

“Loco-Foco-Motto” shines a light on Vancouver

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2010

Vancouver, Canada - The Vancouver Biennale welcomes Indian artist, Hema Upadhyay and her chandeliers to the City of Richmond. Hema will construct a collection of chandeliers entirely out of unused wooden matchsticks at the Aberdeen Centre (Richmond) until May 28th, Monday to Friday 9.00 PM – 5:00 PM.

Six of these five feet structures are being created with the help of volunteers from throughout Vancouver and Richmond using 750,000 blue, red and white matches. One of the matchstick chandeliers will be displayed at the Richmond Art Gallery as part of their current exhibition, *In Transition: New Art from India*, a collaboration project with the Vancouver Biennale.

Dream a wish, wish a dream

Hema Upadhyay will give a talk as part of the City of Richmond's LuLu Speaker Series on Thursday 20th May at 7.00pm. City of Richmond, Council Chambers, 6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC.

Lulu events are free to the public and seating is limited. Please RSVP at lulu@richmond.ca.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Baroda born and Mumbai based, Hema Upadhyay often works in mixed media with themes that focus on issues of gender, personal identity and migration in India. Imagery of Indian religious symbols and feminine references are often present in her work.

Hema won the Tenth Indian Triennial in 2001 and received the National Scholarship and the Gujarat State Award in 1996. She did her residency at Art Space in Sydney in 2001 and Vasl Residency in Karachi in 2003.

ABOUT THE VANCOUVER BIENNALE

The Vancouver Biennale is a non-profit organization that mounts bi-annual public art exhibitions, bringing sculptures, new media and performance works by celebrated and emerging international artists to Vancouver and surrounding area parks, beaches and urban plazas. In doing so, the Biennale creates an open-air museum that merges the natural beauty of our landscape and our love of the outdoor recreation with a world-class cultural experience, all contributing to our designation as one of the most livable cities in the world.

For more information visit: www.vancouverbiennale.com, <http://www.richmondartgallery.org/>

For more information on the LuLu Speaker Series:

<http://www.richmond.ca/culture/about/events/lulu/hemaupadhyay.htm>