

New exhibition celebrates the Richmond Art Gallery's 40th anniversary with an exploration of the gallery's permanent collection

Selected Stories
1980 – 2020
Works from the Collection

October 28 - November 14, 2020

Featuring artists: Diyan Achjadi, Gabriele Ailey, Yasuo Araki, Michael Batty, Betty Jean Drummond, Greg Girard, Pnina Granirer, Brian Grison, Shirley Inouye, Evan Lee, Wayne Ngan, Toni Onley, Larry Osland, Susan Point, Arthur Renwick, Jack Shadbolt, Kinichi Shigeno, Arnold Shives, Anna Wong, Alan Wood, Gu Xiong.

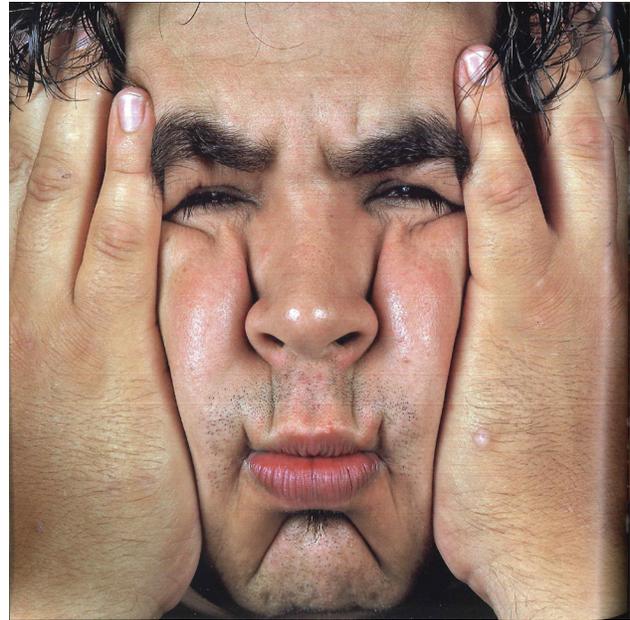
Highlighting the Richmond Art Gallery's remarkable forty year journey *Selected Stories: 1980 – 2020* showcases a selection of works from the gallery's permanent collection including early works by established BC artists such as Wayne Ngan, Susan Point, and Gu Xiong.

"*Selected Stories* offers glimpses into our 40 years of supporting artists. It is their creativity and ingenuity to offer new perspectives and to question our understanding of the world that has allowed us to sustain and grow into the organization we are today. I am so grateful to all the artists who have worked with us over the past 40 years" says Director Shaun Dacey.

With *Selected Stories* the RAG is delighted to be able to show several works not previously exhibited at the Gallery, such as two remarkable abstract works by renowned B.C. artist Toni Onley. Donated by a Vancouver based art collector in the 1990s these works were never part of an exhibition and are now shown for the first time. The works are part of the abstract series of works Onley painted in the 1960s, which established him as one of B.C.'s most important artists.

Also featured are prints by Canadian master printmaker Anna Wong, from her series *Great Wall*. In describing this series, Wong said, "With the opening of China to the West, I became interested in my parent's birthplace and country and was excited to portray the Chinese landscape.../In my previous art I had been interpreting nature as I saw it close at hand. Now I was seeing nature in its relationship to a very large architecture, one of the greatest collaborative works in the world." *Selected Stories* includes two prints from *Great Wall*, exhibited for the first time since Wong's solo exhibition in 1987.

The Richmond Art Gallery's permanent collection contains nearly 400 works of art in a variety of media, collected from 1982 to 2020. Most works were donated by artists exhibiting at the Gallery, while others were purchased by the Gallery or donated by members of the community. In the RAG's early years exhibitions



changed bi-weekly and the permanent collection grew rapidly in the 1980s and 1990s.

Any collection of art is also a collection of stories, of curatorial decisions, disagreements, and exclusions. The permanent collection tells the story of local artists, ambitious exhibition projects and a dedicated community. However, like any collection of stories this collection does not tell the unobjective truth, it reflects the decisions made by a certain group of people, during a specific period in time and it has been shaped by the exclusions and discriminations prevalent in our society. While the permanent collection illustrates the progress of the RAG from a community art space to a nationally recognized gallery, it also contains clear omissions in representation. The works included in this exhibition convey the Gallery's progress, while also reflecting these omissions. In recognizing this we are eager to take the necessary steps toward including more stories in our collection, more stories about Richmond, about its artists and art enthusiasts, and about the next forty years of the Richmond Art gallery.

Sofia Stalner, Curator

HOW TO VISIT US

There are two options to visiting the gallery:

- Enter through the Cultural Centre front doors (7700 Minoru Gate), and staff will direct you to the Art Gallery check-in.
- Book your visit in advance by phone or email. Call 604-247-8363 or email gallery@richmond.ca

For tour details, visit the [Tours & Group Visits](#) page.

COVID-19 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Our priority is the safety of all visitors and staff. Following government guidelines, protocols are in place to ensure that you have a safe and enjoyable visit. We are closely monitoring the situation and will adapt as necessary. We thank you for your patience and cooperation. And, as always, we welcome your feedback.

- All visitors must self-assess before visiting the Gallery. Please stay home if you are not feeling well.
- Face coverings are mandatory for all staff and visitors to the gallery.
- All visitors and staff must maintain a two-metre distance from each other.
- Hand sanitation station at entry and stringent cleaning practices will be in place throughout the Gallery.

RAG RICHMOND ART GALLERY

richmondartgallery.org

LOCATION

Richmond Cultural Centre
7700 Minoru Gate
Richmond, BC V6Y 1R9

CONTACT

gallery@richmond.ca
604-247-8300
richmondartgallery.org

VISIT US

Wed – Fri: 10 AM – 6 PM
Sat: 10 AM – 4 PM
FREE ADMISSION

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Image: Arthur Renwick, *Danny*, 2010, archival pigment print on paper, 47.0 x 45.0 inches.