

## PRESS RELEASE

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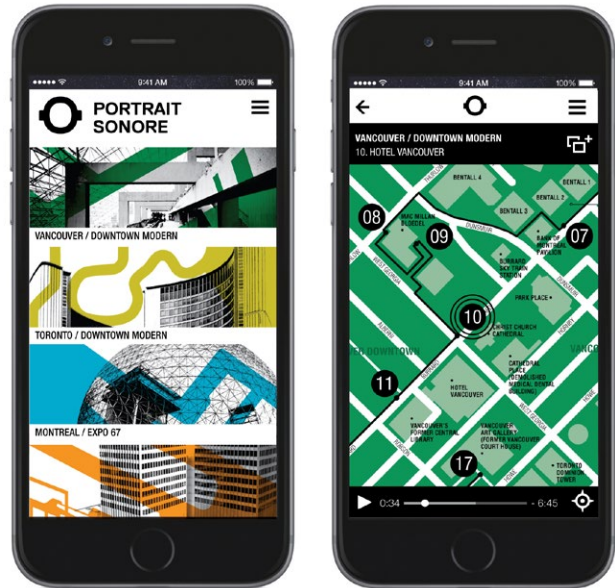
For immediate release

**PORTRAIT SONORE,**  
in collaboration with Vancouver local architect  
Sean Ruthen presents the walking documentary

# VANCOUVER / DOWNTOWN MODERN

An immersive and dynamic walk in the heart of Vancouver's downtown that explores the history of its most iconic modern buildings. Available for iOS/Android or online at

→ [www.portraitsonore.org/en/pages/vancouver](http://www.portraitsonore.org/en/pages/vancouver)



## A LIVELY PORTRAIT

Vancouver Downtown Modern is an experience in sound, a 120-minute experiential walk through the heart of the financial district (mostly Burrard Street), a continuous immersion in soundscapes, information and music. Personal accounts from renowned architects and experts (see next page) offer a fresh look at Vancouver's modern past as their testimonials inspire new visions for the city, and inspire us to think about Vancouver's future.

Throughout the walk, the narration and original musical score evoke the spirit of modernity, directly inspired by the forms and materials of the Modernist era. Musicians from the local scene include: **Fear of Tigers, Loscil, and Leah Abramson**

Interviews and music combine to create a new and lively portrait of the modern city.

## VANCOUVER, A MODERN CITY

This audio-guided walk starts at Waterfront Station and ends at Robson Square. We hear about the growth of Vancouver as a metropolis and we learn about the significant changes carried out in the 1950s.

Discover the spirit that made Vancouver a city of great promise, the conflicting ambitions and visions that brought about the development of Vancouver in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Learn more about Vancouver's modern heritage buildings through the testimonies of the ones who created them and worked on their conservation. Testimonials include **Cornelia Oberlander**, landscape architect, **Bing Thom**, architect and urban designer, **Peter Busby**, great proponent of green building design, and author and architectural historian **Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe** (see list next page).

## THE CANADA MODERN PROJECT

In 2017 Canada will mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation. Vancouver Downtown Modern is part of a larger project on major Canadian cities directed by architect Sophie Mankowski with the collaboration of Antoine Bédard and Serge Rhéaume (all 3 founders of Portrait Sonore: [www.portraitsonore.org](http://www.portraitsonore.org)). The works selected in each city include significant post-World War II buildings, witnesses to the architectural effervescence of the 1950s through the 1970s, and buildings that marked the development of Canadian downtowns. Some 70 experts and architects, urbanists, designers, and historians have participated so far. Through their stories, it is the tale of a modern country that is told, one where art, architecture, and design take a prominent place. Current existing walks include: Toronto, Montreal, Quebec City.

The walk is available for download online, in English

→ [www.portraitsonore.org/en](http://www.portraitsonore.org/en)

A French version is coming soon.

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## Source

**PORTRAIT SONORE**

→ [portraitsonore@gmail.com](mailto:portraitsonore@gmail.com)

→ [www.facebook.com/portraitsonore](https://www.facebook.com/portraitsonore)

→ [www.instagram.com/portraitsonore/](https://www.instagram.com/portraitsonore/)

## Contact press

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## POINTS OF INTERESTS DURING THE WALK

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Waterfront Station	Guinness and Oceanic Plaza	Dal Graeur Substation
Granville Square	Bentall Center	Electra (or former BC Electric) Building
Canada Pacific	MacMillan Bloedel	Law Court building/Robson Square
Sinclair Center	Fairmount Hotel	Pacific Center
Marine Building	Vancouver former public library	

## PRODUCTION TEAM

**Sophie Mankowski**

Production, co-direction, research, writing, scripting, collaboration interviewing, and content management

**Antoine Bédard**

Co-direction, design and sound editing, musical direction, narration

**Serge Rhéaume**

Visual and interactive design

**Sean Ruthen**

Local curating, interviewing, content proofreading

**Deborah Murray, Nina Gilbert**

Proofreading (linguistic)

**Laurence-Emmanuelle Bédard**

Transcription interviews, communications

**Simon Tremblay**

Collaboration sound editing, mastering

**Redo Studios Inc.**

App programming

## EXPERTS (in order of appearance)

**Donald Luxton**

Heritage architectural consultant

**Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe**

Emeritus professor, fine arts professor at University of British Columbia

**Bing Thom**

Architect and urban designer

**Gregg Simpson**

Painter, musician, son of architect Douglas Simpson.

**Peter Busby**

Architect at Perkins+Will, proponent of green building design

**Cornelia Oberlander**

Landscape architect

## MUSICIANS

**Fear of Tigers**

Musical composition of Granville Square

**Loscil**

Musical composition of Dal Graeur Substation/BC Electric building

**Leah Abramson**

Musical composition of Robson Square

