

Calendar of Events

January – April, 2006

MUSEUM of
Anthropology
at the University of
British Columbia



Governor General Visits MOA

On Friday, November 30, 2005, Her Excellency the Right Honorable Governor General of Canada, Michaëlle Jean, and her husband, His Excellency Jean-Daniel Lafond, visited the galleries with MOA Director Dr. Anthony Shelton, Dean of Arts Dr. Nancy Gallini, UBC President Dr. Martha Piper, Assistant to the President Reny Kahlon, and MOA staff Moya Waters and Heidi Swierenga. The group also toured behind-the-scenes, where they viewed Cantonese Opera costumes from MOA's extensive collections. At the conclusion of the visit, Dr. Shelton presented the Governor General with an intaglio print, "Raven and the Sun," by Haisla artist Lyle Wilson, who was also in attendance.



Lyle Wilson, Michaëlle Jean, and Jean-Daniel Lafond. Photo: Angélique Wood.

Tibetan Monk. Photo courtesy Friends of the Drepung Gomang.

MOA Notes & News

Don't Miss Out!

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.

Flat-Rate Tuesdays Beginning May 23

As of May 23, 2006, MOA's long-standing free Tuesday evening admission policy will be replaced by a flat-rate \$5.00 fee per person (excepting MOA members, and UBC staff, students, and faculty) from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. (Regular admission fees are \$9 for adults; \$7 for students/seniors 65+). This fee also applies to visitors attending as part of a group. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but hope you'll agree that MOA's still the best deal in town!

VCAM NEWS

Volunteer Committees of Art Museums (VCAM) conferences provide invaluable opportunities for delegates to network and problem-solve through educational workshops, presentations, and panel discussions. From November 16-18, 2005 MOA Volunteer Associates Jill McKnight, Mary Forster, and Cathy Patel attended the "Creative Partnerships: Leaders and Volunteers," Region I Conference in Victoria. Other organizations represented included the de Young Museum, San Francisco; Seattle Art Museum; Portland Art Museum; MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina; Surrey Art Gallery; Vancouver Art Gallery; and Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, which hosted the event.

Former Director Honored

On November 3, 2005, former MOA Director Dr. Michael M. Ames was honored at the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel with a UBC Alumni Award of Distinction. As noted in the program, Michael Ames' career has been characterized by community service, a belief in inclusion and access to education for all, and a desire to educate the world about the rich cultures of South Asia and the Northwest Coast of North America. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and a member of the Order of Canada.

Shop News

A warm welcome to new Shop Volunteer Marilyn Goodwin, and to long-time Volunteer Associate Beverley Tamboline, who has also joined the force. To cure those post-holiday blues, visit the Shop's pre-inventory sale, March 1-15, featuring up to 70% off on selected items. To shop online, go to www.moa.ubc.ca/shop.

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Public Programs ~ Changing Face

"Changing Face" is a series of six public lectures, workshops, and performances which reflect on the shifting cultural landscape of Vancouver. Events in the series, which is supported by Global Television, include the following. Please check www.moa.ubc.ca for possible additions to the program.

Africa Awareness 2006

Tuesday, January 24, 5:00 pm (free)

Africa Awareness is a student-driven initiative at UBC to encourage studies in African History. As part of Africa Awareness 2006, MOA presents a tour of the African collections with MOA Curator (Oceania and Africa) Dr. Carol Mayer and Jo-Ann Osei-Twum, co-chair of Africa Awareness.

Dancers of Damelahamid

Thursday, February 2, 11:00 am

Originally from the Skeena River area in Northwestern BC, the Dancers of Damelahamid present masked dances, stories, and songs belonging to Hagbegwatku, the highest-ranking chief of the Gitksan House of Dakhumhast. Their dances depict their people's origins, and their songs tell stories of how their societies grew and flourished. Included are traditional songs used to welcome guests and villagers to a feast, and newer songs describing events leading up to contact with Europeans.



Gitksan Dancer. Photo: Margaret Grenier, 2005.

Artist Cultural Exchange: NWC First Nations and Maori from Aotearoa

Sunday, February 12, 1:00 pm

In conjunction with the exhibition *Manawa: Pacific Heartbeat* at the Spirit Wrestler Gallery, MOA co-hosts a gathering of Maori artists together with First Nations artists and community representatives.



Roi Toia, 2005. Photo: Nigel Reading.

Gamelan Madu Sari

Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 pm (free)

Rich classical percussion music from the courts of Central Java is presented by this outstanding Vancouver ensemble, along with contemporary compositions. The word gamelan comes from an old Sanskrit word, "gamel," meaning "to strike." The term is entirely appropriate, as the orchestra comprises a vast array of bronze gongs, metallophones, tuned kettles, drums, flutes, stringed and wooden keyed instruments, and a highly developed vocal tradition – all combining to form one of the most unique styles of music in the world. This concert features new works for gamelan by Vancouver composers Andrew Czink, Mark Parlett, Michael O'Neill, Ben Rogalsky, and Sutrisno Hartana. Sutrisno, a Javanese master musician, will lead the gamelan in pieces from the classical repertoire of Central Java, accompanied by vocalist Anis Wijastudi. (For more information on the history of gamelan, see www.moa.ubc.ca/programs.)



Gamelan Madu Sari, 2005. Photo: Jen Low.

Porcupine Quill Workshop with Ray McKeown

Sunday, March 5, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Cost \$15.00 per person. Pre-registration required; please call 604.822.5978

Métis artist and educator Ray McKeown presents a two-part workshop exploring the history of quill-working by Native peoples from Alaska to Arizona, focusing on work by the Central Plains tribes of Canada and the US. Following an illustrated talk using quilled objects from the Museum and his own collection, McKeown leads participants in a workshop to create their own bookmark or neck pouch using real porcupine quills.

Vancouver Dancing Queen Society

Saturday, March 25, 3:00 pm

MOA and the Vancouver Dancing Queen Society present an afternoon of Indian classical dance, Kathak, and Bharat Nattiyam. The program will also include their own style of Indo-jazz dance – a unique mixture of Western hip-hop and classical Indian dance – to show the relationship between traditional Indian dance and contemporary dance practices. The Vancouver Dancing Queen Society was formed nearly three years ago to enrich South Asian culture in Canada. It is a non-profit organization promoting South Asian, Western, classical, and folk music and dance.

Tibetan Monks' Sacred Art Tour

Tuesday, April 18, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Wednesday, April 19 through Saturday, April 22, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday, April 23, 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm

Eight Tibetan monks from the Drepung Gomang Monastery in Southern India will be visiting Vancouver as part of a cultural tour organized by the Friends of the Drepung Gomang. Over the course of six days in April, the monks will create a sand mandala in MOA's Great Hall. A sand mandala is a traditional meditation piece made from millions of grains of coloured sand. During their tour, the monks wish to communicate a message of peace, wisdom and compassion, and to introduce the arts and culture of Tibet to North America. They also seek to generate funds for food and medical supplies to support the nearly 2000 refugee monks who live at their Monastery.

The monks will be giving talks, workshops, and cultural performances at other venues in the city during their time in Vancouver. Check www.moa.ubc.ca or www.gomang.org for details on additional events and workshops at MOA and in the city.



Tibetan Monk. Photo courtesy Friends of the Drepung Gomang.

Exhibitions

Lyle Wilson Carves "Wee-git Releases the Light"

From January through March 2006

Haisla artist Lyle Wilson will be publicly carving an eight-foot tall yellow cedar sculpture in the Great Hall. Entitled "Wee-git Releases the Light," the carving tells Lyle's version of an ancient story in which Wee-git (which means 'Great Man' in the Haisla language) brings light to the world. For the story in full, please go to www.moa.ubc.ca/exhibits.

VUEguide Multimedia Tour

Incorporating a full hour of narration, hundreds of photos, rare archival footage from the vaults of CBC TV, interviews with artists, and expert commentary on the art and culture of the Northwest Coast, these units provide visitors with multiple perspectives from which to learn about the objects they see at MOA. VUEguides are available for rental from Admissions (\$5 per unit) in English only.



Small-scale model of "Wee-git Releases the Light" by Lyle Wilson.

Recent Acquisitions

Opened February 15, 2005, Gallery 8 (ongoing)

For almost six decades the Museum of Anthropology has been building its collections representing diverse peoples from around the world. Through purchases, commissions, and generous donations and bequests, the Museum is able to add selectively to its collections each year. Currently, MOA is showcasing several recent acquisitions from the South Pacific, Nunavut, and the Northwest Coast of British Columbia.

VUEguide illustration by Lars Meyer.

Community Connections

Salma Mawani Honored for Staff Excellence

We are proud to announce that our longest serving staff member, Salma Mawani, has recently been honored with the Dean's Award for Staff Excellence. Recipients of this award have made significant contributions to their workplace; demonstrated enthusiasm, integrity and leadership; and shown genuine concern for others and dedication to improving community spirit within their workplace. Salma began working at MOA in 1974 as a junior clerk and is now Supervisor of Administration and Wholesale Manager for the MOA Shop. She coordinated one of MOA's most successful exhibits, *The Spirit of Islam: Experiencing Islam Through Calligraphy*, and continues to involve the Islam Advisory Committee in MOA activities. Salma is much loved by the many students she hires, trains and supervises, and is valued and appreciated by her MOA colleagues and many volunteers who have worked with her over the years. She has devoted her career to the Museum and to the university, and continues to bring enthusiasm and commitment to her work. We are proud of her accomplishments and pleased that she is being honored by the Faculty. Congratulations, Salma!

Development Manager Appointed

MOA welcomes Leslie Fields as Manager of Development for the Museum's proposed Renewal Project. Leslie has extensive experience in the arts, having studied with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet from 1981 to the time of her retirement in 1988 as demi-soloist, and then worked as an arts administrator for such diverse organizations as the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton, and the San Francisco Opera. In 1990, she secured a position in development with the Vancouver Opera, followed by consulting contracts with Hennessy and Associates and the Vancouver Aquarium. In 1995, she was appointed to the UBC Faculty of Education, where she increased fundraising from approximately \$240,000 per year to \$1 million in 2004-05. In 2005, she became a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE), an internationally-recognized designation of expertise in the field.

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 current research and community-based projects.

Staff Attend Potlatch

Several MOA staff members were privileged to attend a two-day potlatch held at Alert Bay on November 25 and 26. The ceremony was hosted by William Wasden, Jr., and his family, and was held to confirm and celebrate the hereditary chieftainship he now holds. Over 1000 guests attended, and witnessed an extraordinary display of dance, song, oratory, and community spirit. William has been working as an intern at the U'mista Cultural Centre (Alert Bay) and at MOA for the past year. For his potlatch, MOA loaned William a loon headdress and a killer-whale mask with moveable fin, both of which display the privileges of their previous owner, Ben Alfred, Sr.



Front of Bighouse, Alert Bay. Photo: Bill McLennan.

Outdoor Sculpture Update

This summer's inspection of MOA's outdoor poles led to the relocation of two important pieces. The Raven figure on the top of a pole carved by Bill Reid and Doug Cranmer in 1961 was removed due to safety concerns; and a memorial pole carved by Mungo Martin for the Museum in 1951 was removed due to deterioration. Following conservation treatment, this pole will be re-erected in the Museum's Great Hall. Work has also begun to replace the roof on one of the two Haida Houses, built in the 1960's under the supervision of artists Bill Reid and Doug Cranmer. To repair leakage, the old roof will be removed, and the structure tarped for several months so it can dry out. A new roof will be installed in the summer of 2006.

Artifact Survey

In preparation for a collection-wide move, staff members have begun the comprehensive survey and packing of the Museum's extensive holdings. Each artifact in the collection will be carefully examined, and information about the object added to the computerized inventory and management system. An assigned bar code tag helps track the object's location throughout the move process. Bar codes ensure accuracy of data and save time – which is important considering the collections number over 35,000 objects!



(l-r) Nolwenn Pianezza, Meg Neufeld, Amanda Louie, Kelly Homenick, Erin LaRocque, Krista Bergstrom. Photo: Heidi Swierenga.

Chinese Paintings Researched

Thanks to Dr. Tsao Hsingyuan, a class of 4th-year and graduate students in the UBC Department of Art History, Visual Art, and Theory carried out in-depth, first-hand research on MOA's collection of Chinese paintings this fall. They hope to create a legacy for the future by publishing the results of their research.



Joe Morell (on guitar) and Isireli Cama. Photo: Carol Mayer.

Pasifika!

This fall, archaeology student Katrina Talei Igglesden worked with Curator Carol Mayer on a content analysis of the Oceanic collections. Recently, Katrina presented her research during *Pasifika*, a collaborative event organized by MOA and the local Pacific Islands community. The evening included tours of the Pacific collections, followed by Pacific Islands music, food, dancing and a traditional kava ceremony.

...Continued from MOA Notes & News

In Memoriam

Sadly, Kwakwaka'wakw carver and painter Harris Smith (Lalkawilas) passed away in October of 2005. Renowned for his beautiful painted ceramic dishes and bowls, Mr. Smith won many awards in his lifetime, and his work is prized by collectors across Canada and around the world. He is deeply missed.

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 6 thru May 19, 2006)
Closed Mondays. Open Wed-Sun 11 to 5 pm; Tuesdays to 9 pm.
Summer (May 20 thru Sept 4, 2006) 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.

Rate Change

As of May 23, a flat-rate fee of \$5 per person will be charged on Tuesdays from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm (group visits included).

Parking and Transit

Pay parking available (coins accepted) Buses: #4, 9, 17, 25, 41, 43, 44, 49, 258, 480, N17 or contact Translink at 604.953.3333 or www.translink.bc.ca

Guided Gallery Walks

Starting February 1, 2006, volunteers will offer free guided gallery walks. 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, Cultural Spaces and Canadian Arts and Heritage Sustainability Programs; Virtual Museum of Canada, Canadian Heritage Information Network; Canadian Council of Archives; Canada Council for the Arts; British Columbia Arts Council; Arts Pod; Arts Partners in Organizational Development; 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.