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## **B.C. ARTISTS RECEIVE \$10,000 CASH AWARDS**

Each Spring, the Vancouver art community eagerly awaits the announcement of the annual VIVA awards for achievement in the visual arts. On Tuesday, March 23 at 8 pm this year's Selection Committee announced that Vancouver artists **JUDY RADUL** and **MYFANWY MACLEOD** have been chosen for the prestigious cash awards.

THE JACK AND DORIS SHADBOLT FOUNDATION FOR THE VISUAL ARTS, is a granting foundation established in 1987 by Doris and Jack Shadbolt. Annual awards of \$10,000 each are given to two B.C. artists who have made long-term commitments to both their own work and to the development of visual art in B.C. The chosen recipients are generally mid-career artists who have demonstrated strong creative potential for their future work and direction.

A new awards jury is appointed each year by VIVA's trustees to conduct a province-wide search and to compile the names of potential winners. The names of both the selection panel and the recipients are a closely-guarded secret until the last minute. Candidates for these awards may be artists, critics, writers or curators who work with any visual arts media. The committee does not accept nominations for applications. Instead, the recipients are selected by a majority vote for their perceived creative potential and accomplishment. There is no criteria or stipulation for how the money may be used by the artists.

The well-known philanthropists and community arts supporters Doris Shadbolt and her late husband Jack Shadbolt have been reluctant to have their names prominently displayed in the title of the foundation. For both, the awards have been a way of giving back to the art community the support they have received. Jack Shadbolt was a significant artist, teacher and arts advocate, while Doris has been equally successful as a writer, historian, curator and critic.

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## RECIPIENTS OF 1999 VIVA AWARDS

### JUDY RADUL

Judy Radul is a performance artist. She uses her own body, plus props and a documentary crew, to create "living" art. Always intimate, usually disturbing, and definitely provocative, Radul's performances explore the fine line that traditionally has separated "art" from "living". Radul positions herself as a public spectacle in order to interpret and challenge self-humiliation and empowerment. She has had an extensive series of performances and exhibitions since 1983 in alternate galleries and public venues.

### MYFANWY MACLEOD

Myfanwy MacLeod is originally from London, with subsequent art training in Paris and Montreal. Her art forms have been described as a meeting of the primeval and postmodern. Horrific yet at the same time controlled by humor, Macleod's sculptural figures appropriate the styles of animation and comic strips. Like the worst-case scenarios of on-line MUDs, her work is a portrayal of mutilated characters and public "undressing". Her themes are anti-social with violent fantasies. By contrast, she uses a lean and precise style to create memorable characters and imagery.