



Temporary Exhibits to Close this Weekend at Nisga'a Museum

August 25, 2014

Laxgalts'ap, BC — After record attendance at the Nisga'a Museum this summer, two temporary exhibitions are set to close on Sunday, August 31 at 5 pm. ***Emily Carr Returns to Ank'idaa*** and ***Basketry from the Northwest Coast***, two shows designed to connect to the past with the present and compliment the Museum's permanent exhibition, the Ancestors' Collection has achieved its goal and brought in visitors from around the world to the Nisga'a Museum to engage with and learn about Nisga'a art, culture and heritage in context with work from Carr, the Tlingit, Tsimshian, Haida, Haisla and Coast Salish Nations to name a few.

Emily Carr's Return to Ank'idaa exhibition is a tightly focused exhibition of work created by Carr while she was either in the Nass Valley or based on sketches created during her famed trip in 1928. Carr's visit focused on the Nisga'a villages of Ank'idaa and Git'tix where she sketched and painted several watercolours including the Vancouver Art Gallery's (VAG) *Nass River Pole* (the pole is currently in the Canadian Museum of Civilization's collection). Revisiting those works in the early 30s Carr developed two important canvasses *Forsaken* (VAG Collection) and *Grizzly Bear Totem, Angidah, Nass River* (National Gallery of Canada Collection). Her story "Greenville" appeared in the seminal work Klee Wyck in 1941 where she chronicled her experiences along the Nass River and interactions with the Nisga'a people. Drawing from archives of the Royal British Columbia Museum and the Vancouver Art Gallery's collection the exhibition reunites early work with mature canvasses in the region they were originally conceived – the Nisga'a nation.

Basketry from the Northwest Coast has provided the Nisga'a Museum with an opportunity to bring together a unique selection of hand-woven baskets that have never been exhibited together before in dialogue with one another through their display. This show endeavored to investigate and ask questions about their utility, materiality, craftsmanship, singularity, and their relationship to one another historically and culturally. This exhibition was not a complete anthology or history of basketry on the northwest coast; nor does it make any assumptions about cross cultural influence or technological migration. In essence the Nisga'a Museum amassed a selection of vessels from the coastal peoples of British Columbia that are part of the Museum of Vancouver's collection that, through their artistry, offer a snapshot of approaches and interpretation into the art and craft of utilitarian Northwest Coast basketry.

Both exhibitions close to the public on Sunday, August 31 at 5 pm.

Current museum hours are: Tuesday – Thursday and Sunday – 11 am to 5 pm
Friday and Saturday – 11 am to 7 pm

Admissions are as follows: Preschool, senior and Nisga'a citizens - no charge
Children (6 – 18) - \$5
Adults (19 – 59) - \$8
Family (two adults with up to four children) - \$22