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EMILY CARR ANNOUNCES 2009 HONORARY DOCTORATE AND EMILY AWARD RECIPIENTS

VANCOUVER, BC – Emily Carr University of Art + Design (Emily Carr) will honour world-renowned visual artist Stan Douglas and one of the most acclaimed singer-songwriters of her generation, Sarah McLachlan at the 2009 convocation, to be held May 2, at the Chan Centre.

The 2009 Emily Award, acknowledging outstanding achievements by an alumni during the early years of their career, will be granted to Matt Booth (photographer), Jonah Gray (media artist) and Sacha Hurley (designer), founding members of Pyramid Power magazine.

“Emily Carr University of Art and Design is delighted to be recognizing these exceptional members of our community, who have contributed in very important ways to Canadian art and culture through their creative endeavours,” said Jake Kerr, Chancellor. “The Honorary Doctorate is the highest degree that Emily Carr offers and is conferred upon those individuals who have demonstrated a profound and longstanding commitment to the arts.”

Past honorary degree recipients include Ian Wallace, Buffy St. Marie, Wanda Koop, Michael Audain, Douglas Coupland, Atom Egoyan, Arthur C. Erickson, Gordon Smith, Wendy Tilby, Ann Kipling, Susan A. Point and Bob Rennie.

Career Highlights

Stan Douglas

Canadian photographer and filmmaker Stan Douglas continues to live and work in Vancouver. After graduating from Emily Carr College of Art in 1982, Stan began making films and videos that reflect on issues of culture and technology and on the relationship between popular representations of history and subjectivity.

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Stan Douglas cont'd

The complex structure of Douglas' audio-visual installations is often based on long periods of research. The social aspect of his work can be compared with that of a group of artists based in Vancouver, including Jeff Wall and Rodney Graham, who began during the 1980s to examine the socially and environmentally detrimental effects of industry and technology on their surroundings.

Sarah McLachlan

Since her signing with Nettwerk Records two decades ago, every one of Sarah McLachlan's studio and live albums and videos has been certified gold, platinum, or multi-platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America. She has received numerous Grammy Awards and is an eight-time JUNO Award winner and the recipient of the 2009 Allan Waters Humanitarian Award, recognizing her outstanding work as a Canadian artist whose humanitarian contributions have positively enhanced the social fabric of Canada. The Sarah McLachlan Foundation is dedicated to the advancement of music education for young people in Canada, and in particular, to benefit youth in under-served communities. The Sarah McLachlan Music Outreach -- An Arts Umbrella Project, is the pilot project for the Sarah McLachlan Foundation.

Pyramid Power Magazine: Matt Booth, Jonah Gray and Sacha Hurley

After graduating in 2006, Sacha Hurley, Matt Booth, and Jonah Gray joined forces to produce *Pyramid Power* — a local magazine that, after only five issues, has been critically received and supported at an international level. The magazine was nominated in two categories, *Best New Magazine* and *Best Illustrated Feature* at the 2008 Western Magazine Awards, and Issue #3 received an honorable mention at the National Magazine Awards in Toronto for *Best Art Direction for an Entire Issue*. These three graduates demonstrate what a collaboration of resources and skills can do early on for those embarking on the next chapter of their journey, life after Emily Carr.

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