



Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEARTS AND ARROWS

Khan Lee

May 24 – July 27, 2013

Gallery Hours: Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11am-6pm

Preview Reception: Thursday, May 23, 2013, 6pm

Essay: Jenifer Pappararo, Curator, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver

"I wanted to see if the short duration of this action
in the video will compress the entire event..."

Vancouver, BC - Centre A opens its new gallery in Chinatown with an exhibition of new work by Korean-born, Vancouver-based artist Khan Lee. The exhibition *hearts and arrows*, takes its title from a new durational video work by Lee which depicts the process of the artist making an ice carving. Set against the stunning background of Vancouver's city lights and working port, the artist labours from dusk to dawn to achieve the perfect form. Hearts and arrows literally refers to the intricate faceting of brilliant cut diamonds. The artist compares and contrasts the material quality of ice and diamonds. But further, in this video the artist records an alchemy- the convergence of time, space, material and labour to produce an ethereal form.

Lee elaborates. "I wanted to create an all-inclusive magical moment when everything happens to appear in unison, and also reflects all daily events, localities, dramas, satisfactions, frustrations, and struggles as a person and as an artist."

Hearts and arrows is a fitting new work to inaugurate Centre A's new gallery space in Chinatown. The video depicts the clarity of the dawn following a dark night of labour. The mood of the piece is introspective, yet optimistic and celebratory. The video depicts an artist of Asian background at work in Vancouver, but also at ease with himself in this city, says Centre A's Executive Director, Haema Sivanesan.

Khan Lee has a background in architecture and media arts. His experiments with materials and technologies have resulted in performance, sculpture and media works. Lee has exhibited nationally and internationally. His first solo exhibition *Untitled* was at Centre A in 2009. Lee is a founding member of the artists collective Intermission, and an active member of Instant Coffee.

To view full details of our public programs, please visit our website: www.centre.org.

ABOUT CENTRE A

Established in 1999, Centre A (Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art) is the only public art gallery in Canada dedicated to contemporary Asian art. Centre A makes a significant contribution to Vancouver's cultural landscape by contributing to the cultural infrastructure of the city, and foregrounding a range of diverse contemporary artistic practices. Centre A commissions and curates exhibitions, performance art projects, symposia, occasional residencies, publications and educational programs that contextualize the work of Asian-Canadian artists within a larger national and international context. We also bring the work of leading international artists to Vancouver, encouraging an exchange of ideas and promoting a wide awareness of contemporary cultural practices from Asia and its diasporas.

Centre A gratefully acknowledges the support of:

The Canada Council for the Arts, the BC Arts Council, BC Community Gaming Grant program, the City of Vancouver, Cultural Services, and the generosity of our patrons, donors, members and volunteers.

Centre A: Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art

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Admission: Free | Gallery Hours: Tues-Sat 11am-6pm