

RAG

Richmond Art Gallery
180-7700 Minoru Gate
Richmond, V6Y 1R9
www.richmondartgallery.org
Email: gallery@richmond.ca

NEWS RELEASE

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RAG launches new online exhibition . . . **Phantasmagoria**

The **Richmond Art Gallery** is pleased to announce the launch of its first online exhibition. The exhibition, titled *Phantasmagoria*, was initiated as part of the RAG's celebration of its 25th anniversary (1980-2005). *Phantasmagoria* features works from the RAG's Permanent Collection that have been selected by a group of students from **Cambie Secondary School**. Each student has responded to the work that they have chosen through a creative written passage, which accompanies the image of the work in the exhibition. Artists featured in this exhibition include *Lilian Broca, Taiga Chiba, Polly Faminow, Roy Green, William Laing, Patricia McBain, Cynthia J. Smith, Richard Tetrault and Margaret J. Wilkins*.

One of the main objectives with this project was to encourage teens to express their views about issues that are important to them while providing an opportunity to learn about contemporary art and public art gallery procedures. The teens involved in the project had behind-the-scenes experience learning about curatorial practice, working with art gallery collections and understanding why galleries collect. The students were creatively involved with this project on many levels from writing their texts to photographing each other for the site and providing input on the design of the exhibition.

This project is part of a larger initiative to provide greater access to the history of the visual arts in British Columbia. By digitizing the Permanent Collection and making it available on the Gallery's website through online exhibitions and a Collection database we will be able to provide increased access and education to a wider public about contemporary art and provide a valuable artistic resource.

This project would not have been possible without funding from **Canadian Heritage, Museum Assistance Program**. *Phantasmagoria* is on the Richmond Art Gallery's website in French and English at www.richmondartgallery.org.

For further information contact **Carie Helm, Curatorial Assistant** at (604) 231-6457 ext. 608 or by email at chelm@richmond.ca.

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The Richmond Art Gallery is located at 180-7700 Minoru Gate. Gallery hours are 10:00am to 6:00pm from Monday to Friday and 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. For more information visit our website at www.richmondartgallery.org

