

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vancouver Art Gallery launches three new exhibitions on April 15

*Amplifying New Voices and Diverse Perspectives on the
Vancouver Art Gallery's Permanent Collection*

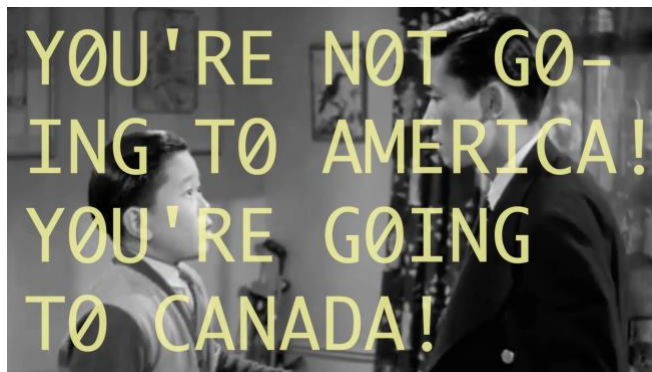


April 13, 2022, Vancouver, BC // *Traditional Coast Salish Lands including the Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm), Squamish (Sk̓wxwú7mesh Úxwumixw) and Tsleil-Waututh (səlilwətaʔl) Nations*

The Vancouver Art Gallery announced today its line-up of new exhibitions. Drawing from a wide range of works, the Gallery presents unique ways to experience its permanent collection through amplifying kids' voices; highlighting the diversity of the collection that tell multiple histories of our time; and through the lens of an important collector and donation.

Kids Take Over vividly captures the perspectives of elementary and high school students from Metro Vancouver, who were asked to respond to artworks by a range of artists from the Gallery's collection, including Pitseolak Ashoona, Guud San Glans Robert Davidson, Gathie Falk, Chantal Gibson, Evan Lee, Ken Lum, Annie Pootoogook, Evelyn Roth, Brendan Lee Satish Tang, Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun and Zhang O, among many others.

Over a period of two months, students from a grade 1/2 class at Champlain Heights Elementary School, Vancouver; a grade 4/5 class at Queen Victoria Annex, Vancouver; and a grade 11/12 at Carson Graham Secondary School, North Vancouver were invited to write down their thoughts, create their own drawings and collectively move their bodies, using the artworks as inspiration. Students also had the opportunity to directly engage with two of the exhibition's featured artists Evan Lee and Brendan Lee Satish Tang who gave presentations to the classes. Spirited, curious, thoughtful, whimsical and funny, the students' responses are scattered throughout the exhibition. The Gallery's rotunda and alcoves have been transformed into dynamic interactive spaces that will feature regular programming for families and kids, including a workshop for teens led by artist Chantal Gibson. *Kids Take Over* engages with children and youth to highlight their creativity—while cultivating a future generation of artists and art lovers. The exhibition is affiliated with the Kids in Museums' Takeover Day initiative.



RESTLESS: Recent Acquisitions features nine recent acquisitions that reflect the exhibition and collecting program of the Gallery's Institute of Asian Art. The exhibition title refers to the underlying sense of movement reverberating through the featured artworks—whether through geographical shifts due to travel and migration or urban landscapes changing over time. It also speaks to radically altering perspectives and structural paradigms: the widespread decentring or repositioning of power currently coursing around the globe.

Young-Hae Chung Heavy Industries' reworking of a 1930s Charlie Chan film and Ho Tam's 1990s prints address ongoing racial stereotyping of Asian cultures within a North American context. Henry Tsang and Gu Xiong confront the human costs of globalization and migration, while Madeln Company and Jin-me Yoon engage with the urban environment to reflect the displacement that often underlies the development of modern cities. Sunil Gupta documents sexual liberation in an emerging gay enclave in New York City in the years preceding the AIDS epidemic, while Pushpamala N. immerses herself in a cinematic world of fantasy to satirize the trope of the femme fatale. Paul Wong brings to the fore questions surrounding Hong Kong sovereignty, evoking the complex histories and themes of transnationalism and cultural assimilation that percolate throughout the exhibition.



The new exhibition **Everything Under the Sun: In Memory of Andrew Gruft** pays tribute to the late art collector Andrew Gruft (1937–2021), whose generosity and support over the past two decades have been crucial to the development of the Vancouver Art Gallery's collection of photographs. The exhibition features local, national and international lens-based artists and includes a broad selection of artwork from both historical and contemporary periods. Featured artists include Eugène Atget, Anne Brigman, Karin Bubaš, Becky Cohen, Robert Frank, Helen Levitt, Oriol Maspons, Gabriel Orozco, Issei Suda and William Henry Fox Talbot, among others.

The Gallery's 2004 acquisition of almost four hundred photographs from the Claudia Beck and Andrew Gruft Collection—most of them as gifts—marked a radical shift in its collection. Prior to that time, the Gallery's holdings included little in the way of historical and modern photography; with the addition of these works, it became a collection of international significance overnight. The collection's importance grew over the following years through regular donations by Gruft and his partner Claudia Beck. Their extraordinary generosity, intelligence and passion will play an important role in the Gallery's programs for decades to come.

Everything Under The Sun: In Memory of Andrew Gruft is one of [Capture Photography Festival's](#) Selected Exhibitions for 2022. As part of the Capture Speaker Series, please join **Grant Arnold**, Audain Curator of British Columbia Art, and **Sophie Hackett**, Curator of Photography at the Art Gallery of Ontario, on April 26, 6pm to 7pm. [Click here](#) for event information and registration.

"The Vancouver Art Gallery collection is an unparalleled resource that preserves the cultural history of British Columbia through a diversity of artworks and forms. The Gallery researches, cares for and presents the collection on behalf of the public as a legacy for future generations," states CEO and Director Anthony Kiendl, "through these activities we create new knowledge and contribute to the quality of life in British Columbia."

Since 1931, the Gallery's collection has become the most comprehensive resource for visual culture in British Columbia which continues to steward acquisitions through donation and purchase. In 2021, the Gallery acquired 183 works, which includes several key contemporary artworks. The Gallery is committed to encouraging ever-deeper understanding and enjoyment of its collection by the diverse local, national and international audiences that it serves.

The Vancouver Art Gallery is grateful to its exhibition supporters and sponsors:

Kids Take Over Supporting Sponsor:



***Everything Under the Sun: In Memory of Andrew Gruft* Community Partner:**
Capture Photography Festival

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Exhibition Credits:

Organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery and curated by Grant Arnold, Audain Curator of British Columbia Art

RESTLESS: Recent Acquisitions is organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery and curated by Diana Freundl, Interim Chief Curator/Associate Director

Kids Take Over is organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery and curated by Zoë Chan, Assistant Curator; Mandy Ginson, Assistant Curator; and Julie Martin, Curatorial Assistant, in collaboration with Susan Rome, Program Coordinator: Schools and Youth, and Christina Jones, Family Programs Coordinator

Image Credits:

O Zhang, *Horizon No. 23, No. 21 and No. 27*, 2004, chromogenic print, Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Gift of the Artist

YOUNG-HAE CHANG HEAVY INDUSTRIES, CHARLIE CHAN AND THE YELLOW PERIL, 2020, video, Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Acquisition Fund

Untitled, 2015, 2 Van Dyke prints, Dimensions variable (65 x 49 cm each), Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Gift of Claudia Beck and Andrew Gruft

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About Vancouver Art Gallery

vanartgallery.bc.ca

Founded in 1931, the Vancouver Art Gallery is recognized as one of North America's most 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 given to the accomplishments of Indigenous artists, as well as to those of the Asia Pacific region—through the Institute of Asian Art founded in 2014. The Gallery's exhibitions also explore the impact of images in the larger sphere of visual culture, design and architecture. The Vancouver Art Gallery is a charitable 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.

The Vancouver Art Gallery is situated on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, 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.