rim**



**Won Ju Lim** *Elysian Field North*, 2002, Plexiglas, foam core, still image projections,  
6' x 17' x 12', Photo: Fredrik Nilsen, courtesy of Patrick Painter Inc.

**Vancouver, BC** – The Vancouver Art Gallery has announced a new initiative to exhibit emerging artists from the Pacific Rim. This initiative, called NEXT, will be a forum to present work by up-and-coming artists not yet seen in Vancouver. The first artist to inaugurate this special gallery space is Korean American Won Ju Lim.

“The series is devoted to artists based in the Pacific Rim, many of whom – while at an early point in their career – elicit great promise,” said Kathleen Bartels, Director, Vancouver Art Gallery. “An important role of the Gallery is to provide leadership by capturing new and evolving work and, by doing so, encourage higher levels of excellence.”

Won Ju Lim’s *Elysian Field North* was commissioned by the Vancouver Art Gallery to launch this series. The artist has built a dense cityscape that references Vancouver’s cool northern architecture and plays with notions of the futuristic ruin. Slide images of an industrial site are projected onto, and through, the sculpture and refract from its multiple surfaces adding an experiential dimension to the work.

“Since graduating in 1998, Won Ju Lim has made a big impression on the art world with her beautifully crafted and evocative installations. Her work speaks about today’s cities, implicating their architectural, economic and social configurations”, said Daina Augaitis, Chief Curator, Vancouver Art Gallery.

Won Ju Lim was born in South Korea in 1968. In 1998, she graduated with a Master of Fine Arts from the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California. Since then she has exhibited in Austria, Germany, Korea, The Netherlands and the United States. Won Ju Lim is represented by Patrick Painter Inc. in Santa Monica, California. This is her first solo exhibition in Canada. The exhibition opened at the Vancouver Art Gallery on Saturday October 5 and will be on view through January 12, 2003.

- end -

Media Contact:

Julie-Ann Backhouse, Communications Specialist, Vancouver Art Gallery  
604 662 4722 [media@vanartgallery.bc.ca](mailto:media@vanartgallery.bc.ca)

Images:

Media images are available on the Vancouver Art Gallery’s FTP site at:

<ftp://ftp1-vag@vanartgallery.bc.ca>

Contact: Julie-Ann Backhouse, 604 662 4722 or [media@vanartgallery.bc.ca](mailto:media@vanartgallery.bc.ca) for access to the site

---

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 Museum Assistance Program, the Greater Vancouver Regional District, the Vancouver Arts Stabilization Program (VAST) and the Gerald and Sheahan McGavin Capital Grants to the Arts.