

# MEDIA RELEASE

February 20, 2020



## ***Dr. Heng Wu joins AGGV as Curator of Asian Art***

Jon Tupper, Director, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria has announced that the Gallery has hired Dr. Heng Wu as their new Curator of Asian Art. Dr. Wu joined the team at the AGGV in Dec. 2019.

“We are thrilled to have Heng join the team at the AGGV,” said Tupper. “With the second largest collection of Asian art in Canada it was important for us to find a person with the qualifications to fill this key curatorial role at the AGGV, with Heng we have found the ideal candidate for the position.”

Heng Wu has also joined the faculty of the University of Victoria in the Art History and Visual Studies department. Before moving to Victoria she worked at Nanjing Museum, China as the Associate Curator and Chief International Officer, developing and overseeing international exhibitions and programs. She received her PhD from the University of Bergen, Norway in 2011. Her dissertation explored the changes of regional museums in China during 1949-2009 with a special focus on their correlations with the country’s social political changes. Heng Wu’s research interests include museum and society, museum communication, exhibitions and storytelling, the localization of exhibitions, and particularly the interpretation, presentation and representation of Asian collections in a global context.

Heng Wu follows Barry Till, who held the position for 36 years, prior to retiring in 2017. Till was named as the AGGV’s first Curator Emeritus upon his retirement.

### About The Art Gallery of Great Victoria:

When it first opened in 1951, the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria exhibited art in the historic 1889 Spencer Mansion that is now adjacent to its seven exhibition galleries, constructed between 1955 and 1978. With almost 20,000 works of art, the Art Gallery has the largest public collection in BC and is a vibrant and active part of Victoria’s artist community. The Gallery’s commitment to a well-planned renewal of its existing facility was announced in 2012. A request for proposals was issued at the time, seeking architects who could renovate and prepare a design that complements the building’s location in the heart of the Rockland neighborhood. In December of 2015, following extensive community consultation, the AGGV received approval for re-zoning from the City of Victoria and unveiled plans for *The NEXT Gallery*. The Province of British Columbia committed \$6 million dollars to the project in June of 2018.

For more information visit [aggv.ca](http://aggv.ca)

**Media Contact:**  
Sandra Hudson  
tel. 250-216-1380  
[media@aggv.ca](mailto:media@aggv.ca)