

### **Photo Captions and Credits for *Culture at the Centre***

1. Basket by Matilda Jim (Lil'wat), c. 1900 – 1950 (MOA A6705), Photo by Derek Tan.
2. Basket by Theresa Gabriel (Lil'wat) made before 1916 (MOA Nd688). Photo by Derek Tan.
3. Basket by Theresa Gabriel (Lil'wat) made before 1916 (MOA Nd688). Photo by Derek Tan.

**Descriptions:** Both of the baskets in the exhibition were made by ancestors of one of the community co-curators Alison Pascal (Lil'wat). By selecting these two baskets, Allison is able to draw direct connections to the past and continue those into the present and future. Too often the names of basket makers are not captured in museum collections. It is wonderful in this case that the makers are acknowledged and even more exciting that one of their family members is now responsible for bringing this to the public – both her personal connection and those of the Lil'wat Nation.

4. Heiltsuk Cultural Centre
5. Masmalanua Mask, 2009. (MOA 2768/1). Nusi, Ian Reid (Heiltsuk). Photo by Jessica Bushey
6. Masmalanua Mask, 2009. (MOA 2768/1). Nusi, Ian Reid (Heiltsuk). Photo by Jessica Bushey

**Description:** This contemporary mask by artist Nusi, Ian Reid was created after the artist heard the creation story of Masmala'ano. The story tells of Masmala'ano coming down from the sky at Bella Coola where he travelled in his double headed serpent canoe carving all the straights and channels along the way to Bella Bella. Masmala'ano brought the gifts of carving and the arts in his canoe.

Ian Reid, Biography: Ian Reid's crests are Eagle and Killerwhale. He signs his pieces with his Heiltsuk name Nusi, meaning "Full Moon." Many of Ian's pieces are inspired by cultural knowledge handed down to him from his elders. His main mentor has been his great aunt, Mary Hunt, one of the last matriarchs of the Heiltsuk Nation. Ian has carved under the guidance of respected Kwakwaka'wakw artist Simon Dick. He has also been dancing since he was young, and often dances with the Gwawina Dancers. In June of 2008, Ian danced at the University of British Columbia's Chan Centre for the Performing Arts to

accompany a special screening of Edward Curtis' landmark film *In the Land of the Head Hunters*. Also in 2008, Ian was appointed to be Project Manager for the Waglisla Big House that was constructed between 2008-2009 in Bella Bella, BC. Ian was actively involved in every phase of the project, from the original conception to material selection and construction. In 2009, Ian was one of twenty-three artists included in the *Continuum: Vision and Creativity on the Northwest Coast* exhibition at the Bill Reid Gallery in Vancouver, BC.

7. Nisga'a Spoon (MOA A6643). Photo by Jessica Bushey

**Description:** The spoon reflects the moon cycles and the long held cultural traditions of Nisga'a. The Nisgaa share a concept of the common bowl- where the strength of one is the strength of all. Hobiye is a significant tradition celebration of the coming new harvest, the arrival of the eulachon (fish) an important food source and ancient trade commodity for the Nisgaa and others indigenous community of the Nass, Skeena river systems. Hobiye is celebrated in the Nisgaa communities of Laxgaltsap, Gingolx, Gitwinksihlkw, Gitlaxt'aamiks. On Feb 23 & 24, 2018, the community of Laxgaltsap will host the annual celebration. In Vancouver Feb 2 & 3 for the urban indigenous communities. celebrate Hobiye at the PNE Forum – free to all. The wooden spoon has a handle in the form of a bird's head. The bowl of the spoon shows use and eulachon oil residue. The spoon was collected in 1957 from the Totem Pole Gift Shop. No record of the maker.

8. Squamish-Lil'way Cultural Centre