

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Just Announced: Contemporary Canadian painting,  
Scandinavian-inspired design and *Portrait of the Artist* from  
the Royal Collection to share the spotlight this fall**



Image: Jeanie Riddle studio, March 2017, Photo: Guy L'Heureux. An Installation by Montréal-based painter Jeanie Riddle will be featured in *Entangled: Two Views on Contemporary Canadian Painting*.

**July 26, 2017, Vancouver, BC** – This fall, the Vancouver Art Gallery is pleased to present an exciting new season of art with six diverse and engaging exhibitions.

Highlights include more than thirty artists from across Canada featured in *Entangled: Two Views on Contemporary Canadian Painting*; eighty-plus paintings in *Portrait of the Artist: An Exhibition from the Royal Collection*, depicting self-portraits, portraits of artists and artists at work; the genre-defying fictional work to be shown in *Carol Sawyer: The Natalie Brettschneider Archive*; an exploration of the profound influence of Scandinavian aesthetics on Canadian design in *True Nordic: How Scandinavia Influenced Design in Canada/Nordique: L'Influence du design scandinave au Canada*, which will feature over a hundred objects from the popular to the rarefied; to the highly accomplished and subtle abstractions of Gordon Smith, one of Canada's leading painters.

At our outdoor public art space located at 1100 West Georgia Street, a new work by New Delhi-based artist Asim Waqif, which combines architecture with a strong contextual reference to contemporary urban design, will also debut as part of the Vancouver Art Gallery's ongoing Offsite series.

## Fall Exhibitions

September 30, 2017 to January 1, 2018 –

### **Entangled: Two Views on Contemporary Canadian Painting**

Media preview: 9:00 a.m., September 28, 2017



*Entangled: Two Views on Contemporary Canadian Painting* offers an insight into two distinctly different modes of painting. The origins of both can be traced back to the 1970s when the continued existence of painting was hotly debated. This exhibition traces the legacy of that debate and presents the work of thirty-one artists who have been active participants in the strong revival that painting now enjoys in this country.

[Image: John Kissick, *burning the houses of cool man, yeah No.5 (hang the DJ)*, 2016, oil and acrylic on canvas, Courtesy of Katzman Contemporary]

October 28, 2017 to February 4, 2018

### **Portrait of the Artist: An Exhibition from the Royal Collection**

Media preview: 9:00 a.m., October 26, 2017



This exhibition brings together The Royal Collection's paintings depicting self-portraits, portraits of artists and artists at work. Encompassing over eighty works, *Portrait of the Artist* is a rich survey of how artists have seen themselves and the role of the artist within society.

[Image: Artemisia Gentileschi, *Self-Portrait as the Allegory of Painting (La Pittura)*, c. 1638–39, oil on canvas, Royal Collection Trust, Photo: © Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2017]

October 28, 2017 to February 4, 2018

### **Carol Sawyer: The Natalie Brettschneider Archive**

Media preview: 9:00 a.m., October 26, 2017



*Carol Sawyer: The Natalie Brettschneider Archive* presents Sawyer's ongoing project that reconstructs the life and work of the genre-defying, fictional singer and artist Natalie Brettschneider. The works on view will connect Brettschneider to a community of mid-twentieth century artists and musicians in British Columbia.

This exhibition offers a contemporary perspective on *Portrait of the Artist: An Exhibition from the Royal Collection*.

[Image: Unknown Photographer, Natalie Brettschneider performs *Profile Mask*, c. 1952, archival ink jet print from original negative, Carol Sawyer/Natalie Brettschneider Archive. Acquired with the assistance of Kathleen Taylor, 2015]

October 21, 2017 to February 4, 2018

**Gordon Smith: The Black Paintings**

Media preview: 9:00 a.m., October 26, 2017



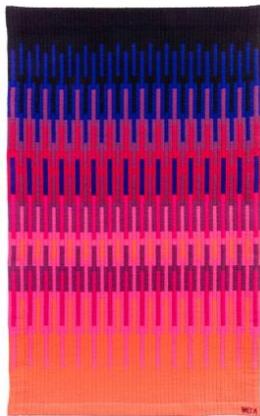
Gordon Smith is one of Canada's most influential and compelling painters with a practice that spans over seven decades. Beginning in 1990, Smith started to produce a body of work that has been characterized as dark or black paintings. These highly accomplished and subtle abstractions with collaged elements refer explicitly to his war time experience. Complex and layered, the paintings in this exhibition reveal his ongoing interest in how pain looks and feels, and how gesture reverberates when expressed in paint.

[Image: Gordon Smith, *Tanu*, 1995, acrylic on canvas, Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery, Acquisition Fund]

October 28, 2017 to January 28, 2018

**True Nordic: How Scandinavia Influenced Design in Canada/Nordique: L'Influence du design scandinave au Canada**

Media preview: 9:00 a.m., October 26, 2017



*True Nordic: How Scandinavia Influenced Design in Canada* examines the significant influence of Scandinavian craft and industrial design on the development of Canadian culture. Spanning more than seven decades, this exhibition reveals how Scandinavian design was introduced to Canada and how its aesthetics and material forms were adopted and transformed. Featured designers include Karen Bulow, Kjeld and Erica Deichmann, Thor Hansen, Niels Bendtsen, molo, Bocci, among many others.

*True Nordic* is part of a touring exhibition organized by the Gardiner Museum and curated by Rachel Gotlieb and Michael Prokopow.

[Image: Velta Vilsons, Wall hanging, 1965–70, wool, Collection of Gail and Gerry Crawford, Photo: Toni Hafkenscheid]

November 9, 2017 to April 15, 2018

**Offsite: Asim Waqif**



New Delhi-based artist Asim Waqif's site-specific installation combines architecture with a strong contextual reference to contemporary urban design and the politics of occupying, intervening and using public space. Waqif will repurpose debris generated from demolition sites in Vancouver's urban areas, employing materials from abandoned and derelict buildings anticipated for new and re-development.

[Image: Asim Waqif, *b a n s*, 2005, site-specific installation at KHOJ, Delhi, bamboo, rope and mango-wood, Courtesy of the Artist]

IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

**MEDIA CONTACT**

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**About the Vancouver Art Gallery**

Founded in 1931, the Vancouver Art Gallery is recognized as one of North America's most respected and innovative visual arts institutions. The Gallery's innovative ground-breaking exhibitions, extensive public programs and emphasis on advancing scholarship all focus on the historical and contemporary art of British Columbia and international centres, with special attention to the accomplishments of Indigenous artists and the art of the Asia Pacific region—through the Institute of Asian Art founded in 2014. The Gallery's programs also explore the impacts of images in the larger sphere of visual culture, design and architecture. [www.vanartgallery.bc.ca](http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca)

The Vancouver Art Gallery is a 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.