

ART VANCOUVER

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A FAIR VISION OF ART

Art enthusiasts from Vancouver, Canada and abroad recently enjoyed a trip through the art world, right here in the Pacific Northwest. Art! Vancouver, the annual, international art fair, brought the global art scene to Vancouver for the viewing pleasure of its 8,000 plus visitors and over 100 artists and exhibitors.

This year's show was once again an international exhibition, with galleries coming from as far away as Ukraine and Albania, and artists from countries such as India, Ghana, Sudan representing 12 countries in total. "Art! Vancouver is one of the most refreshing additions to the contemporary art scene. It reflects the best of these events -- championing emerging artists, cultivating public interest in international and Canadian art, and offering something for everyone," said Traci Lombardo of Barnebys, who came to the event from New York.

The attendees listened to talks and panel discussions, met artists and watched the Face of Art runway show, in which artists walk the runway with a selected piece of work.

Nearly 50 people received a coveted treat: they completed their own projects in art classes taught by the fair's artists.

This year, *Art! Vancouver* introduced a new element of the show, called the Vancouver Gallery Crawl. As part of the event, over 40 galleries throughout the Lower Mainland opened their doors for an inclusive arts weekend. The participating galleries showcased some of the best art Vancouver has to offer, with local and international artists of various backgrounds and mediums represented. More than 15 of those galleries also organized special events on-site: open receptions with artists, live artist performances, tours and talks.

Attendees and artists were delighted with the fair. "My buyer was at the *Art! Vancouver* show, looking for two eagles for her ranch. [She] bought both of them. The *Art! Vancouver* show has changed my life. It was an amazing experience, and I can't wait to be there next year," said Comox artist Wes Seeley.

Plans are already underway for the fifth incarnation of the fair, scheduled for April 25-28, 2019. For more information, please visit www.artvancouver.net.

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Note for editors

About Art! Vancouver

Founded in 2015 by Director Lisa Wolfin, Art! Vancouver is Western Canada's only international fine arts fair and features local and international artists and galleries. The fair includes a diverse collection of exhibitors, along with an Opening Night runway show and an extensive speaker series. The event attracts international visitors with a genuine passion for art, including a range of influential, creative professionals.