

BURNABY ART GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 13, 2012

Linofest Celebrates the Historic Art of the Linocut

Burnaby Art Gallery Celebrates Culture Days with a Day
Dedicated to the Art of Linocut Printmaking

BURNABY, BC – Burnaby Art Gallery is celebrating Culture Days with a day dedicated to the art linocut printmaking. This free family event will be bursting with activities and events that will offer something for everyone from tots to teens and seniors. Linofest will appeal to art patrons or those who are just curious to learn more about this historic printmaking process. A dozen artists will have hundreds of prints on display and for sale. Anyone looking for a unique shopping extravaganza will find it at Linofest. Between noon and 5 pm there will be free artists talks and discussions with local and regional printmakers, demonstrations of the linocut process, as well as a hands-on family drop-in printmaking project where anyone of any age can try it for themselves. If you are a fan of printmaking, don't miss this once-a-year opportunity to experience Linofest on Saturday, September 29, from 12 noon to 5 pm.

"A day dedicated to the art of the linocut, is a natural extension of the Gallery's mandate by providing an opportunity for everyone of all ages to join in the celebration and learn more about this historic art." says Director/Curator, Darrin Martens, "We've invited Burnaby's most well-known printmakers: Susan Gransby, Torrie Groening, Pat Beaton, Hannah Bennett, and James Mah, just to name a few. They'll be joined by acclaimed printmakers from throughout the region and Victoria. This is a once-a-year event where printmakers gather to celebrate their art and share their knowledge, skills and prints with the public. Linofest fits in perfectly with the Canada-wide celebration of Culture Days and Burnaby's Birthday - Celebrate 120."

In an age driven by technology and computers why does this primitive, hand-done, technique hold its own in today's world? A look back to 1905 tells a story that is pivotal in the history of printmaking. Before 1905, woodcuts were popular, but they were expensive. To make prints more affordable, the artists of Die Brück in Germany started carving linoleum sheets and this new technique became wildly popular. Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Sybil Andrews and M.C. Escher were only a few of the artists who embraced the linocut technique and print sales flourished. Linocut is the perfect introduction to printmaking as it requires only a piece of linoleum, ink, brayer or roller, and paper or fabric. It is a technique within everyone's reach and produces a definitive print that is unmatched with other printmaking techniques.

The Burnaby Art Gallery's is dedicated to collecting, preserving and presenting both contemporary and historical exhibitions, education programs and special events focused on works of art on paper. As the stewards of the third largest public art museum collection within BC, the Gallery's Collection now exceeds 4,500 works of art. Linofest is a natural extension of their mandate and invites the public in to meet printmakers, try it for themselves, learn from local and regional printmaking masters and generally enjoy an afternoon in beautiful historic Ceperley Mansion in Deer Lake Park.

Celebrate 120 is a two week event that marks the 120 anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Burnaby. From September 15-30, free family activities, performances and workshops take place throughout the city to commemorate 120 years and celebrate community, arts, culture and sports. The festivities culminate with Jersey Day on Sep 28 and Culture Days, part of a national arts and culture movement from Sept 28-30. The City of Burnaby gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Province of British Columbia. www.burnaby.ca/celebrate120



Burnaby Art Gallery
6344 Deer Lake Ave.
Burnaby, BC V5G 2J3

MEDIA CONTACT:

Brenda Finlayson
Marketing and Sponsorship
Coordinator
Burnaby Art Gallery
Direct Line: 604-297-4857
Main Office: 604-297-4422
FAX: 604-205-7339
E: Brenda.Finlayson@burnaby.ca
www.burnabyartgallery.ca

The Burnaby Art Gallery is dedicated to collecting, preserving and presenting contemporary and historical visual art programs by local, national and internationally recognized artists. As the stewards of the third largest public art museum collection within the Province of British Columbia, the Burnaby Art Gallery cares for and manages of 4,000 works of art. The Burnaby Art Gallery is a nationally recognized leader in print culture dedicated to showcasing original hand pulled prints and ephemera related to printmaking in Canada.

For more information about the gallery's exhibitions, programs, tours, call 604-297-4422 or visit www.burnabyartgallery.ca. Located in beautiful surroundings of Deer Lake Park, the Burnaby Art Gallery is open Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 am-4:30 pm and Saturday and Sunday, 12:00-5:00 pm. Admission is by donation; parking is free.

The Burnaby Art Gallery acknowledges the generous support provided by: the City of Burnaby; the British Columbia Arts Council; the Province of British Columbia, its patrons and visitors.

###