



Calendar of Events

January – April, 2004

MUSEUM of
Anthropology

at the University of
British Columbia



Building a Museum for the 21st Century

A Partnership of Peoples: A New Infrastructure for Collaborative Research

In January 2002, the Museum of Anthropology and UBC Laboratory of Archaeology (LOA) received a grant of \$17.2 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. Since that time, both the Museum and LOA have been seeking matching funds to support a new vision for MOA's research, teaching, and exhibition facilities, one that responds to the specific challenges that face museums today. We have also been working closely with our First Nations partners Musqueam, U'mista Cultural Centre, and Sto:lo Nation, to ensure that MOA's vision for the future meets the very real needs of the communities they serve.

To develop a feasibility study and preliminary design for expansion, we have been working closely with Arthur Erickson (the original architect of the building), Stantec Architecture, Michael Lundholm Associates Architects, and UBC Property Trust. Staff have also begun planning for the Research Enhancement Project, which includes updated documentation and digitization of the collections and the creation of the Reciprocal Research Network, which will provide unique web access to Northwest Coast and other collections worldwide.

"A Partnership of Peoples" is an extraordinary long-term project that will result in the reinvention of the Museum and LOA as centres for innovative research and the sharing of knowledge. For more information, please click on www.moa.ubc.ca/renewal.

Please note that a public information meeting on the MOA Renewal Project will be held in the Cedar Room of the UBC Ponderosa Centre (2071 West Mall) from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm on Thursday, January 8, 2004. A separate public meeting to receive feedback on the North Campus Neighborhood Plan will be held on Monday, January 12 at 7:00 pm in the Asian Centre Auditorium, 1871 West Mall. Everyone is welcome to attend both meetings. (For details, see www.universitytown.ubc.ca/neighbourhoods/north_campus/.)



Moccasin, A2.84a/b.
Photo: Bill McLennan.

Current Exhibitions

Mehodihi: Well-Known Traditions of Tahltan People "Our Great Ancestors Lived That Way"

October 18, 2003 through October 31, 2004; Gallery 8

On October 18, the Museum and the Tahltan Nation hosted 600 guests at the opening of the first museum exhibit ever of Tahltan First Nations art and culture. Timed to coincide with the 93rd anniversary of the signing of the Tahltan Declaration (October 18, 1910), the opening celebrated the collaborative efforts of the Museum and the Tahltan Nation to highlight the profound and continuing links between the Tahltan and their land, culture, and heritage. Funding for this exhibit was provided in part by the Department of Canadian Heritage Museums Assistance Program. (Note: "Mehodihi" is pronounced "meh hoh dee hee" and means "well-known" in the Tahltan language.)

Pasifika: Island Journeys

June 21, 2003 through March 14, 2004; Gallery 8

On Saturday, June 21 (National Aboriginal Day), MOA opened "Pasifika: Island Journeys," a major exhibition featuring the Museum's founding collection. Comprising more than 100 objects from Micronesia, Polynesia, and Melanesia, the exhibit is enhanced by historical and contemporary photographs, and documentation amassed first by the collector and 100 years later by MOA curator Dr. Carol Mayer. Thanks to the Department of Canadian Heritage, our many Pacific Islands partners, and the family of Frank Burnett for their support of this exhibit.

Weavers at Musqueam

Opened June 21, 2003; ongoing, Gallery 3

As part of the "Gathering Strength: New Generations in Northwest Coast Art" exhibit, the Museum presents new weavings by Musqueam artists Roberta Louis (1945-2001), Margaret Pointe (1951-1996), and Krista Pointe. The blanket by Roberta Louis is in the collection of the Museum of Anthropology; the blanket by Margaret Pointe is on generous loan to the Museum by Leona Sparrow; and the blanket by Krista Pointe was newly-commissioned by the Museum, with the support of the MOA Shop.

To Wash Away the Tears

Opened March 18, 2003; ongoing, Gallery 3

Based on a memorial for Maggie Pointe of the Musqueam Nation, the exhibit includes a contemporary 14-foot West Coast style canoe and its contents donated by Shane Pointe and Gina Grant. This is the first exhibition curated at MOA by UBC's Critical Curatorial Studies graduate students.

Dempsey Bob: The Art Goes Back to the Stories

October 9, 2001 through January 18, 2004, Theatre Gallery

Consisting of 14 panels of text and photographs, this exhibit also features three of this world-renowned Tahltan artist's most recent bronze sculptures.

Upcoming Exhibitions

Wearing Politics, Fashioning Commemoration: Factory Printed Cloths in Ghana

Opening February 22, 2004, Corridor Case (opposite the Rotunda)

In 1995, UBC graduate student Michelle Willard spent four months in West Africa as a volunteer with Canada World Youth. As part of her commitment to the region she made plans to return, and in 2001 she spent three months in Ghana to further her studies of West African culture. With the support and advice of Ghanaian people both there and in Vancouver, she developed a collection of printed cloths that the Ghanaians consider to be highly significant. Her exhibit, opening during Black History Month, shows how these cloths are worn in Ghana to proclaim political loyalties and commemorate important events.

Student Exhibition: "Sacred Places and Spaces"

Opening April 8, 2004, Gallery 10

Students of Anthropology 431 are developing an exhibition of photographs that examine why we create sacred places and spaces in our urban environment. They identify locations that might be permanent or transitory, formal or informal, public or private, real or imagined, built or natural.

Upcoming Exhibitions continued next page...

Haida Houses in Snow.
Photo: Bill McLennan.

MOA Notes & News

Sign Up to Stay Current

To receive regular notice of current events at MOA, email info@moa.ubc.ca, and add your name to the list. We'll keep you posted on exhibits, talks, and special events you won't want to miss.

MOA Receives Major Grants

Since September 2003, MOA has received \$92,400 from the Canadian Arts and Heritage Sustainability Program to fund Project Management Support for the Museum's Renewal Project, and \$10,000 from Arts Partners in Organizational Development to undertake an attendance study. For a full list of grants received in 2002-03, see MOA's online Annual Report at www.moa.ubc.ca/community.

Pasifika School Program

Teachers! Sign up for our Pasifika: Island Journeys school program. Using "touchables," the program explores topics of history, geography, art, and cultural diversity related to past and present peoples of the South Pacific. Suitable for elementary and secondary students. To book, call 604.822.4643 or email bookings@moa.ubc.ca.



Pacific Canoe.
Photo: Carol Mayer, 2002.

Museum Shop News

MOA's "Windows on the World" holiday art bazaar was a huge success this year, attracting savvy shoppers right up to the 24th! Join us for a last-minute sale in January (6th-16th), and rid yourself of the post-holiday blues. For updates on shop news, go to www.moa.ubc.ca/shop.

New Staff Appointments

MOA welcomes the following new staff: Halima Qureshi, Accounts Receivable, and Sarah Krause, Aimée Grimes, Carolyn Desmarais, and Kim Dertien, Collections Assistants.



Detail of factory-printed Ghanaian cloth depicting the past President of Ghana, Jerry Rawlings, and past US President, Bill Clinton. Photo: Michelle Willard, 2002.

Public Programs

Talks and Tours in Conjunction with Mehodihi: Well-Known Traditions of Tahltan People (“Our Great Ancestors Lived That Way”)

Tours: Camille Callison, MA, UBC School of Library, Archival, & Information Sciences
January 13, February 10, March 1, April 6, 5:00 pm (all tours free)

Once a month, on the Tuesday evenings listed above, Camille Callison will be giving guided walks through the exhibit Mehodihi: Well-Known Traditions of Tahltan People. Camille is a member of the Tahltan First Nation who participated in the development of the exhibit.

Talk: Curtis Rattray, Chairman Tahltan Central Council
Tuesday, January 20, 7:00 pm (free)

Curtis Rattray, Tahltan Band Councillor responsible for Education, Language and Culture, will give a talk on aboriginal rights and other political issues.

Talks: Vera Asp, MA Student, SFU Faculty of Education

Vera Asp, a member of the Tahltan First Nation, will present three papers on her previous research in anthropology and archaeology. Open discussions to follow.



Photo: courtesy of Cynthia Callison, March 2003

Sunday, January 25, 1:00 pm (free with regular admission)

Scattered Collection. This talk presents research of the past 100 years on print material about Tahltans. Included are the findings of a preliminary search of Tahltan material/artifact collections in four museums: MOA, Royal British Columbia Museum, Canadian Museum of Civilization and Smithsonian Institution. Ms. Asp will also present recommendations to “complete” these collections by the addition of new Tahltan information.

Sunday, February 15, 1:00 pm (free with regular admission)

Obsidian of Ah deeth tha - Mount Edziza. Ms. Asp presents a preliminary look at the archaeological research finds of the obsidian of Mt. Edziza. Included is research by SFU Archeologist Roy Carlson, who has explored the extensive pre-contact trade of this material in Western North America.

Sunday, March 21, 1:00 pm (free with regular admission)

Gone But Not Forgotten: Tahltan Puberty Rites Ceremonies. This paper discusses materials written by James Teit in 1911-15 with validation from two Tahltan Elders, Liz Edzerza (Crow Clan) and Thelma Norby (deceased; Wolf Clan).

Talk: Tad McIlwraith, Ph.D Candidate, Anthropology

Sunday, February 1, 1:00 pm (free with regular admission)

Tad McIlwraith, who participated in the development of the exhibit *Mehodihi: Well Known Traditions of the Tahltan People*, will discuss his work with the Tahltan. Tad is a Ph.D student at the University of New Mexico, conducting research with the First Nations people at Iskut village. He also teaches part time at Capilano College and the University College of the Fraser Valley.

Two Talks: Edgar Heap of Birds, Cheyenne Artist

Edgar Heap of Birds is an internationally known Cheyenne artist. His artwork and public installations have been exhibited throughout the Canada, the United States, China, Australia, and Ireland. He received his MFA from Temple University in Philadelphia and has also studied in London. His research interest is in documenting the works of contemporary Native American artists.

Friday, February 13, 2:00 pm (free with regular admission)

Edgar Heap of Birds presents an illustrated talk on “Eagles Speak: A collaborative art project with Native American and Indigenous African Artists from Rhode Island, Oklahoma and South Africa.” Open discussion to follow. Co-sponsored by the UBC First Nations House of Learning and First Nations Studies Department.

Sunday, February 15, 2:00 pm (free with regular admission)

Mr. Heap of Birds’ second talk (accompanied by video) is entitled “Dig the Mix: A survey of diverse studio art practice, public art and the monumental porcelain and steel sculpture Wheel.”

Voices of Repatriation: First Nations Documentary Film and Panel Discussion

In collaboration with the 6th annual IMAGENation Aboriginal Film and Video Festival, MOA is hosting *Voices of Repatriation*, a series of four films that explore issues of repatriation, cultural identity, and appropriation from international indigenous perspectives. Linking Canadian First Nations stories with indigenous experiences from Australia and Norway, these films explore the global reach of historical and contemporary cultural appropriation, and emphasize international attempts to reclaim cultural objects and ancestors’ remains.

Tuesday, February 17, 7:00 pm (free)

Kainayssini Imanistaisiwa: The People Go On. Director Loretta Todd, 2003.

Saturday, February 21, 2:00 pm (free with regular admission)

Beyond Sorry. Director David Vadeviloo, 2003.

Tuesday, February 24, 7:00 pm (free)

Totem: The Return of the G’psgolox Pole. Director Gil Cardinal, 2003.

Saturday, February 28, 1:00-5:00 pm (free with regular admission)

Give Us Our Skeletons! Director Paul Anders-Simma, 1999. Screening at 1:00 pm, followed by a panel discussion on repatriation with film makers, community members and MOA staff from 2:00-3:00 pm. Refreshments will follow.



Above, Inuit Figure. Left, Inuit Muskox. Photos: Bill McLennan

MOA Research Report

MOA continually strives for excellence in all of its activities – from collections management to the presentation of exhibitions and public programming. Here we report on some of our research and community-based projects now underway.

Curator Receives Smithsonian Fellowship

From July-September 2003, Dr. Carol Mayer was a Fellow in Museum Practice at the Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies in Washington, DC. This program provides opportunities for scholars and practitioners to research and write on topics of importance to the museum field. Dr. Mayer’s research topic was “International Collaboration – Addressing the Legacy of Early Collecting Practices.”

Fall 2003 Faculty and Staff Scholarly Presentations

On October 25-26, Dr. Sue Rowley, Curator of Public Archaeology, attended a workshop in Seattle on “Human/Environment Interactions Research: Patterns, Connections, and Methods.” Organized by Human Dimensions of the Arctic System (HARC), a component of the NSF’s Arctic System Science (ARCSS) Program, the workshop discussed future initiatives to delimit the unique aspects of HARC research methods. Dr. Rowley also gave a paper at the 11th Annual Arctic Conference, University of Washington, Seattle, November 7-8, 2003: “Iglolik Island Fieldwork 2003: Possible PalaeoInuit/Eskimo responses to local pressures as expressed through the variability and complexity of their communities.”

From November 5-8, Curator of Ethnology Jennifer Kramer attended the Native American Art Studies Association (NAASA) conference at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA, along with MOA Renewal Project Lead Jill Baird and Curator of Art Karen Duffek. Dr. Kramer gave a paper entitled “Reading Vancouver’s Olympic Bid Street Banners,” and Ms. Baird presented a talk on “The Reciprocal Research Network for Northwest Coast and British Columbia Art and Culture.” Karen Duffek delivered a paper on “Haida Difference, Haida Modern,” in the “Native American Modernisms” session. NAASA meets every two years, and is an organization made up of artists, anthropologists, art historians, and others interested in the study of indigenous art of the past and present. In her paper, Ms. Duffek spoke about Robert Davidson’s new work as contributing to the ongoing exchange of ideas about modern art.

Also in November, Archivist Krisztina Laszlo gave a paper at the Association of Moving Image Archivists annual conference, held this year in Vancouver. Her paper, entitled “Cultural Property and Ethnographic Archival Records,” discussed the moral and ethical issues faced by archivists who work with materials containing First Nations content, and presented an overview of the idea of cultural property as it pertains to archival records.

...Continued from Upcoming Exhibitions

The Abstract Edge: New Work by Robert Davidson

Opening June 21, 2004, Gallery 5
Scheduled to open at MOA on National Aboriginal Day, 2004, The Abstract Edge will bring together thirty works by Davidson with five 19th century Northwest Coast artifacts. Many of the contemporary works belong to Davidson and are being created specifically for this exhibition; some will be borrowed from public and private collections. The contemporary works will include several paintings on canvas, paper, and stretched deerskin drums; carved and painted red-cedar panels; laser-cut sculptural works (anodized aluminum); and sketchbooks. The historical objects (including painted bentwood dishes and a painted canoe paddle) will be drawn from the Museum and other collections. MOA Curator of Art Karen Duffek will curate the exhibition and write the catalogue. Guest writer Robert Houle will also contribute an essay.

This exhibit is made possible by MAP, The Canada Council, The Audain Foundation, and The Audrey Hawthorn Publication Fund at MOA.



Detail from “Are we Ready for the New Light?” by Robert Davidson, 2001. Artist photo.

Information

Recorded Info: 604.822.3825
Museum Shop: 604.822.3440
Fax: 604.822.2974
Email: info@moa.ubc.ca
www.moa.ubc.ca

Museum and Shop Hours

Winter (Sept 2 thru May 21, 2004)
Closed Mondays. Open Wed-Sun 11 to 5 pm; Tuesdays to 9 pm. *Tuesdays free year round from 5-9 pm.*
Summer (May 22 thru Sept 6, 2004)
Daily 10 to 5 pm; Tuesdays to 9 pm

Admission

\$9 Adults; \$7 Students & Seniors 65+ (UBC students free with ID)
Family \$25; children under 6 free.
Group rates and guided tours available by booking in advance (call 604.822.4643)
MOA is wheelchair accessible.

Parking and Transit

Pay parking available (coins accepted)
Buses: #4, 9, 10, 25, 49, 99 or call B.C. Transit at 604.521.0400

Guided Gallery Walks

Free guided gallery walks are offered on Museum open days by Volunteer Associates. Please call 604.822.5087 for times.

Membership

MOA memberships are a great way to keep in touch with our changing exhibits, programs, and research initiatives. They also make excellent gifts!

For as little as \$30 you or a friend can enjoy:

- A year of free admission to MOA
- Free passes for family and friends
- Free mailings of our Events Calendar
- Invitations to openings & special events
- A 15% discount on Shop purchases

Membership packages available for individuals, families, students and seniors. Call 604.822.5087 for more information.

MOA programs are produced with the assistance of visitors, members, and donors: Volunteer Associates and Shop Volunteers; Department of Canadian Heritage Museums Assistance Program and Canadian Arts and Heritage Sustainability Program; Virtual Museum of Canada, Canadian Heritage Information Network; Canadian Council of Archives; Canada Council for the Arts; British Columbia Arts Council; Young Canada Works; Aboriginal Career Community Employment Services Society; Aboriginal Healing Foundation; The Vancouver Foundation; The Audain Foundation; and the HRDC Summer Career Placement Program. Events Calendar Editor: J. Webb; Design: Metaform