

March 19, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vancouver, Canada – The Vancouver Biennale announces the arrival of Brazilian sculptor Hugo França. For the next month, the artist and his team will be carving sculptural artwork including benches made from salvaged fallen trees on select urban sites and public beaches in Squamish and Vancouver. The public is invited to watch the transformative artistic process.

In PUBLIC FURNITURE | URBAN TREES, Hugo França will convert trunks and roots of condemned urban trees and trees that have washed ashore into large-scale sculptural artwork and benches for public use.

"Although the artist has exhibited his artwork internationally, this is the first time in his 20-year career that he is creating public sculpture outside Brazil and using a variety of local wood species, which makes this a truly unique Biennale project and experience for the artist", said Barrie Mowatt, President and Founder of the Vancouver Biennale.

Hugo França's sustainable design process respects the natural features of the wood, promoting minimum waste. It also brings to light the beauty of the natural organic forms, lines, holes and cracks of the trees. Their memory remains alive in art, brought back to the community in harmonious ways with the landscape.

Many of the sculptural artwork will remain in the host cities as a legacy of the Vancouver Biennale exhibition.

The public is invited onsite to see the artist and experience the transformative artistic process behind his artwork. Beginning March 24th, the artist will be in downtown Squamish, (Cleveland at Buckley Avenue), then moving April 3rd to locations in Vancouver (Spanish Banks Beach, Kits Beach, Sunset Beach and English Bay)

Follow Vancouver Biennale social media for updates on locations.

twitter.com/Van_Biennale

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Artist Reception

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2014

Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Squamish Academy of Music

38121 - Second Avenue, Squamish BC

This is a FREE public event. Space is limited.

Thank You!

The Vancouver Biennale thanks all of our many sponsors, alliance partners and donors who have embraced the vision, shared the excitement and helped bring great art to our community.

Project Sponsors: District of Squamish Diamond Head Medical Clinic Quest University Canada Executive Suites Squamish Crumpit Woods Sea to Sky Gondola Royal Lepage Black Tusk Realty Race & Co Stewart Kerr TrinityRomance Coast Aggregate LTD Diamond Head Land Company Krisztina Egyed Squamish House and Homes Squamish Days Loggers Sports Festival JR Trucking Garibaldi Forest Products West Barr Contracting A-J Forest Products West Coast Logging Shows Langis Transport Downtown Squamish BIA Tim Hortons Squamish Sculptors Group Imagine Squamish Coast Valley Contracting Ltd Dynamic Equipment Rentals Ninety Nine Transport Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Reception Hosts: Squamish Academy of Music Squamish Chamber of Commerce Tourism Squamish Inside Edge Knowledge Association Squamish Howe Sound Secondary School StartUp Squamish

About the Vancouver Biennale

The Vancouver Biennale is a non-profit charitable organization that celebrates art in public space. Each exhibition transforms the urban landscape into an Open Air Museum, creating globally inspired cultural experiences where people live, work, play and transit. The objective is to use great art as a catalyst to transformative learning and social action.

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