

AUDAIN ART MUSEUM

NEWS RELEASE

Senior Staff Appointed to Audain Art Museum Prior to Fall Opening

For Immediate Release

VANCOUVER – February 2, 2015 – Suzanne Greening, Executive Director of the Audain Art Museum, is pleased to announce the appointment of Darrin Martens as Chief Curator and Sarah Bainbridge as Development & Marketing Manager.

Previously a Director of the Nisga'a Museum in Northern B.C., and Director/Curator of the Burnaby Art Gallery, Darrin Martens will bring a broad curatorial background to the programming of the Audain Art Museum. He has an MA in Art History/Critical Curatorial Studies from the University of British Columbia, and a BA and BFA from the University of Regina.

Excited about his new role, Martens looks forward to developing an engaging exhibition program for residents and visitors to the Sea-to-Sky Corridor. "Building relationships with community stakeholders, including business, artists, collectors and patrons is at the forefront of my mandate. The Audain Art Museum will be a beacon for excellence in the visual arts for all who choose to visit Canada's newest art museum."

Sarah Bainbridge has extensive experience in the cultural tourism sector within Canada and abroad. For the past six years as Director of Development at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre in Whistler, she has worked for the Squamish and Lil'wat Nations on a range of award-winning initiatives.

"I am thrilled to be part of the Audain Art Museum's dynamic team to bring to life the incredible cultural vision of Michael Audain and Yoshiko Karasawa", comments Bainbridge.

Rooted in a desire to contribute to vibrant creative communities, Sarah has demonstrated an ability to bring together diverse partners and stakeholders. She has an Ed.D. and M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Simon Fraser University.

The knowledge and experiences of both of these individuals will assist the Audain Art Museum, a non-profit organization, to become a leader in contemporary museum practices and help to achieve its vision to be a centre of excellence for the art of British Columbia, and also to exhibit art from around the world.

At 56,000 square feet, the Audain Art Museum will be British Columbia's largest purpose-built art museum. It will house a large portion of the personal art collection that Michael Audain and his wife Yoshiko Karasawa have amassed over the years. Their world-class British Columbia art collection will be on permanent display, plus there will be other galleries with temporary exhibitions of Canadian and international art. It will be an attraction for Whistler's 10,000 residents and 2.7 million annual visitors to the four-season resort.

Media Inquiries:

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Darrin Martens, Chief Curator



Sarah Bainbridge, Development & Marketing Manager

