

**41st CSDA Symposium and Annual General Meeting
September 8-10, 2023 Vancouver, BC**

SUPER NATURAL: PLACE AND PRACTICE

SPEAKERS AND PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Ivan Sayers is a fashion historian who specializes in the study of women's, men's, and children's fashions from 1700 to the present. He has collected period costumes for over 50 years and now has one of the largest and most comprehensive private collections of historical clothing in Canada.

Ivan worked at the Museum of Vancouver from 1970 to 1990 and left his position as Curator of History to become a Museum Consultant and Lecturer.

He now produces Historical Fashion shows and Museum exhibitions across western and central North America, and lectures at several local universities and colleges. He is currently the Honorary Curator of the Society for the Museum of Original Costume whose mandate it is to establish a museum of clothing and textiles in the lower mainland. In September 2016, Ivan was honoured by the Museum of Vancouver with the distinction of Curator Emeritus.



Douglas Coupland is a Canadian novelist, designer, and visual artist. His first novel, the 1991 international bestseller *Generation X: Tales for an Accelerated Culture*, popularized the terms *Generation X* and *McJob*. He has published thirteen novels, two collections of short stories, seven non-fiction books, and several dramatic works and screenplays for film and television. He is a columnist for the *Financial Times*, as well as a frequent contributor to *The New York Times*, *e-flux journal*, *DIS Magazine*, and *Vice*.

In 2000 Coupland amplified his visual art production and has recently had two separate museum retrospectives, *Everything is Anything is Anywhere is Everywhere* at the Vancouver Art Gallery, The Royal Ontario Museum and the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, and *Bit Rot* at Rotterdam's Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art, and Munich's Villa Stucke. In 2015 and 2016 Coupland was artist in residence in the Paris Google Cultural Institute. In May 2018 his exhibition on ecology, **Vortex**, opened at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Coupland is a member of the Royal Canadian Academy, an Officer of the Order of Canada, a Officer of the Order of British Columbia, a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres and receiver of the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence.



Stephanie Rebick is a curator, editor and writer based in the unceded territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. She is an Associate Curator at the Vancouver Art Gallery and oversees its publishing program. She also frequently collaborates with Information Office, an art book publisher and design practice. Stephanie has curated and co-curated numerous exhibitions including *Where do we go from here?*; *Modern in the Making: Post-War Craft and Design in British Columbia*; *Robert Rauschenberg 1965–1980*; *Out of Sight*; *Guo Pei: Couture Beyond*; *Cabin Fever*; *MashUp: The Birth of Modern Culture*; and *Grand Hotel: Redesigning Modern Life*. She has contributed to a number of publications including *KRAZY! The Delirious World of Anime + Comics + Video Games + Art*; *Visceral Bodies*; *Unreal*; *Grand Hotel*; and *MashUp*. Most recently she edited a book on the work of Omer Arbel. Her curatorial interests include visual culture, new media and the intersection of craft, design and contemporary art.



Daina Augaitis is Chief Curator Emerita at the Vancouver Art Gallery where she led the curatorial programs between 1997-2017 and organized dozens of exhibitions by local and international artists. One of her last collaborative projects at the museum was “Modern in the Making: Post-war Craft and Design in British Columbia” and it was during the research for this exhibition in 2018 that she was introduced to Mr. Lawrence’s outstanding collection of BC ceramics.

Image: Courtesy of Rachel Topham Photography



Growing up in the field and woodland of southern Vermont **John David Lawrence** was fascinated with collecting objects of all sorts. From matchbooks to wildflowers to stamps and marbles, old books and 78 recordings, it was the differences both bold and subtle that kept his interest.

Living in a family which encouraged music (a mother who taught music) he chose a saxophone at the age of 9 not because he knew what it was but because the name sounded so exotic! Skip a decade and John was studying voice at Boston University School of Fine Arts but concentrating largely on the life of the city, again fascinated, and quickly becoming a collector of experiences. It was barely more than a year later that he left B.U. to study privately at the Quadrivium Centre for Medieval and Renaissance music quickly becoming a member of the performance groups there while singing and playing period wind instruments. This experience lasted for 8 years until John was struck wild with wanderlust and took off for the west coast. It was only 3 years and a few continents later, before he found himself busking on

the streets of Vancouver, participating in the first of a series of Gay Community Theatre groups and joining with two friends to start a swing trio. This lasted for 17 years and miraculously paid the bills, which allowed him time to explore the city and reignited his passion for collecting all over again.

The culmination of his experiences led him to selling objects at antique shows and flea markets which evolved into opening Do Da Antiques in 1999. With his sharp eye and broad interests in the aesthetic of human-made things, John is a true collector of “stuff”, and his authentic appreciation for **British Columbia Ceramics** knows no bounds.



Adele Weder is an architectural writer and cultural journalist. Her deep dive into the world of Ron Thom began with her University of British Columbia master’s thesis on the design approach of Thom’s mentor, artist B.C. Binning. Since then, she has authored and co-authored several books on West Coast architecture. From 2013-2015, she curated and produced the travelling exhibition “Ron Thom and the Allied Arts.” Weder is founding director of the West Coast Modern League and on the advisory board of the UBC School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. She

lives in Vancouver and Haida Gwaii, British Columbia.



Morgan Asoyuf (née Green) was born March 24, 1984 in Prince Rupert BC. Morgan is Ts'msyen Eagle Clan from Ksyeeen River (Prince Rupert area), BC.

Morgan’s artistic career started with a Blanche Macdonald Centre Fashion Design Diploma in 2003, and Bronze Casting at The Crucible art compound in Oakland.

In 2010 Morgan studied at Vancouver Metal Art School under Gerold Mueller, a goldsmith from Pforzheim Germany learning special techniques such as hollow construction, custom stone cutting, and advanced soldering. Morgan has also studied design and engraving with Richard Adkins, and completed Gem Setting courses at Revere Academy, San Francisco.

She studies wood sculpture with Henry Green and Phil Gray, and enjoys experimenting with merging art forms. She is currently employed as an auxiliary goldsmith instructor with Vancouver Community College as well as teaching art with various non-profit organizations.



Connie Watts is the Associate Director, Aboriginal Programs at Emily Carr University of Art + Design. She is an interdisciplinary artist, writer, curator, educator and designer of Nuu-chah-nulth, Gitksan and Kwakwaka'wakw ancestry. Born and raised in Campbell River, Connie has a Bachelor of Interior Design from the University of Manitoba, and a BFA from Emily Carr. Her award-winning work is often rooted in forms and knowledge drawn from First Nations cultures, while her sculptural objects

incorporate modern fabrication and design techniques. She has shown nationally and internationally. Connie's Interior Design and Management projects include the interior of the Songhees Wellness Centre and managing the Vancouver 2010 winter Olympics' Aboriginal Art Program.



John Atkin is a civic historian, and heritage consultant. John has explored Vancouver like few others have and offers interesting and offbeat insight to the city's architecture, history and neighbourhoods through his walking tours, books, and blog. As a heritage consultant, John regularly consults on heritage buildings, writing Statements of Significance, Conservation Plans and Heritage Assessments in the Lower Mainland and the Kootenay region of BC. He past chair of the City of Vancouver's Civic Asset Naming Committee, former chair of the Dr Sun Yat Sen Chinese Garden and currently sits on the board of the Friends of the Vancouver Archives, and is a vice president the Chinese Canadian Historical Society of BC.



Jeanette Langmann a respected international authority on art and antiques, Jeanette has acquired over 30 years of experience working in the field. She studied at the University of British Columbia before becoming a second-generation art dealer and appraiser in the family business,

Jeanette is an active member of the professional antiques and fine arts community both locally and internationally and travels worldwide to research and collect fine and decorative arts. She has a particular interest in historical Canadian art from the 19th and early 20th century. She is an expert on CBC's Canadian Antiques.Roadshow, Past President and currently on the board of the Art Dealers Association of Canada, and advises as Chair of the ADAC's Appraisals Committee as well as to the Canadian Personal Property Export Review Board in Ottawa. She has sat on the boards of the Vancouver Archives, Antique Dealers Association of Canada, South Granville Business Improvement Association, South Granville Gallery Association and Greater Vancouver Antique Dealers Association.