

MEDIA RELEASE

Russna Kaur Presents an Immersive Journey Through Colour and Space at the Audain Art Museum

WHISTLER, B.C. September 9, 2024 - The Audain Art Museum (AAM) proudly announces the upcoming Special Exhibition, *Russna Kaur: Pierced into the air, the temper and secrets crept in with a cry!*, opening to the public on Friday, October 4, 2024 in the Museum's architecturally stunning Upper Galleries. This immersive exhibition will include site-specific works painted directly on the walls, highlighting enduring themes in Kaur's works such as the use of bold colour combinations and explorations of symbolic narratives.

Based in Richmond, British Columbia, Kaur approaches painting as a space of infinite possibilities, play, and experimentation. This exhibition unfolds in the space as a dynamic series of modular works, where smaller paintings evolve into large-scale wall compositions. The artist employs diverse materials including canvas, wood panel, textiles, acrylic and spray paint, oil pastels, handmade paper, and 3D printed elements, intricately manipulating surfaces to create a dialogue with the gallery's acclaimed architecture.

Russna Kaur explains, "Within my practice I explore, develop and reflect upon the roll of abstraction in my work as a way to challenge the conversation around identity, and push the boundaries of how identity is expressed through painting." Dr. Curtis Collins, Director & Chief Curator of the AAM, says, "This is a wonderful opportunity for visitors to experience a site-based treatment of the Museum's most architecturally fascinating spaces by Russna Kaur, an important mid-career artist from Vancouver."

Kaur, who is the recipient of the Takao Tanabe Painting Prize (2020) and the IDEA Art Award (2020), has exhibited works nationally at institutions including the Remai Modern (2023), Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (2022), and Kamloops Art Gallery (2021), and has shown internationally in Mumbai, IN (2023). Her work entitled, *They are midway between the sun and the moon*, was acquired by the Audain Art Museum in 2020, and will be included in this Special Exhibition.

This Special Exhibition is generously supported by the following group of collectors in celebration of Russna Kaur: Jan & Mark Ballard, Coleen & Howard Nemtin, Leonardo Lara & Michael Prout, Paul Larocque, Mary & Jarrod Levitan, Ron Francis Regan, Nada Vuksic, Steven Wilson & Michael Simmonds, Bruce Munro Wright O.B.C. and Terrence & Lisa Turner.

About the Audain Art Museum

Established in 2016, the Museum was founded via a major philanthropic gift of Michael Audain and Yoshiko Karasawa. The Permanent Collection is focused on the art of British Columbia, exemplifying the richness of cultural difference in Canada. Highlights include hereditary Haida Chief James Hart's *The Dance Screen*, an exceptional collection of historical and contemporary Indigenous art, a comprehensive selection of paintings by Emily Carr and a brilliant range of works by Vancouver's photo-conceptualists. The Museum hosts numerous special exhibitions per year that feature artists and collections of national as well as international significance.

Media Interviews, Press Kit & Images

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AUDAIN ART MUSEUM

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