

Calendar of Events

September – December, 2002

MUSEUM of
Anthropology
at the University of
British Columbia



La Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. Photo: Diego Samper, 2000.

New Exhibit

El Corazón Del Mundo: At the Heart of the World La Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia

October 23, 2002 through March 30, 2003
Opening reception, Tuesday, October 22, 7:00 pm

El Corazón Del Mundo: At the Heart of the World is an exhibition by well-known Colombian photographer, naturalist, and educator, Diego Samper. Through a series of 26 canvas panels divided into three sections, Samper reveals his intimate knowledge of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta region of Colombia (ancient site of the Tayrona civilization), and the complex, continuing relationship of the indigenous peoples to the land.

The three sections (*Natural History*, *Tayrona Heritage*, and *Contemporary People*) are linked by a series of photographs, quotations, and background recordings of music and nature. Together, they produce a powerful evocation of one of the most ecologically and culturally diverse regions in the world.

Sponsored and circulated by the Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the exhibit offers rare insight into aspects of a country so often overshadowed by news reports focussing on drugs, corruption, and social decay. Through a series of public programs offered in the fall and early winter, invited speakers will explore the tension between the Colombian natural world and contemporary society, bringing their experience to bear on the land and people of today. (For talks this fall, see "Public Programs" in this Calendar.)

Diego Samper is a native of Colombia, whose interest in indigenous cultures has led him to produce a series of exhibits, books, and CDs celebrating natural history and cultural diversity around the world. He and his wife Marlene Samper have a publishing company, and have co-authored several books as well as curated several local and international exhibits.



Continuing Exhibitions

My Ancestors are Still Dancing

Through September 28, 2002, Gallery 8

Tsimshian weaver William White from Lax Kw'alaams has been publicly weaving a child-size Chilkat robe this summer as part of a "living" exhibition entitled *My Ancestors are Still Dancing*. In July, the artist set up his loom and pattern board in Gallery 8, alongside a display of his own weavings, some historical weavings from MOA's collection, and historical and contemporary photographs of people wearing Chilkat regalia. This September, the completed weaving will be lifted from the loom in a small private ceremony.



William White.
Photo: Bill McLennan, 2002.

Where are the Children? Healing the Legacy of the Residential Schools

Through December 31, 2002, Gallery 10

Curated by Jeff Thomas, and circulated by the Aboriginal Healing Foundation in Ottawa, this remarkable exhibition presents a series of historical photographs documenting the history of residential schools in Canada. While the images depict scenes from a very dark time in this country's recent past, the curator's intention is to promote healing through deeper understanding of the crisis. (Two talks are scheduled in conjunction with this exhibit; see "Public Programs" for dates and times.)



Aboriginal Child, Ft. George Catholic Indian Residential School, Quebec, 1939. Photo courtesy Archives Dechâtelets.

Dempsey Bob: The Art Goes Back to the Stories

Through December 31, 2002, 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.

Virtual Museum of Canada "Respect to Bill Reid Pole" Online Exhibit

Ongoing, www.moa.ubc.ca

On June 21, 2002, National Aboriginal Day, the Museum launched a virtual exhibition developed to document the carving and raising of "The Tribute to Bill Reid Pole" by Jim Hart, which took place at MOA on October 1, 2000. In July, 2002, *The Respect to Bill Reid Pole* virtual exhibit was nominated by the Virtual Museum of Canada for an award of excellence. Stay tuned for a November announcement! The exhibit can be viewed at www.moa.ubc.ca.

Special Presentation

"The Spirit of Islam" Educational Website

MOA has created a remarkable new website based on the exhibition *The Spirit of Islam: Experiencing Islam through Calligraphy* (closed May 12, 2002). The website includes images, text, audio, and video from the original exhibition, enhanced by interactive features only the web can offer. The site provides a rich, rewarding, and FUN educational experience for students, teachers, and visitors who want to further their understanding of Islamic art and history. Funded by the Department of Canadian Heritage, and designed by Unlimited Digital, the website is a fitting legacy to an extraordinary exhibition developed by the Museum and members of Vancouver's Muslim communities. After September 15, the site may be viewed at www.moa.ubc.ca.

MOA is planning a celebration to mark the launch of this website. Watch for your invitation in the mail!



Mosque lamp, Egypt, ca. 1385, Nasser D. Khalili Collection of Islamic Art, GLS 572



Heiltsuk Urban Dancers. Photo: Bess Brown, 2001.

MOA Notes & News

Special Thanks

Many thanks to members of the Heiltsuk community for sharing their traditions with MOA guests this summer. Through tours, talks, songs, a drum-making workshop, storytelling, and dance performances related to the exhibit, *Kaxłaya Gvılas* (the ones who uphold the laws of their ancestors), visitors were privileged to gain first-hand knowledge of Heiltsuk art and culture. More than 73,471 visitors experienced the exhibition during its four-month run, and attendance at public programs topped 1300.

Summer Day Camp

In July and August, kids ages 6 -12 enjoyed summer fun at MOA. Under the expert eye of Musqueam weaver Vivian Campbell, children explored the Museum's cedar teaching collection and made their own cedar bark bracelets. In the afternoons, Heiltsuk artist Ian Reid shared stories and songs. This program was made possible by the Museum's Volunteer Associates and the Human Resources Department Canada (HRDC) Summer Career Placement Program.



Musqueam Blankets in Gallery 3.
Photo: Cliff Lauson, 2002.

New Weaving Sourcebook

After two years in production, the Museum is pleased to present *Weavers at Musqueam: Their Stories*. This sourcebook is a companion to the Musqueam weaving exhibit in the Gathering Strength gallery, adjacent to the Great Hall. The sourcebook profiles twenty weavers at Musqueam. Richly illustrated with a combination of family photographs and the weavers at work, the sourcebook describes the ongoing tradition of weaving at Musqueam in the words of the weavers. The sourcebook is on display in the Gathering Strength gallery, as well as near the Information Desk within the Museum.

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Public Programs

MOA Notes & News cont...

Muskox Land: Ellesmere Island in the Age of Contact

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

Muskox Land is an illustrated lecture surveying the last 200 years of High Arctic history, and focussing on cultural interactions in the region of Ellesmere Island. Lyle Dick is the West Coast Historian with the Parks Canada Agency in Vancouver. He has researched, written, and published extensively in the fields of Arctic history, Canadian history, and historiography.

Repatriation News

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

Representatives of the Haida Repatriation Committee will speak about ongoing repatriation efforts. They will also report on the most recent repatriation of ancestral remains from the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

Healing the Legacy: Two Talks

Sunday, October 6, 1:00 pm; Tuesday, December 3, 7:00 pm (free)

In conjunction with the exhibit, *Where are the Children? Healing the Legacy of the Residential Schools*, Kwakwaka'wakw Chief Robert Joseph, Executive Director of the Indian Residential School Survivor Society, will speak on two occasions about the history and impact of residential schools. Chief Joseph will also discuss some positive initiatives taking place which support the healing process.

Doctors Without Borders: Letters from The Field

Tuesday, October 8, 7:00 pm (free)

Doctors Without Borders (Médecins sans frontières) is an independent medical relief organization that provides healthcare, assistance, and supplies to people around the world. MSF Volunteers will read letters sent from abroad, revealing the profound insight and experiences gained by these workers. A slideshow of relief sites, aid workers, and images from the field will accompany the readings.

Diego Samper: Three Talks

In conjunction with the exhibit *El Corazón Del Mundo: At the Heart of the World*, the Museum hosts photographer/curator Diego Samper on the following dates:

Curator's Tour Sunday, November 3, 1:00 pm

From within the exhibit, Diego Samper offers his perspective on the indigenous peoples' connection to the land of Colombia's Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta.



La Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. Photo: Diego Samper, 2000.

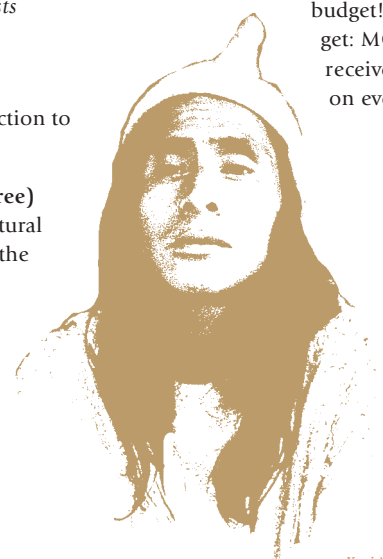
Land and People Tuesday, November 19, 7:00 pm (free)

Diego Samper explores the connection between the cultural and natural history of the diverse topological regions at the periphery of Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta.

Photo-Documenting People, Culture, and Land

Sunday, November 24, 1:00 pm

Diego Samper discusses the use of photography as a vehicle to document the evolving relationship of people to land.



Kogi Man. Photo: Diego Samper, 2000.

MOA Research Report

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

Director on Sabbatical

Prof. Ruth B. Phillips, Director of the Museum since 1997, began a one-year sabbatical on July 15, 2002. Acting in her place until July 15, 2003 is Prof. Emeritus Michael M. Ames, MOA's former Director from 1974-97. Dr. Ames is a distinguished anthropologist, a Member of the Order of Canada, and a recent recipient (May 2002, in Calgary) of the International Council of Museums, Canada, Prix D'Excellence for his "remarkable contribution to the development and recognition of the study of museums at the international level."

Bill Reid: A Critical Inquiry

Curator of Art Karen Duffek is editing "The Legacy of Bill Reid: A Critical Enquiry," with UBC Prof. Charlotte Townsend-Gault. The book is based on selected papers from a conference of the same name that was organized by MOA in 1999. The book also includes several new contributions by writers invited to bring a critical perspective to the complex legacy of the late Bill Reid, a Haida artist of world renown. Among the 18 papers included are contributions by George Rammell, Marcia Crosby, Aldona Jonaitis, and Doug Cranmer. The book will be published by Douglas & McIntyre in 2003.

Musqueam Research Assistants

This summer, two interns from Musqueam, Terry Point and Vivian Campbell, researched and compiled source materials about the Museum. Their goal was to create a handbook describing the collections and various activities at MOA, in order to encourage First Nations to visit. This project built on the strength of MOA's established relationship with Musqueam, and provided a tangible means for the Museum to become more accessible to First Nations. This internship was funded by the Department of Canadian Heritage Museums Assistance Program.



Terry Point and Vivian Campbell. Photo: Cliff Lauson, 2002.

The Native Youth Program was co-sponsored this summer by MOA and the UBC First Nations House of Learning. Thanks to the Aboriginal Career Community Employment Services Society for funding seven weeks of employment for six youth: Daniel Latimer (Tsimshian), Phyllis Daniels (Kitwanga), Herb Varley (Nuu-chah-nulth), Gerry Standingready (Saulteux), Brianne Clayton (Nisga'a), Patricia MacAuley (Woods Cree), and NYP Coordinator, Carolyn-Ann Doody, (Tahltan). Additional support was generously provided by public donations and MOA's First Nations Endowment Fund.

Curator Sails through Tropic Seas

This summer, MOA Curator of Ethnology Carol Mayer travelled to Vanuatu to meet with board members of the Pacific Islands Museums Association (PIMA). PIMA is partnering with MOA in the creation of a major exhibition (opening May, 2003) of the museum's founding collection of Pacific Islands material. This material was collected by Frank Burnett, Canadian writer and traveller, between 1895 and ca. 1920. Stay tuned for more news about this exhibit, which will be enhanced by public programs and a book.

Fragile Pole Receives Ongoing Care

In October 2000, a house frontal pole made by Bill Reid and Doug Cranmer in 1962 was removed from its outdoor location due to deterioration, and replaced by Jim Hart's new "Respect to Bill Reid Pole." The older piece has since been housed in an open greenhouse to dry out. Conservation treatment of the pole has entailed limited cleaning and the partial removal of organic materials (lichens), which obscured the paint layer and carved details. Before its planned re-installation in the Great Hall, the pole will also be de-bugged.

Raising the pole inside the Museum will be a major undertaking, involving the repositioning of a second pole in order to make room for this much larger one (at 14 meters it will be the largest pole in the Great Hall). It is estimated that the move will take place in late October 2002 over a period of five days. The Great Hall will remain open to visitors, but access will be limited due to the use of heavy equipment. For more information on this project, please call 604.822.5087 or check our website at www.moa.ubc.ca.

New Staff Appointments

In April, 2002, Sue Anne Poh joined MOA as Accounts Receivable Clerk. Sue Anne comes to UBC with a BA in Psychology from the U. of Victoria. In July, we welcomed Doug Nelson from the UBC Development Office, who will be creating and leading the fundraising campaign for MOA's renewal project. He has a BA in Political Science from the U. of Calgary, and is completing an MA in Higher Education at UBC. His thesis is on the role of foundations and the development of North American universities.

MOA Shop News

From November 26 through December 25, the Museum Shop presents its annual holiday sale. To complement the exhibit, *El Corazón Del Mundo: At the Heart of the World*, the Shop will feature arts and crafts from Mexico and South America.

Shop early and often: we have gifts to suit every taste and budget! (And don't forget: MOA members receive savings of 15% on every purchase.)



Traditional Dancer, Lifou, New Caledonia. Photo: Carol Mayer, 2001.

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.

Admission

Adults \$7; Seniors 60+ \$5.00; Students \$4.00 (UBC students free with ID) Family \$20; children under 6 free. Group rates and guided tours available by booking in advance (call 604.822.4643)

Guided Gallery Walks

Free guided walks are offered Tuesday through Sunday by Volunteer Associates. Call 604.822.5087 for times.

Parking and Transit

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

Museum and Shop Hours

Winter (Sept 3 thru May 16, 2003) Wed-Sun 11 to 5 pm; Tuesdays to 9 pm Tuesdays free year-round from 5-9 pm
Summer (May 17 thru Sept 2, 2003) Daily 10 to 5 pm; Tuesdays to 9 pm

Information

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

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