

THE STORY of LULUSWEET



CITY OF RICHMOND ARCHIVES PHOTOGRAPH RCF 21

In the early years of settlement, Royal Engineers surveying British Columbia's wilderness erected a theatre in the New Westminster district.

The playhouse hosted a variety of visiting entertainers, none of whom was more beloved than Miss Lulu Sweet of San Francisco, California.

Though little is known of Miss Sweet herself, her dancing, singing and acting were revered by newspapers of the day as "chaste and beautiful." During her brief stay, she became a beloved favourite of audiences. One of her most ardent admirers was head engineer Colonel Richard Moody, who accompanied the young actress on her departure voyage from New Westminster to Victoria.

As the two stood on deck, gazing at passing landmarks, Miss Sweet inquired as to the name of one large island. After replying absent-mindedly that the island, as yet, had no name, Moody—seized by a flash of inspiration—suddenly exclaimed, "By Jove! I'll name it after you!"

Hopefully, Moody's inspiration made some impression on the migrant Miss Sweet. It certainly made an impression on the island, which has been known as Lulu Island since 1863.

Like the engineer and the actress standing alongside each other, Richmond's commercial and artistic halves have long been viewed as separate entities. Today, the city has a rich opportunity to merge its separate sides, blending art and commerce together and serving as a model for the reinvention of the modern urban environment.

The Lulu Series, a collection of dialogues initiated by leading artists, architects and economic developers, hopes to spark this synthesis.

Since 2003, The Lulu Series has presented regional, national and international speakers including acclaimed artists, architects, urban planners and other cultural leaders.

From urban planning and placemaking to art as community development and urban revitalization, the relationship between art and our urban environment is a rich and lively topic to explore.

The objectives of The Lulu Series are:

- ▶ to educate participants on the importance of art as a means for citizens to establish connections with their communities;
- ▶ establish evidence that as people connect with their communities and the spaces and businesses in them, there will be an enhancement in commerce;
- ▶ create benefits for business leaders and design professionals to proactively incorporate artistic expressions into their places of business and building designs and for politicians to promote and support this; and
- ▶ lay challenges and establish goals for the growth of art in Richmond and other Lower Mainland communities.

The 2011 Lulu Series is presented by the City of Richmond with the support of The Richmond Review and The Vancouver Biennale.

the richmond
REVIEW VANCOUVER BIENNALE

City of Richmond

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2011 THE LULU SERIES

GUEST SPEAKERS
ART IN THE CITY



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Join us for the City of Richmond's annual spring series of talks about Art in the City and its importance to creating connections between citizens and their communities.

Free to the public, these events are held in Council Chambers, 7:00 pm at Richmond City Hall and are preceded by a short presentation by a performing artist.

Thur, March 10
Cameron Cartiere

Thur, April 7
Konstantin Dimopoulos

Thur, May 5
Bing Thom

7:00 pm
City of Richmond,
Council Chambers
6911 No. 3 Road

Seating is limited
RSVP to lulu@richmond.ca



Thur, March 10 7:00 pm | Richmond City Hall
Cameron Cartiere
The Power of Place and the Success or Failure of Public Art

SIR JOHN BETJEMAN BY MARTIN JENNINGS
ST. PAULS, LONDON, ENGLAND



What exactly is 'place' and why is understanding it essential when approaching the creation of art works in the public realm? Cameron Cartiere, Dean of Graduate Studies at Emily Carr University of Art & Design, navigates a journey through contemporary theories of place to address the successes and failures of public art works from around the world.

Prior to arriving in Canada this past summer, Dr. Cartiere was the co-founder of the Centre for Media, Culture and Creative Practice at Birkbeck, University of London (www.bbk.ac.uk/creative) and a senior lecturer for the Arts Policy and Management MA program at Birkbeck.

She is a writer and researcher specializing in public art, urban renewal, sculpture parks, cultural heritage and curatorial practice, and is the author of *RE/Placing Public Art* (VDM Verlag, 2010), co-editor of *The Practice of Public Art* (Routledge, 2008), co-author of the *Manifesto of Possibilities: Commissioning Public Art in the Urban Environment* (www.manifestoofpossibilities.co.uk) and author of the online resource, *The International Directory of Sculpture Parks & Gardens* (www.bbk.ac.uk/sculptureparks).



This talk will be preceded by a short performance by guitarist **Ivan Dimitrov**. For the last 20 years, Ivan has been experimenting with Spanish music, performing with many flamenco dance companies and

musicians in South America and Canada. A versatile performer, he also plays light classical and jazz music, and has collaborated with numerous leading musicians playing different styles of music ranging from Baroque to modern jazz. More at www.singingguitars.com.

Thur, April 7 7:00 pm | Richmond City Hall
Konstantin Dimopoulos
The Blue Trees and Other Works



This spring, as part of the Vancouver Biennale, artist Konstantin Dimopoulos will be seen applying a temporary colourant to several trees in Richmond (and Maple Ridge) that will gradually lose their blue colour over a period of weeks.

Dimopoulos's public installations focus on social and environmental themes and *The Blue Trees* highlights the importance of trees to the planet's survival. "Through my work I am striving to address global issues and provide a visual platform to effect change. So many global issues seem larger than an individual's power of influence and I want to evoke in people the idea that we can all contribute to change in a positive way."

Born in Egypt in 1954, Dimopoulos emigrated to New Zealand in 1963 and has studied art in Wellington, NZ, and London, England. In 2001, he created *Pacific Grass*, the first wind sculpture commissioned by the Wellington Sculpture Trust and gifted to the City of Wellington. Since then, he has created his signature rod sculptures that are in public and private collections in Australia, the United States, Europe and New Zealand. Since 2001, he has made him home in Melbourne, Australia. More at www.vancouverbiennale.com.



This talk will be preceded by a short performance by acclaimed soprano **Heather Pawsey** whose career encompasses opera, oratorio, chamber, symphonic and contemporary classical music. She is also the founding and Artistic Director of Astrolabe Musik Theatre, bringing together artists from various artistic practices to create compelling interdisciplinary works of

music/theatre that engage audiences as active participants in traditional and site-specific venues. More at www.astrolabemusiktheatre.com

Konstantin Dimopoulos is presented in partnership with the **Vancouver Biennale**.

Thur, May 5 7:00 pm | Richmond City Hall
Bing Thom
Transformative Architecture

ARENA STAGE, WASHINGTON, DC



Bing Thom Architects (Vancouver) have produced a portfolio of built work that garners praise not only for its inspired spaces and forms, but for the inspirational role their

buildings play in the lives of the communities they call home.

Founding Principal, Bing Thom, will share his experience in the transformative power of architecture to uplift the physical, economic and social environment.

Thom is one of Canada's most admired, celebrated and accomplished architects. A dedicated and artful city-builder, his global reputation has risen in consort with that of Vancouver, the city he has done much to protect, and to improve.

Among Thom's successes are the master plans for the City of Dalian and the City of Yuxi in China; the creation of a new city centre for Surrey, BC with Surrey Central City; the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC; the Aberdeen Centre in Richmond, BC; the Pacific Canada Pavilion at the Vancouver Aquarium and Marine Science Centre; the Trinity Uptown Plan for Fort Worth, Texas; Vancouver's Sunset Community Centre; and the recently completed Arena Stage theatre complex in Washington, DC.



This talk will be preceded by a short performance by **Sheri-D Wilson**, a.k.a. "The Mama of Dada" and one of the Top 10 Poets in Canada (CBC, 2009.) Wilson has performed around the world and published seven collections of poetry, two CDs

and four VideoPoems. Since 2004, she has been the Artistic Director of the Calgary Spoken Word Festival and since 2007, Director of the Spoken Word Program at the Banff Centre.

More at www.sheridwilson.com and www.calgaryspokenwordfestival.com.