FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARTIST KENT MONKMAN AND CURATOR DAINA AUGAITIS WIN
2014 HNATYSHYN FOUNDATION VISUAL ARTS AWARDS

Ottawa, September 23, 2014 – Gerda Hnatyshyn, C.C., President of The Hnatyshyn Foundation, today announced the recipients of the 2014 Visual Arts Awards. The $25,000 prize for outstanding achievement by a Canadian mid-career artist is awarded to Kent Monkman of Toronto, while the winner of the $15,000 award for curatorial excellence in contemporary art is Daina Augaitis, Chief Curator and Associate Director of the Vancouver Art Gallery. Since 2006, the Foundation has awarded a total of $345,000 in support of Canadian mid-career artists and curators.

Award for Outstanding Achievement as an Artist

Kent Monkman is an artist of Cree ancestry who works in a variety of media including painting, film/video, performance and installation. Monkman has exhibited widely within Canada, and is well represented in numerous private and public collections including the National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. He is represented by Sargent's Daughters in New York, Trepanier Baer Gallery in Calgary, and Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain in Montreal.

Award for Curatorial Excellence in Contemporary Art

Daina Augaitis has been the chief curator/associate director at the Vancouver Art Gallery since 1996, where she plays a key role in shaping the museum’s exhibition program and building its collections. In the last decade Augaitis has organized solo exhibitions of artists such as Rebecca Belmore, Stan Douglas, Brian Jungen, Song Dong, Ian Wallace, Gillian Wearing, Paul Wong, and Yang Fudong, and thematic exhibitions that have featured socially based works. She was formerly director of the Visual Arts Program at the Banff Centre for the Arts, where she organized residencies for artists and curators, and has held curatorial positions at the Walter Phillips Gallery, Western Front, Convertible Showroom, and Franklin Furnace. Augaitis recently curated the exhibition Muntadas: Entre/Between at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain, touring to Gulbenkian Museum, Lisbon, Portugal, and Jeu de Paume, Paris, France.

The Hnatyshyn Foundation offers its sincere congratulations to this year’s recipients.
The Hnatyshyn Foundation would also like to thank the adjudicators of the 2014 awards for their generous assistance.

Lisa Baldissera – Chief Curator, Mendel Gallery
Robert Enright – Cultural journalist, writer and lecturer
Jenifer Papararo – Curator, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver
Eric Walker – Painter and video artist
Sarah Watson – General and Artistic Director, Artexte

-30-

About The Hnatyshyn Foundation

The Hnatyshyn Foundation is a private charity established by the late Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, Canada’s twenty-fourth Governor General, to assist emerging and established artists in all disciplines with their schooling and training, and promote to the Canadian public the importance of the arts in our society. Its programs are funded by donations from government, foundations, corporations and individuals. The Department of Canadian Heritage has provided $5 million in grants to assist the Foundation.

For more information:

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