
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2007OTP0035-000391
April 4, 2007

Office of the Premier
British Columbia Achievement Foundation

AWARDS CELEBRATE B.C. LEADERS IN STYLE AND FUNCTION

VANCOUVER – Style and function are the focus for the five talented British Columbians named today as recipients of the 2007 BC Creative Achievement Awards by Premier Gordon Campbell and Keith Mitchell, chair of the British Columbia Achievement Foundation.

“British Columbia has a strong culture of design and innovation, and this year’s Creative Award recipients exemplify the depth of talent and skill that we have in this province,” said Campbell. “We can all be proud of the accomplishments of these designers and the profile they bring to B.C. on the world stage.”

“We were delighted to receive 91 submissions from artists and designers around British Columbia,” said Mitchell. “The jury had difficult decisions to make with so many outstanding works, produced with such passion.” Mitchell added, “The foundation is also pleased to announce that all the award-winning recipients’ works of art and design will be shared across British Columbia in a Traveling Showcase, visiting B.C. communities from June 2007 to May 2008.”

The recipients of the third annual BC Creative Achievement Awards are:

- Jill Allan – glass
- Rachelle Chinnery – ceramics
- Renata Crowe – jewelry
- Patricia Fieldwalker – fashion
- Teale Merkeley – furniture

The recipients of the 2007 BC Creative Achievement Awards will be recognized at a ceremony held June 4, 2007 at The Studios at Shaw Tower in Vancouver. Each recipient will receive \$5,000 and be granted the use of the British Columbia Creative Achievement Award seal to signify their creative excellence. The 2007 Traveling Showcase will be on display during the ceremony.

The recipients were selected by an independent jury chaired by board member Dr. Robert Belton, dean of Creative and Critical Studies at UBC Okanagan. The jury was comprised of Sam Carter, artist, craft and design educator, and associate professor at the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design; Allan Collier of Victoria, design curator and historian; Ron Kong, manager of Circle Craft Co-operative Shop and Gallery and former curator, Canadian Craft Museum; and Coleen Nemtin of West Vancouver, who has served on many art gallery and advisory boards in both Vancouver and Seattle, and has helped raise more than \$1 million for Vancouver’s Contemporary Art Gallery.

The British Columbia Achievement Foundation is an independent foundation established and endowed by the Province of B.C. in 2003. The Creative Achievement Awards are one of five initiatives of the foundation. The others are the BC Community Achievement Awards, recognizing those who have made a significant contribution to their community, the BC Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, recognizing excellence in literary non-fiction, the BC Creative Achievement Award for Aboriginal Art, and Time to Read: the BC Achievement Award for Early Literacy.

1 backgrounder(s) attached.

Media Mike Morton
contact: Press Secretary
 Office of the Premier
 250 213-8218

Nora Newlands
Executive Director
British Columbia Achievement Foundation
604 261-3348

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at www.gov.bc.ca.

BACKGROUND

2007OTP0035-000391
April 4, 2007

Office of the Premier
British Columbia Achievement Foundation

2007 BC CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Jill Allan, Lantzville

Glass

Jill Allan explores repetition of form, pattern and the impact of light in her glass objects and unique jewelry. Her work is quiet, based in the craft tradition of vessel making and influenced by Scandinavian design. Jill is a graduate of the Alberta College of Art and Design and recently completed an artists' residency at the Corning Museum of Glass in New York State. She has received numerous awards including the Young Contemporaries Millennium Award 2001 and the Gold Medal for Excellence in Craft at the 2005 Circle Craft Christmas Market.

Rachelle Chinnery, Vancouver

Ceramics

An avid kayaker, Rachelle Chinnery draws her inspiration from the water and sands of B.C.'s coastal beaches. Each of her porcelain pieces is hand-carved, creating a tactile object that evokes the seascape. Her work is fully functional and is made to complement and enhance a life style that is contemplative and appreciative of a natural pristine environment. Rachelle's work has been exhibited at the International Ceramic and Bronze Exhibition in Jamaica, the Sydney Meyer International Ceramics Fund in Sydney and at the Biennial World Ceramics Competition in Korea – the world's largest ceramics competition.

Renata Crowe, Vancouver

Jewelry

Renata Crowe combines torchworked and cast glass with silver to create custom jewelry. Best known as a milliner, she has successfully made the transition from working with felt, straw and textiles to glass and metal. Creating a harmonious balance between glass and metal is the focus of her work and symbolizes the patience and balance of the natural world. In December 2006, Renata was one of two artists to participate in the first ever glass jewelry show at the renowned Vetri International Glass in Seattle, where her work explored the theme of society and urban violence.

Patricia Fieldwalker, Vancouver

Fashion

Patricia Fieldwalker has been designing deluxe lingerie for more than 25 years. She is the five-time winner of the Matinee Fashion Foundation Award for Excellence and the Rubans de Madame Figaro award at the Salon International de la Lingerie in Paris. Her designs have been featured in numerous films and magazines and her lingerie is retailed in specialty boutiques in Europe, Asia, Australia and throughout Canada and the United States. Twelve full time employees in her Strathcona factory work with silk, cotton, velvet and lace creating the Patricia Fieldwalker Adagio Collection. Patricia is a leader in the fashion community in Vancouver and contributes generously to local charities.

Teale Merkeley, Vancouver

Furniture

Teale Merkeley is an emerging designer distinguished by his work in high-quality furniture and household objects. Concerned with formal efficiency and material quality, Teale's work is bare, pragmatic and healthy. He seeks to create an enduring relationship with objects through a synthesis of structure, proportion, function and beauty. Teale is a graduate of the Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design where he also studied abroad at the Ingvar Kamprad Design Centrum in Sweden. He has exhibited in Milan, London, Malmo, Vancouver and most recently, as a contributor to the BARK Design Collective's 'All Terrain Cabin' exhibit.

Media contact: Mike Morton
Press Secretary
Office of the Premier
250 213-8218

Nora Newlands
Executive Director
British Columbia Achievement Foundation
604 261-3348

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at www.gov.bc.ca.