



Mouse Woman drawing by Luke J. Parnell

## The Beat

**A monthly newsletter about the art of  
First Nations on Canada's West Coast**

**We respectfully acknowledge the Coast Salish Peoples, on whose traditional territories we live and work, and all the First Nations of the Pacific coast.**

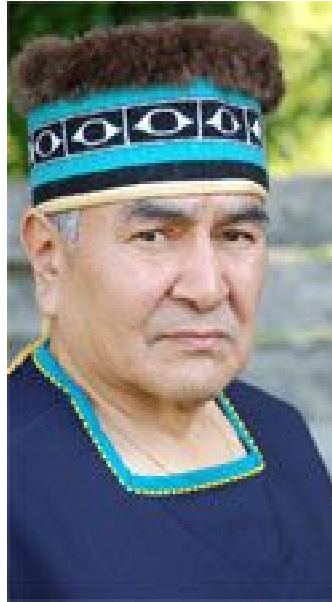
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**This is the forty-fifth issue of The Beat, a free, independent newsletter that brings you up-to-date on the art, artists and events of the First Nations on Canada's Pacific Coast.**



Replica of *Lootaas*, Bill Reid's Haida canoe at Vancouver's Vandenusen Gardens

Collection: Bill Reid gallery of Northwest Coast Art  
Photograph: Ann Cameron



Master Tahltan-Tlingit artist **Dempsey Bob** has received an honorary Doctor of Laws from Athabaska University, in recognition of the historical and cultural significance of his art and his commitment to the preservation of his First Nations heritage. He has taught in many positions in western Canada and Alaska, and has the lead role in the Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art which he founded in 2006 as part of the Northwest Community College, at its Terrace BC campus. Bob's work is in major collections: the Canadian Museum of Civilization, UBC's Museum of Anthropology, the Smithsonian Institution and the Vancouver International Airport, **Ken McNeil** and **Stan Bevan, and now Dean Heron,** are the other faculty instructors in the program; **Freda Diesing** was the Haida artist who instructed and inspired many artists in the decades before her death in 2002.

**Russell Smith (1950-2011)**

Mr. Smith, a Kwakwaka'wakw artist, was born in 1950 at Alert Bay, British Columbia, a descendant of one of the chiefs imprisoned for potlatching in 1922. His mother was an artist and taught him the traditions of his family and his nation. In 1970 he was an assistant to Bill Reid and Steve Brown in a south Kwakiutl longhouse project for the Pacific Science Center in Seattle. His work is available at the Sun Spirit Gallery, Spirit Wrestler Gallery and Coastal Peoples Fine Arts Gallery in Vancouver.



Many members of the Haida Nation travelled to Jasper to celebrate the raising of the new pole.

A Haida pole was raised on July 16 at Jasper Park in Alberta. Artists **Jaalen** and **Gwaii Edenshaw**, based the pole on the traditional Two Brothers story. The tale is that two Haida brothers travelled from Haida Gwaii to the Rocky Mountains, and one decided to settle in the mountains. When the other, who returned to the Haida Gwaii went back to visit his sibling, it was his brother's daughter, speaking in Haida, who greeted him with the news that her father was dead.

Parks Canada commissioned the new pole to replace an 1870's Haida Raven pole taken in 1915 from Old Massett, which was repatriated to Old Massett in 2010. (See **The Beat** June 2009.)

See the July edition of **Haida Laas** at <http://www.haidanation.ca/>



**Se:math Industries** in Abbotsford has introduced a new line of carved brick murals designed by Sumas First Nation artist **Ray Silver**.



Ancient Ancestor  
Joe David

The Inuit Gallery in the Gastown area of Vancouver is featuring works by Nuuchalnuht artist **Joe David** this summer: works in bronze, glass and carved masks and paddles, as well as prints. See <http://www.inuitgallery.com>

Tahltan artist **Peter Morin's** installation *Circle* which closed recently at the **Satellite Gallery** in Vancouver will travel to the Marvin Francis Media Arts Gallery at the **Urban Shaman** in Winnipeg. It will open on July 29, until October 1 2011. Daina Warren, who attended the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design and was an associate curator and administrator of Vancouver's Grunt Gallery, before a residency at the National Gallery of Canada, begins with the Urban Shaman Gallery in Winnipeg on August 1 2011 as co-director. See <http://www.urbanshaman.org>



Lunar Eclipse Drum  
2010 YVR scholarship recipient **Latham Mack**



*Daddy's Got a New Ride 2008*

by Dana Claxton from her series *Mustang Suite*  
Collection National Gallery of Canada

Work by Vancouver artist **Dana Claxton** is included in the exhibition *Steeling the Gaze* at the McMichael Collection of Canadian Art near Toronto, to September 11 2011. The exhibition originated with the Canadian Museum of Photography at the National Gallery of Canada; a thoughtful review of the exhibition as a whole can be found at: <http://www.cielvariable.ca/archives/en/component/content/article/124-5-chronique-regards-dacier-portraits-par-des-artistes-autochtones.html>



Stonington gallery display at SeaTac Airport, Seattle

Portland Oregon's **Stonington Gallery** has mounted an exhibition at Seattle's SeaTac Airport along Concourse A of art of the Pacific Northwest coast and Alaska.



Emily Carr, *War Canoes, Alert Bay*, 1912  
Collection: Michael Audain & Yoshiko Karasawa

The **Vancouver Art Gallery** will have an exhibition October 29 2011 to January 29 2012, *Shore, Forest and Beyond: Art from the Audain Collection*, 170 works from the collection of Michael Audain and Yoshiko Karasawa.

The collection of historical west coast indigenous art includes a significant group of contemporary First Nations works, a number of which have been newly commissioned by the Audains.

See <http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca>



See **The Beat** in magazine format, online at  
<http://www.coastalartbeat/2011/>

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**Thank you to David Dumaresq, Latham Mack, and many others for your assistance. The Beat is an independent, not-for-profit project written and published in Vancouver Canada by Ann Cameron. Copyright 2011 Ann Cameron.**

