

For Immediate Release

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Remembering Emily: Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Emily Carr

Readings of Emily Carr's stories with *This and That* editor Ann-Lee Switzer, Friends of Emily artist demonstrations, craft activities, and Carr House tea.

(Victoria, British Columbia, February 8)

Iconic Canadian artist and author, Emily Carr, passed away 80 years ago this March. To honour her contributions to Canadian art and literature, Carr House is hosting a special event *Remembering Emily:* Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Emily Carr on Saturday, March 1 from 10am-3pm.

"It is so special to be able to celebrate the creative legacy of Emily Carr in the house where she was born, and where she taught her first art classes", commented Shannon King, Executive Director of Carr House. "On this, the 80th anniversary of her death, it is important to recognize Emily Carr's contributions to Canadian art and literature."

Local researcher and editor, Ann-Lee Switzer, spent years studying Emily Carr's written works at the BC Archives. Switzer will be at Carr House and will read stories from *This and That* at 10:30am, noon, and 2pm.

"Emily Carr did not do things by halves," writes Switzer, "Like her paintings, which expressed the world she saw in bold colours and few strokes, Carr's writing style is concise and vivid. Her biting wit pulls humour out of dark corners, and she shapes her characters and surroundings with quick sharp phrases."

This and That: The Lost Stories of Emily Carr, edited by Switzer, brings together more than 60 of Emily Carr's stories along with sketches by the artist. The new edition, published in 2024, includes five previously unpublished stories.

Carr House will also be hosting members of *The Friends of Emily,* a local group of visual artists who will be sketching and painting in the house between 10am-3pm.

Visitors are invited to sip on a cup of Murchies' special blend of Carr House tea in the formal dining room where Emily Carr taught her first art classes. "We are hoping visitors will reflect on Emily Carr's legacy and be inspired to create some art of their own during the event" says King.

Admission is by donation for this drop-in event. Suggested donation is \$5-10. No pre-registration needed. Event will be held at 207 Government Street. Please visit www.carrhouse.org for more information.

Carr House, the birthplace of famed author and artist Emily Carr, is a provincial and national historic site at 207 Government Street, Victoria, BC. It is operated by the Carr House Community Society, a non-profit organization that celebrates Emily Carr's work and life by offering encouragement and a space for community creativity and innovation. From September to May, Carr House is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10-3 for guided- and self-guided tours and offers year-round community arts programming.

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For more information or to request photos, please call Shannon King at (250) 383-5843 carrhouse@telus.net