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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Centre A Announces New Permanent Team: Executive Director/Curator, Henry Heng Lu and Gallery Manager, Ellie Chung



Henry Heng Lu and Ellie Chung.

Vancouver, B.C., Canada (September 9, 2021) — The Centre A Board of Directors is pleased to name **Henry Heng Lu** as **Executive Director/Curator** and **Ellie Chung** as **Gallery Manager**.

"On behalf of the Centre A Board, we are thrilled to announce the appointment of Henry Heng Lu as our Executive Director and Curator, and Ellie Chung as our Gallery Manager. We are fortunate to have such a talented, dedicated and dynamic team leading Centre A in our next phase of growth. We are thankful to Henry for stewarding Centre A through a challenging pandemic year and strengthening our organization in the process. We look forward to the many innovative



programs and outreach activities that Henry and Ellie are planning for the community," says **April Liu**, President of Centre A's Board of Directors.

Henry Heng Lu brings to Centre A a wealth of knowledge in arts administration, leadership, and programming. Prior to joining Centre A in 2019 as its Curator and later Interim Executive Director, he has worked at various institutions and artist-driven spaces nationally and abroad. He is a co-founder of Call Again, a mobile initiative/collective committed to creating space for contemporary Asian diasporic artistic practices. He holds a Master of Visual Studies from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Arts in Arts Management from the University of Toronto Scarborough. He has curated exhibitions and public programs with Canadian and international artists such as Ken Lum, Eiko Otake, The Propeller Group, Zainub Verjee, Gu Xiong, and Pixy Liao.

"Thank you, Centre A, for this honour and opportunity. I am delighted and ready to continue mobilizing our community to further establish this beloved art centre that prioritizes Asian sensibilities," says Henry Heng Lu.

Ellie Chung is a community-oriented art educator and administrator who has worked in different sectors in cultural and community services such as the Association of Neighbourhood Houses BC, Mónica Reyes Gallery, and the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery. She holds a Master of Education in Art Education and a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of British Columbia.

Chung has previously performed in various capacities such as program coordination, communications, management, and administrative operations for projects such as children and youth programs, interactive exhibition tours, and fundraising events. She strives to be a dynamic agent who interfaces with culture, education, history, and social innovation.

We are excited to start Centre A's next chapter with our new, dedicated team members. Join our efforts to cultivate a vibrant, inclusive space for contemporary Asian and Asian-diasporic arts and culture.

Come meet the team at the opening reception of our new exhibition "Revolving: a family tale" by Sona Safaei-Sooreh on September 16, 2021, between 5 and 9 PM PDT. **Register here:** <u>https://bit.ly/3l4aDBA</u>



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ABOUT CENTRE A



Centre A: Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art is a leading public art gallery currently situated in the heart of Vancouver's Chinatown, on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples. We honour, respect, and give thanks to our hosts.

Centre A is committed to providing a platform for engaging diverse communities through public access to the arts, creating mentorship opportunities for emerging artists and arts professionals, and stimulating critical dialogue through provocative exhibitions and innovative public programs that complicate understandings of migrant experiences and diasporic communities. It is the only public art gallery in Canada dedicated to contemporary Asian and Asian-diasporic perspectives since 1999.

Centre A gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the British Columbia Arts Council, the Government of British Columbia, the City of Vancouver, and all of our funders, donors, members, and programming partners.

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