

DETAIL

1. HISTORY

ARTROPOLIS 90 will be the fourth in the series of large scale visual arts exhibitions held in Vancouver. The three previous shows - The October Show /1983, The Warehouse Show/1984, and Artropolis /1987 - developed out of expressed needs within the community for exhibiting opportunities which could not be met by existing galleries. The abundance of creative work being done in Vancouver justified its discovery by the larger audiences such grand scale exhibitions attract. Artropolis, and its predecessors, have been significant factors in the career development of many fine artists in B.C., and in the recognition of Vancouver as an identifiable art centre worldwide. Each exhibition has contributed to the important developments being made within our visual arts community. In fact, the success of these exhibitions has made them the envy of many in other parts of Canada.

2. ABOUT ARTROPOLIS 90

ARTROPOLIS 90 will be held in the Roundhouse at Pacific Place. This heritage building, located on the Concord Pacific development site, was renovated for Expo '86 and housed the Michael Snow holographic exhibition. The Roundhouse contains approximately 25,000 sq. ft., as the sheer size of the show dictates a space this large. The show is being organized by the Artropolis Society, a non-profit arts organization dedicated to public awareness of and education in the visual arts in B.C.

Like the previous exhibitions, ARTROPOLIS 90 is conceived as a large community event. Attendance and media coverage have grown with each successive show. Our attendance projection of close to 30,000 is based on past figures and is achievable. This audience will come from the lower mainland and across the province.

ARTROPOLIS 90 will be comprised of the visual art exhibition at the Roundhouse, demonstration events both on-site and at satellite locations, and several evenings of music and performance. Additional existing



Gloria Masse, *Wolfcub Howl*, 1988,
Oil on Canvas, 72" X 42"

"The need for a 'Warehouse' type of exhibition in Vancouver ... has been amply demonstrated by the previous shows and the energy and attention they have generated."

*- Bill Jeffries, Director,
Contemporary Art Gallery*

venues will probably be utilized for the music and performance sections, as well as for a large public video screening.

ARTROPOLIS 90 will capture and reflect the energy inherent in a broad spectrum of contemporary B.C. visual art production. Participants will include senior, established and younger emerging artists. It will be a stimulating and vital event, demonstrating the strength of the visual arts in our province.

3. ABOUT THE ART

ARTROPOLIS 90 is cognizant of its place in the sphere of B.C. art: as a showcase, as a force for attracting public attention, and as a demonstration of community strength. We do not envision this show as just a warehouse full of art with little cohesion.

To reflect the growth and maturation of the Vancouver and British Columbia visual arts community, ARTROPOLIS 90 will employ a new and exciting curatorial process to choose artworks for the exhibition. Twenty artists, ranging from young emerging to senior, are being invited to

act as artist curators. These artist curators will each select three to five other artists to exhibit with them in mini-exhibits. Approximately 100 artists and artist curators will participate in these exhibits within the exhibition. The other 100 artists will be selected from artists submissions and invitations by our head curator, Ann Rosenberg, and a group of curatorial advisors. ARTROPOLIS 90: LINEAGES & LINKAGES will include artists from the most senior to emerging, and will demonstrate the inter-generational networks of influence, style or media which exist among the artists of this region.

We are very pleased to have received commitments from some of our province's most respected senior artists to participate as artist curators. Confirmed are: Jack Shadbolt, Alan Wood, Sylvia Tait, Roy Kiyooka, Georgiana Chappell, Ladislav Guderna, Bill Featherston, Sally Michener, Gordon Payne, and Peter Aspell. The refined styles and long histories of these artists will serve as a wonderful counterpoint to our younger artist curators. This group will also bring to us their individual unique views of contemporary art production in B.C., both now and into the future.



Vicky Marshall, *Greenwich Park #2*, 1989
Oil on canvas, 29" x 31"

"Artropolis is a project which has made an important contribution to the cultural life of Vancouver and British Columbia. The Vancouver Art Gallery fully supports the goals of Artropolis..."

- Willard Holmes
Director, Vancouver
Art Gallery