25 Years • 25 Artists, October 14 to November 23, 2005

The Richmond Art Gallery celebrates its 25th anniversary!

25 Years • 25 Artists is designed to commemorate the Richmond Art Gallery’s 25th anniversary, to celebrate the institution’s history and to look to the future of the Gallery and contemporary art in the region. This exhibition will show the work of artists who have had a significant place in the Gallery’s development and will give a sense of the diversity of the art shown at the RAG.

The twenty-five artists are Bratsa Bonifacho, Marcus Bowcott, Susan Bozic, Rachelle Chinnery, Raymonde Corbeil, David Dorrington, Margaret Dragu, Erica Grimm-Vance, Shirley Inouye, Deborah Koenker, Donald Lawrence, Winifred Lee, George Littlechild, Fae Logie, Wayne Ngan, Andre Petterson, Susan Point, Leslie Poole, Noboru Sawai, Kinichi Shigeno, Cynthia Smith, Diana Lynn Thompson, Peter von Tiesenhausen, Chris Woods and Gu Xiong.

Each artist is represented with a work from the time they exhibited at the Gallery and with a current artwork. The earlier works, often drawn from the RAG’s Permanent Collection, act to create a representation of the Gallery’s history as well as evidencing its exhibition and collecting practices. The new works give an indication of the artists’ development and the changes in focus of contemporary art in the Lower Mainland. The works in the exhibition range from functional ceramic pieces, printmaking and painting, to video, site-specific installation and performance. The exhibition continues until Wednesday, November 23, 6pm.

A commemorative catalogue will be published to celebrate the RAG’s history with an illustrated timeline of some of the highlights of the past 25 years and essays written by Michele Gerwurtz, Carie Helm, Robin Laurence with an introduction by Director/Curator Corrine Corry. In conjunction with the exhibition an online project titled InstantRecall; 25 years of collecting and exhibitions is being produced.
We gratefully acknowledge support of these projects from: City of Richmond, Vancouver Foundation, Hamber Foundation, Department of Canadian Heritage, Canada Council for the Arts, BC Arts Council, BC Gaming Policy Enforcement Branch and the collectors who have generously loaned their artworks.

The Richmond Art Gallery’s 25th Anniversary Celebration is on Thursday, October 20, 7:00pm - 9:00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

A performance and video screening by Margaret Dragu entitled Biking Woman: (No) Refuge From Metaphor, on Saturday, October 15, 2005, will be a kick-off to the anniversary exhibition. The piece, reminiscent of Dragu's 2003 performance Walking Woman, explores ideas around journey, struggle, celebration and providing for others.

The performance begins at the South Arm Community Centre in Richmond at noon with cyclists from the community being led by Dragu to Cultural Centre building. Upon arrival at the Cultural Centre the cyclists will perform choreographed bike formations followed by a screening of the video footage taken along the journey and participatory performance by the artist at 1:30pm in the Richmond Art Gallery. Anyone interested in participating in this performance, please contact Carie Helm at (604) 231-6457, local 608, and visit our website at www.richmondartgallery.org.

The Richmond Art Gallery is located at 180-7700 Minoru Gate. New 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 or contact us by email at gallery@city.richmond.bc.ca.

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