



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

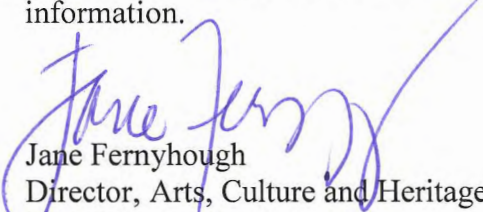
To: General Purposes Committee
From: Jane Fernyhough
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services
Re: Exhibitions for Local Artists at Richmond Art Gallery

Date: August 10, 2016

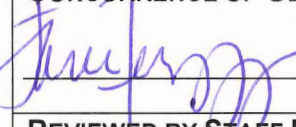

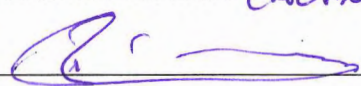
File: 11-7142-01/2016

Staff Recommendations

That the staff report titled, "Exhibitions for Local Artists at the Richmond Art Gallery" dated August 10, 2016, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services be received for information.


Jane Fernyhough
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services
(604-276-4288)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER  For C.V. Carlile	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO  (Acting)	

Staff Report

Origin

This report provides an update to a Council request for information regarding the possibilities for exhibitions for local artists at the Richmond Art Gallery.

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #2 A Vibrant, Active and Connected City:

Continue the development and implementation of an excellent and accessible system of programs, services, and public spaces that reflect Richmond's demographics, rich heritage, diverse needs, and unique opportunities, and that facilitate active, caring, and connected communities.

2.4. *Vibrant arts, culture and heritage opportunities.*

Analysis

History

In 2001, the Vision, Mandate and Mission of the Richmond Art Gallery Association was established following a lengthy facilitated strategic planning process that included community stakeholders, art gallery and cultural services staff, Council representation and invited experts from the regional art community. They are as follows:

- Vision: *to be one of the most important public galleries in Canada, and to increasingly enlarge our audiences and their understanding and enjoyment of contemporary art.*
- Mandate: *to exhibit, preserve and promote contemporary visual arts and to provide exhibition related programming.*
- Mission: *dedicated to promoting dialogue among diverse communities on challenging ideas and issues of today as expressed through local, national and international contemporary art.*

Since 2001, the Gallery has continued to follow the stated mission, seeking to engage Richmond residents with the belief that art opens the door to visit concepts that give the power to transform lives and that art objects embody knowledge of the past and present.

As part of a network of Canadian museums and galleries, the Richmond Art Gallery has attracted reviews in national and local publications, websites and blogs. Visitor comments are overwhelmingly positive. Moreover, the Gallery's high degree of professionalism and capacity to mount sometimes technically and/or thematically ambitious work, as well as to publish related catalogues and essays, have earned it a solid local and national reputation. This reputation is essential to attracting critical investment from the BC Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts and other key funders of visual arts programs.

While themes, artists and media vary considerably from exhibition to exhibition, the Gallery frequently curates shows that include the work of Richmond artists and/or explore topics that are specifically about Richmond. Since 2001, there have been 33 such exhibitions (Attachment 1).

Examples of professional Richmond artists (who reside, or have lived in Richmond for a substantial period of time) whose work has been showcased at the Gallery include:

- Governor General Award winner and multimedia performance artist, Margaret Dragu;
- celebrated First Nations artist, Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun;
- UBC professor and media artist, Barbara Ziegler;
- Richmond Arts Award winner and landscape painter, Loraine Wellman;
- public realm mosaic artist, Glen Andersen;
- influential post-War painter, Peter Aspell; and
- Kwantlen instructor and ceramics artist, Eliza Au.

Recent and Upcoming Exhibition Opportunities for Richmond Artists

In 2016, the Gallery presented a retrospective of the work of artist Peter Aspell, who lived in Richmond for ten years. The Gallery's current exhibition, which runs until October 2, 2016, is *Rick Leong: The Transformation of Things* and features the work of three Richmond artists: Winifred Lee, Li Desheng and Ping-Kwong Wong.

The Gallery also occasionally presents group exhibitions that are open to all artists including non-professional and emerging talents. The most recent example of this was the juried exhibition, *ArtRich 2015*, co-produced with the Richmond Arts Coalition, that featured the work of 49 local artists of which 31 were from Richmond. A second *ArtRich* exhibition is planned for 2017 as the Gallery considers establishing a biannual community exhibition in this, or a similar, format.

The Gallery's 2017 exhibition schedule also includes a collaborative exhibition with the Richmond Museum for which five artists will respond to artefacts in the museum collection. Later in the year, there will be an exhibition of landscapes from the Gallery collection presented alongside artworks by local youth.

In addition to the gallery space located at the Richmond Cultural Centre, the Gallery curates exhibition space in the City Hall galleria. In the past two years alone, the work of more than 50 Richmond professional and non-professional artists has been featured on these walls.

Gallery Programming for Richmond Visual Artists

The Gallery's educational public programs, which include a range of tours, panel discussions, artist talks, performances and more, are presented for the benefit of all Richmond residents, including artists.

Two programs are offered specifically for visual artists:

- Art At Work, a series of professional development events and workshops designed to provide artists with the knowledge and skills required for pursuing a professional art practice; and
- Artist Mentorship Program, a monthly professional development initiative open to all visual artists, particularly those who have recently moved to Canada, designed to provide information on how to navigate the Canadian art system.

The Gallery also actively supports young and emerging talents in Richmond through the Richmond Art Gallery Youth Outreach Project, School Art Programs and Richmond Art Gallery Youth Mentorship Program.

Community Art Exhibition Opportunities

Arts Services staff continue to increase the number of public spaces available for the exhibition of work by Richmond artists:

- City Hall Galleria;
- Richmond Cultural Centre;
- Gateway Theatre;
- Thompson Community Centre;
- City Centre Community Centre; and
- South Arm Community Centre.

In addition, City-run events such as the Richmond Maritime Festival, Culture Days and Richmond World Festival offer opportunities to showcase Richmond visual artists. Through the Arts and Culture Grants program, the City also supports arts organizations that facilitate additional exhibition opportunities for artists in Richmond.

As identified in the OCP City Centre Area Plan, a Visual Arts Centre is envisioned for the Arts District in the City Centre and could offer a complementary, distinct gallery space dedicated solely to the exhibition of work by local artists.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

The Richmond Art Gallery which is mandated to exhibit, preserve and promote contemporary visual art and to provide exhibition related programming, seeks to engage, inspire and educate all Richmond residents, including local artists. Since the establishment of that mandate in 2001, the Gallery has shown the work of Richmond's visual artists in solo, group, juried and open exhibitions and will continue to profile local artists for the appreciation of residents and visitors alike.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Jauk', written in a cursive style.

Liesl G. Jauk
Manager Arts Services
(604-204-8672)

LJ: lj

Att. 1: Exhibitions featuring Richmond artists and/or topics about Richmond

**Exhibitions featuring Richmond artists and/or topics about Richmond
at the Richmond Art Gallery**

2017:

- Collaborative exhibition with Richmond Museum for which five artists will respond to artifacts in the museum's collection
- second ArtRich 2017 juried exhibition presented with Richmond Arts Coalition
- Exhibition selected from Richmond Art Gallery's collection of landscapes presented with artworks by local youth on the same theme

2016:

- *Peter Aspell: The Mad Alchemist*
- *Rick Leong: The Transformation of Things* with Richmond artists Winifred Lee, Li Desheng and Ping-Kwong Wong
- *Cameron Cartiere and the chART Collective: For All is For Yourself* relating to pollinator pasture public art work in Richmond

2015:

- ArtRich 2015 juried exhibition presented with Richmond Arts Coalition featuring 31 Richmond artists
- *Greg Girard: Richmond/Kowloon*, a two-year project focused on Richmond and residents, resulting in a new body of photographs of the city. Girard has since moved to Richmond.

2014:

- *Interweavings*, exhibition of work by 14 artists, including two originally from Richmond: Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun and Cody Lecoy
- *City as Site: Public Art in Richmond* including Richmond artist, Glen Andersen

2013:

- *Memory: International Mail Art Exhibition and Swap* (open call exhibition)
- *Margaret Dragu: the wall is in my head/a dance of forgetting*

2012:

- *Stuart McCall and Neil Wedman: Fantasy Gardens*
- *Temporary Assignment* group show including Richmond artist, Ming Yeung
- *Open Conversations: The Art Practice of Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge*, where artists worked with Richmond Cultural Centre staff to produce new work about cultural workers

2010:

- *Artist Trading cards* (open call exhibition)
- *Gu Xiong: Waterscapes*, about the Fraser River and Yangtze River
- *International Mail Art* exhibition (open call exhibition)

2009:

- *Artist Trading Cards* (open call exhibition)

2008:

- *Archive City: Portrait of Lulu Island*
- *Artist Trading cards* (open call exhibition)
- *Marginalia – Getting out of the House* featuring work by Margaret Dragu
- *Barbara Zeigler: Hidden Sites*

2007:

- *Eliza Au: Wreath/Wreathe*
- *Ingrid Koivukangas: The Finn Slough Project*
- *Artist Trading cards* (open call exhibition)

2006:

- *Artist Trading Cards* (open call exhibition)
- *Charlotte Wall: Boundless I and II* referenced Aberdeen Centre façade
- *Mirror Mirror Self Portraits* (open call exhibition/Gallery fundraiser)

2005:

- *Richmond Collects*, showcase of artwork collected by Richmond residents
- *Loraine Wellman: Local Landscapes*

2004:

- *Raymonde Corbeil: Undercurrents*

2003:

- *Althea Thauberger: Childhood*, photographs of a young Richmond resident
- *Asian Heritage Month* group show including Richmond artist, Shirley Inouye
- *Judy Williams: Salmon Stock*, collaboration with Gulf of Georgia Cannery exploring shrinking canneries and salmon stock
- *Monique Genton: The Grass Project*, artist who grew up in Richmond explored subdivisions, land use, urban and rural space

2002:

- *Baco Ohama Miyoshi: A Taste that Lingers Unfinished in the Mouth* about Japanese fishermen's confiscated boats in Steveston