

Vanessa Brown's *That Other Hunger* explores holes as full and potent spaces at Richmond Art Gallery

Featuring all new work, this multisensory exhibition invites the public to embark on an artistic and existential journey

AUG. 4, 2022 (VANCOUVER, B.C) — To kick off its fall season, **Richmond Art Gallery (RAG)** presents ***That Other Hunger*** by **Vanessa Brown** from **Sept. 9 to Nov. 6, 2022**. This evocative exhibition uses the concept of holes as its point of departure. Brown highlights them as surprisingly potent spaces of wonder that bypass physical and temporal boundaries.

"The breadth of Vanessa Brown's research for this exhibition is vast and varied," says RAG's new curator **Zoë Chan**. "In conceptualizing *That Other Hunger*, she researched an eclectic range of holes, from Pantheon's oculus to geographical craters to black holes. The delicate metal sculpture work she's known for will be showcased as well as sound works by her collaborator Michelle Helene Mackenzie, video projections, and textiles. This stunning exhibition functions like a portal into another world."

The inspiration for this new body of work can be traced back to Brown's childhood fascination with the portable hole that recurs throughout the Looney Tunes cartoon series. The portable hole in the animation has multiple purposes. Most obviously, the hole functions exactly as one might guess: characters fall in or drop into a void. It also functions as an object that can be picked up and thrown against a wall or placed in another spot. Other times, the hole becomes a channel that seamlessly transports characters into another dimension, transcending time and space.

Brown's installation also references holes of many other types, encompassing those found in outer space, geography, and even the body's anatomy. It invites the public on a rich existential and artistic journey that delves into questions around human desire, the relativity of time, and our place in the galaxy. Brown's integration of sound and video alongside sculptures creates an immersive installation that sparks a sense of magic and awe.

Vanessa Brown grew up in Richmond, and currently lives and works in Europe. *That Other Hunger* represents a sort of homecoming for the artist, whose last solo show in Vancouver was at the Western Front in 2018. Brown works primarily in sculpture and installation. The root of her work draws from various sources including landscapes, craft, feminized labour, gestures of comfort, ideas of escape, and liminal spaces such as holes and dreams. She has exhibited in Canada, Germany, Luxembourg, the USA, and Mexico, notably with solo and two-person exhibitions at Patel Brown, Toronto; The Esker Foundation, Calgary; Arsenal, Toronto; Projet Pangée, Montreal; The Western Front, Vancouver; The Armory Show, New York. She is represented by Patel Brown.

Ancillary Programming

A special opening reception will be held on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 2–5pm at the gallery. Vanessa Brown will be in attendance, and no registration is required for this free drop-in event.

On Saturday, Sept. 17 at 2pm, the artist will lead an in-person tour and discussion of the exhibition. No registration is required for this free drop-in event.

Richmond's Culture Days Weekend Launch at RAG takes place on Sept. 24 and 25, with onsite exhibition tours at 12:30pm, 1:30pm, and 2:30pm in English and Mandarin. Visitors for guided tours will be admitted to a maximum capacity of 40 to ensure physical distancing within exhibition spaces. Entry will be managed on a first-come first-served basis. Learn more about *That Other Hunger* by also visiting the Gallery's Art Lounge to watch a video interview with the artist or participate in a related hands-on drawing activity.

Finally, on Wednesday, Sept. 28, the RAG will host an Artist Salon with Vanessa Brown. For more information, visit www.richmondartgallery.org/otherhunger. RAG's Artist Salon series is an opportunity for emerging and established visual artists to learn from arts professionals and discuss opportunities in the arts community.

About Richmond Art Gallery

Richmond Art Gallery (RAG) is a non-profit municipal art gallery established in 1980. The Gallery produces an array of exhibitions and programs that connect, empower, and provoke conversation with our diverse Richmond, B.C. communities. RAG actively contributes to Richmond's cultural communities through our commitment to supporting artists via its exhibitions, educational programs, publications, and permanent collection.

Address

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Hours

Monday–Friday from 10am–6pm, Saturday–Sunday from 12–5pm

Press kit and photos

bit.ly/ThatOtherHunger

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