

Richmond residents collaborate with artist Adad Hannah on ambitious new exhibition.

## Adad Hannah

### *The Decameron Retold*

February 10 – April 20, 2019

Opening Reception:  
Saturday, February 9, 2 – 5 pm

Curator: Nan Capogna

The Richmond Art Gallery has commissioned a new work by Adad Hannah in collaboration with local residents based on the 14th century literary work, *The Decameron*, by Giovanni Boccaccio. The medieval collection of novellas is comprised of one hundred tales told over ten days by ten young women and men who were sequestered in a villa outside of Florence to avoid the Black Plague. Artist Adad Hannah states, "In the 600 years since *The Decameron* was published, many visual artists have taken inspiration from this important literary work. I can't wait to see what we come up with!"



Known as living pictures, tableaux vivants were popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. For the exhibition, Hannah has created a series of moving image-based tableaux vivants using Boccaccio's frame narrative as the departure point. Community members will fulfill roles on both sides of the camera, as the project incorporates local stories gathered through an open call; participants will lay their own stories over *The Decameron's* structure. This new narrative expands Hannah's typical improvisational approach to production and community engagement. Hannah envisions the project as a platform for the community: "It's always exciting to work with a local community on a big project, and *The Decameron Retold* is such a great framework for a project largely built by volunteers."

Throughout the month of January 2019, Hannah is developing and constructing the work within the Richmond Cultural Centre's Performance Hall, in collaboration with community members. The public will have the opportunity to observe this work process during select open hours: January 16, 17, 19, 21–23.

Hannah is well known for his photographic and video works that explore the performative and cinematic potential of tableaux vivants. He has produced community-based projects around the world, from Senegal to Australia, the United States, and across Canada. This is his first large-scale community project in the Lower Mainland.

The artist and curator are available for interviews.

For interviews, more information or images, please contact:

Paula Hickey, Gallery Coordinator  
phickey@richmond.ca, 604-247-8312

An exhibition catalogue will be published by Richmond Art Gallery in June 2019 featuring writers Nan Capogna, Evan Lee and Erin Silver.

Check [www.richmondartgallery.org](http://www.richmondartgallery.org) for updated information.

## Biography

Adad Hannah was born in New York in 1971, spent his childhood in Israel and England, and moved to Vancouver in the early 1980s. Hannah has exhibited at the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (2008), the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (2008), Zendai MoMA, Shanghai (2009), Ke Center for Contemporary Art (Shanghai 2008), the Vancouver Art Gallery (2007), the National Gallery of Canada (2011, 2006), Ikon Gallery (Birmingham 2006), the 4th Seoul International Media Art Biennale (2006), Casa Encendida (Madrid 2006) and Viper Basel (2004). He has produced works at museums including the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the National Gallery of Canada, the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Rodin Gallery (Seoul), and the Prado Museum (Madrid).

## Exhibition Programs

### *Family Day at Children's Art Festival*

Monday, February 18, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Adad Hannah will be the guest artist for a day of family friendly exhibition tours, hands on art projects and more. Free.

### *Artist Talk and Tour with exhibiting artist Adad Hannah, artist and exhibition catalogue writer Evan Lee, and RAG Curator Nan Capogna*

Saturday, February 23, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Free.

### *Multilingual Exhibition Tours*

February 24, March 30 & April 13, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Drop in for monthly guided tours in Mandarin and English. Free.

### *Great Pictures:*

#### *Art History and Art Appreciation Courses*

Saturdays, March 30 – April 13, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

These short art history courses will examine a selection of exceptional pictures created over the past 1000 years.

Registration for \$5.00 per session includes all handouts and light refreshments.

### *Collage Night*

Thursday, March 7, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

A social art event for adults to cut and paste images from art history and pop culture to develop new artworks. Free admission, all materials provided.

**RAG RICHMOND ART GALLERY**

[richmondartgallery.org](http://richmondartgallery.org)

*The only public gallery in Richmond, the Richmond Art Gallery (RAG) is a municipal gallery supported by the non-profit Richmond Art Gallery Association. In operation since 1980, the Gallery presents exhibitions by regional, national and international artists, maintains a permanent collection of over 400 works, and presents innovative and diverse programming for children, youth, and adults. Richmond Art Gallery is dedicated to promoting dialogue among Richmond's diverse communities through the presentation of contemporary visual art.*

### LOCATION

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

### CONTACT

[galler@richmond.ca](mailto:galler@richmond.ca)  
604-247-8300  
[richmondartgallery.org](http://richmondartgallery.org)

### VISIT US

Monday - Friday: 10 am - 6 pm  
Saturday - Sunday: 10 am - 5 pm  
Free Admission

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This is one of the 200 exceptional projects funded through the Canada Council for the Arts' New Chapter program. With this \$35M investment, the Council supports the creation and sharing of the arts in communities across Canada.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia

Image: Adad Hannah, production still, 2019, courtesy of the artist.