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**WEST VANCOUVER ARTISTS TO EXHIBIT AT WESTERN CANADA’S LARGEST INTERNATIONAL ART SHOW**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Vancouver, BC - April X, 2019 -** From April 25th to 28th, Western Canada’s largest international art fair, Art Vancouver, returns to the Vancouver Convention Centre. Now in its fifth year, the contemporary art fair features artists and galleries from across Canada and around the world. So far, several West Vancouver artists are set to exhibit. This includes 92 year-old Bernice Hetherington, who will be exhibiting her collages of pastel and ink for the first time.

Last year, the event brought in over 90 exhibitors and more than 8,000 attendees. Beyond the exhibition itself, the show features artist demonstrations, art workshops, keynote speakers, panel discussions, and the highly anticipated *Art Masters* painting competition. This year it also debuts its new *Art Ignites* program, which is directed towards educating youth from local school districts.

Art Vancouver presents a great opportunity for artists of the Pacific Northwest to display their work and connect with collectors and other creative professionals. With organizational values of promoting inclusivity within the arts community, the show’s roster of international artists has also grown rapidly. As a testament to Art Vancouver’s commitment to celebrating art work globally, the fair’s theme for 2019 is “Uniting Nations Through Art”.

For tickets and more information on Art Vancouver, please visit <https://www.artvancouver.net/>.

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**About Art Vancouver**

*Founded in 2015 by director Lisa Wolfin, Art Vancouver is Western Canada’s largest international fine arts fair and features local and international artists and galleries. The* fair *includes a diverse collection of exhibitors, along with an Opening Night runway show and an extensive speaker series. The event attracts international visitors with a genuine passion for art, including a range of influential and creative professionals.*

*For the latest updates on Art Vancouver,**visit www.artvancouver.net, send us an email at media@artvancouver.net, or find us on Instagram: @artvancouver.*

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**MEDIA FACT SHEET**

**WHEN:** April 25-28th

**WHERE:** Vancouver Convention Centre East, 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC V6C 0C3

**TICKETS:** <https://bit.ly/2uDL4gP>

**VIP PREVIEW (VIP ticket holders only):**

Thursday, April 25, 6 PM - 7 PM

**OPENING NIGHT PREMIERE PARTY HOURS:**

Thursday, April 25, 7 PM - 10 PM

**SHOW HOURS:**

Friday, April 26, 1 PM - 9 PM

Saturday, April 27, 12 PM - 9 PM

Sunday, April 28, 12 PM - 5 PM

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**Thursday**

* **OPENING NIGHT PREMIERE PARTY:** Join us for the Art Vancouver opening night preview, featuring innovative international art from over 100 galleries & artists, a DJ, and more. At the Opening Night’s Face of Art Runway Show, artists will strut down the catwalk with a featured piece of their artwork.

**Friday**

* [**ART MASTERS**](https://www.artvancouver.net/artmasters) (6-9PM) - Eight artists are given just an hour to paint an original piece, competing against each other and the clock. The catch? They must follow the theme that they have been given in advance, and use a surprise box of supplies that they receive only 15 minutes prior to the start of the competition.

**Saturday & Sunday**

* **PANEL TALK: UNITING NATIONS THROUGH ART**- Listen to what our panel has to say about how art unites nations.
* **SPEAKERS** **SERIES** - Come join the conversation. Learn about international galleries & artists, the process of creating art and more!
* **LIVE PAINTINGS** - Learn, observe, and talk to the artist while they create a unique piece of art.
* [**ART CLASSES**](https://www.artvancouver.net/artclasses) - From pastel drawing to watercolour techniques, our art classes and workshops welcome all skill levels. (https://www.artvancouver.net/artclasses)
* [**GUIDED TOURS**](https://www.artvancouver.net/tours) **-** Would you like to hear more about the artists and galleries who will be exhibiting at Art Vancouver? Join us at the show this year for guided tours brought to you by Your Art Voyage. Tours are offered Saturday and Sunday, at 1pm and 3pm.