

FROM: PORT MOODY ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wearable Art Awards Jurors Have Impressive Credentials

PORT MOODY, BC - Four artists of international renown will judge the more than 70 entries in the 2009 Wearable Art Awards, which will be shown on the red carpet May 9 and 10 at Port Moody's City Hall Galleria.

The jurors for the event, presented by the Port Moody Arts Centre Society, were announced by Andrew Danneffel and Paddi Solem, Society directors who are chair and vice-chair respectively of the Wearable Arts Committee. The jurors are:

Stuart Sproule and Barnaby Killam of Redflag Design, Vancouver; Sam Carter, an Associated Professor and a member of the Board of Directors of the Emily Carr Institute ("ECI") Foundation; and Gayle Ramsden, a textile artist who teaches at the University of the Fraser Valley.

Partners Sproule and Killam founded Red Flag Design in 2004. They specialize in the use of recycled materials and are best known for their Alternate Use Material bags created from retired nautical sails. The partners received the BC Creative Achievement Award in 2006 and Western Living's Designers of the Year in 2008.

For more than three decades, Carter has linked ECI students and faculty to community projects. He has developed exhibition designs, ceremonies and public art for many events and institutions, including the Hall of Life, Ontario Science Centre, the United Nations, Commonwealth Games, and Expo 86 in Vancouver and Expo 89 in Yokohama. He has served as Visiting Distinguished Professor, University of California, Davis and Visiting Professor, Humanistic Olympic Studies Centre, Renmin University of China. More recently, he has been organizing ECI student projects in Africa, China and Malaysia.

Ramsden's experience, like a complex tapestry, links textiles, fashion and artistry with apparel manufacturing and fine workmanship. She is a textile artist who describes her passion as uncovering the complexity of craft and the language of textiles. She recently developed an accredited Fashion Design Curriculum for KIC College in the Middle East.

The Wearable Art Awards include five categories - Open, Recycled, Headdress, Brassiere and new for 2009, Olympic. Recognition is also given for Best in Show, Student participation, Conceptual Idea and Peoples' Choice.

The 2009 Wearable Art Award winners, sharing \$5,000 in cash awards donated by community and corporate partners, will be chosen by the jury panel and will be recognized at the Sunday performance.

All entries will be on display at the Arts Centre from May 14 through June 28 and a "Peoples' Choice" award will be presented based on visitor votes from this showing.

Doors for the Red Carpet Gala performance open at 6:30 pm, Saturday, May 9 and at 1:30 pm on Sunday, May 10 for the Mother's Day Afternoon Extraordinaire. Both events take place at the Galleria in City Hall, 100 Newport Drive in Port Moody. Tickets are \$35 plus GST and service charge; service charge is waived for current Society members - phone 604-931-2008 or visit Port Moody Arts Centre, 2425 St. Johns Street.

The Wearable Art Awards are presented by the Port Moody Arts Centre Society - with support from businesses and sponsors who include the City of Port Moody, the BC Gaming Commission, the Port Moody Arts Centre, Pacific Coast Terminals, Pasta Polo, Andrew Peller Limited, and Christine Catering Company - to encourage local, Canadian and International artists of all mediums to submit evocative, imaginative and thought-provoking creations for the human body. The imaginations of the participating artists are the only limits on entries.

For further detail, see www.wearableartawards.com.