

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 24, 2009

# FUSE THIS FRIDAY

## Vancouver's Most Artful Evening Out Happens February 27th at the Vancouver Art Gallery from 6pm to Midnight

**VANCOUVER, BC** — Some of Vancouver's most innovative musicians will perform at the **Vancouver Art Gallery's FUSE** this Friday **February 27th**. The evening will offer a performance of improvised ambient music by DJ **Michael Red**, a Smiths-laced set by Vancouver new wave pop-rockers **Call the City**, musical "Encounters" throughout the Gallery by some of Vancouver's top improvisers (elevator music will never be the same), and live alternate voiceovers for movies by comedian **Riel Hahn**.

Vancouver-based DJ, producer and promoter **Michael Red** will present his ambient music project **Souns**. Ranging from hyper-minimal tones to soundscapes supported by dub bass-lines, Red's live performance will weave pre-programmed structures with the live looping and processing of bells, chimes, glockenspiel, trumpet, samples, the immediate environment, found objects, field recordings, static and hiss. Heavily improvisational, *Souns* finds its roots in the elemental songs of nature and beyond.

Fronted by the mesmerizing **Vanessa Sorenson**, **Call the City** is leading a New Wave revival in Vancouver. The band, rounded out by guitarist **Julian Growcott**, formerly of Upper Levels, bassist **Evan Lee** and drummer **Ben Wilson**, formerly of heartwarmongering, will play two sets. The first will mimic a rehearsal within the confines of Samuel Roy-Bois' installation *Ugly Today, Beautiful Tomorrow*, 2009—a soundproof recording studio included in the exhibition *How Soon Is Now: Contemporary Art From Here* where visitors can play instruments and create music that is piped through speakers into the Gallery's lobby. The group will also perform original songs and a Smiths cover in a forth-floor gallery space backed by *How Soon Is Now* artist Khan Lee, who will design a live video and lighting display.

Musicians will create instant music throughout the Gallery through a series of "Encounters." Vocal artist **Carol Sawyer**, whose video-based work is included in the current exhibition *How Soon Is Now: Contemporary Art From Here*, and pianist **Lisa Miller** will disintegrate a song based on 19th-Century art in the ground floor of the Gallery's rotunda. Clarinetist **François Houle's** will create "Impressionist improv" in the first-floor exhibition, *Legacies of Canadian Impressionism: 3 Exhibitions*. Vocal artist **Vivian Houle** and electronic musician **Stefan Smulovitz** will improvise compositions based on overheard conversations. Trumpet player **John Korsrud** will create abstracts melodies in the third-floor exhibition *Enacting Abstraction*. All of the musicians will come together for a final improvised composition based on the 35-minute site-specific musical work *Chance Encounter* by world-renowned soprano Susan Narucki and Lisa Bielawa, taking place on for all four floors of the Gallery's rotunda.

For **FUSE**, comedian **Riel Hahn** is joined by her band of hilarity, **Toby Berner**, **Tallulah Winkelman** and **Thomas Jones** for an innovative adventure into the Neo-Benshi tradition. Neo-Benshi is the practice of producing live alternate voiceovers for movies. Originating during the silent movie era in Korea, Japan, Taiwan and other East Asian nations, it is experiencing a resurgence with poets and performance artists from Los Angeles to Vancouver. Hahn will also lead **FUSE**-goers on a tour of the Gallery, blending fact and fiction, with the serious and the not-so-serious.

Held three times annually, the Vancouver Art Gallery's **FUSE** puts the city's leading visual arts destination in an entirely new light—at night. **FUSE** tickets are \$17.50 for adults. Members of the Vancouver Art Gallery receive free admission.

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