

# MOA

A place of world arts + cultures

## Welcome to the Museum of Anthropology

**Architecture** MOA was founded in 1949. Today, it is Canada's largest teaching museum and one of its most popular public museums. The award-winning building, which opened in 1976, was designed by renowned Canadian architect Arthur Erickson to reflect the post-and-beam structures of Northwest Coast First Nations. Recently, MOA completed a multi-million renewal project, enlarging and enhancing the Multiversity Galleries (formerly Visible Storage); adding a new wing, The Centre for Cultural Research; creating the Audain Gallery, a 5,660 sq ft major temporary exhibition gallery; and developing the Reciprocal Research Network, the first digital network of its kind to link Northwest Coast collections in institutions worldwide.

**Exhibits and Programs** Through provocative programming and vibrant, contemporary exhibitions, MOA challenges visitors of all ages and backgrounds to learn more about themselves and other cultures. A part of the University of British Columbia, MOA encourages learning and exchange within and beyond its soaring glass walls. Through teaching and research, consultation and collaboration, MOA shares with others its unique and passionate commitment to working with and for artists and originating peoples around the world.

**Collections** MOA is perhaps best known for its collections from the Northwest Coast of BC, including those from Musqueam, on whose traditional territory the Museum is built. However, the Museum also houses rich and deep contemporary and historic collections from around the world: Asia, Africa, Europe, South, Central, and North America, Australia, and the Pacific. We invite you to explore the collections on your own, as part of a tour, through our MOA CAT computer kiosks, or online, anytime at [www.moa.ubc.ca](http://www.moa.ubc.ca).

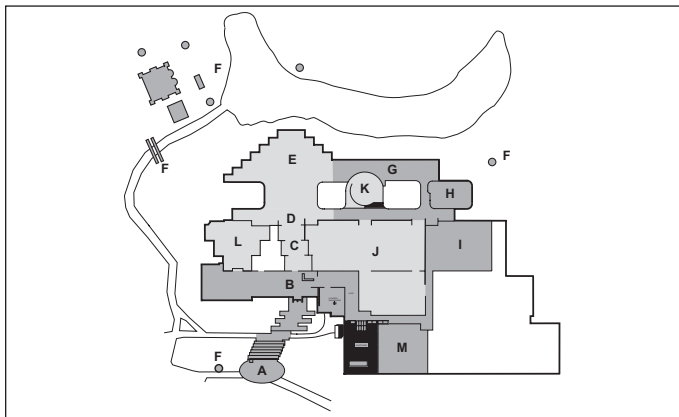
**Museum Shop** The Shop features books, jewelry, prints, and original artworks by Northwest Coast and indigenous artists from around the world. All revenues support MOA collections and programs.

**Café MOA** MOA's licensed Cafe offers fresh food and beverages for every taste. The Museum as a whole is available for rental for private and corporate events ([rentals@moa.ubc.ca](mailto:rentals@moa.ubc.ca)).

**MOA Membership** Become a member and enjoy benefits such as invitations to openings, member previews, and savings in the Shop ([members@moa.ubc.ca](mailto:members@moa.ubc.ca)).

**Support MOA** Your contributions activate exciting exhibits, public programs, and research. To learn more about individual or corporate giving and donor benefits, contact 604.827.3515 or [moa.development@ubc.ca](mailto:moa.development@ubc.ca).

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**A. Welcome Plaza** Specially commissioned artwork by Musqueam artists Joe Becker and Susan Point greet visitors to MOA. The Museum is situated on traditional Musqueam land, so it is appropriate that these pieces be the first to welcome you on site.

**B. Lobby & Shop** The carved doors in the Lobby that frame the entrance to the Shop once stood at MOA's main entrance. They were made from red cedar in 1976 by four Gitksan master carvers, Walter Harris, Earl Muldoe, Vernon Stephens, and Art Sterritt. When closed, the doors form the shape of a Northwest Coast bentwood box.

**C. Ramp** As you walk down the Ramp, you'll see carvings by Northwest Coast artists. At the top of the Ramp on either side are objects from the Coast Salish region (Vancouver area), including pieces from Musqueam. Further down and to your right are Kwakwaka'wakw house posts and other carvings; to your left are Haida pole fragments.

**D. Crossroads** At the base of the Ramp is an Information Desk, staffed by Volunteers.

**E. Great Hall** This spectacular space created by 15 metre high walls of glass and ever-changing natural light is frequently the site of world music, drama, and dance, as well as lectures and Here you'll find totem poles, house posts, and carved figures (most from the mid-19th century) from several Northwest Coast nations.

**F. Outdoor Exhibits** Through the windows of the Great Hall you'll see two Haida Houses, as well as several outdoor poles. For a closer look, re-trace your steps to the main entrance, turn right, then follow the path to the Haida Houses. On your way to the back, look for two carved house-posts flanking the path. These were made by Musqueam artist Susan Point in 1997.

**G. Gallery 3** This is a temporary exhibit space.

**H. Michael M. Ames Theatre** The Theatre is used for lectures, workshops, and public performances.

**I. The Audain Gallery** Major travelling and in-house exhibits on world arts and cultures are shown here.

**J. Multiversity Galleries** These galleries bring more than 16,000 objects from around the world to public view. In most museums, such objects are stored behind-the-scenes, but here at MOA, you can browse through the collections at your leisure. The MOA CAT system of computer terminals provides additional information, images, audio, and video about the objects.

**K. Bill Reid Rotunda** Bill Reid's best-known sculpture, *The Raven and the First Men*, is displayed here alongside four cases containing some of his other works in gold, silver, argillite, and wood. Look for an image of "The Raven" on the Canadian \$20 bill!

**L. Koerner European Ceramics Gallery** This Gallery houses a unique 600-piece collection of 16th-19th century European ceramics.

**M. Audrey & Harry Hawthorn Library & Archives** Located within the Centre for Cultural Research, the Library & Archives are open to the public. For hours, check with Admissions or [www.moa.ubc.ca](http://www.moa.ubc.ca).