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# CARVING ON THE EDGE FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 6-9, 2018. TOFINO, BC  
TLA-O-QUI-AHT TERRITORY

[CARVINGEDGEFESTIVAL.COM](http://CARVINGEDGEFESTIVAL.COM)

## OUR LOCAL SPONSORS & FRIENDS

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TOFINO UCLUELET CULINARY GUILD.  
WICKANINNISH INN CARVING SHED.

**JOIN US. 2018. SEPTEMBER 6-9**  
SHORE PIER BUILDING ON THE WATER 368 MAIN STREET



**EDGE ART SHOW SEPTEMBER 7-11** TRADITIONAL & CONTEMPORARY CARVING ARTS  
MADE IN CANADA. RECYCLED PAPER  
SHORE PIER BUILDING ON THE WATER 368 MAIN STREET

## OPENING NIGHT

# UNVEILED: ŁA?UUKWĪATHĪ MURAL PROJECT & EDGE ART SHOW

## TOTEMS & TRIBUTARIES

The Carving on the Edge Festival is an annual gathering that celebrates traditional and contemporary carving arts. We offer something for everyone; from lovers of arts and culture to carvers of all skill levels.

This year's theme, **Totems & Tributaries**, explores carving as a visual language. Totem poles stand tall, telling stories of the land and its peoples. Tributaries connect our coastal communities to those upstream, uniting us along ancient salmon migrations routes.

### MISSION STATEMENT

TO INSPIRE THE GROWTH OF THE TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY COASTAL CARVING ARTS THROUGH CELEBRATION, EDUCATION AND RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING.

2018.SEPTEMBER.06.THURSDAY  
7PM.BY DONATION

Opening Night will begin with a Tla-o-qui-aht Welcome led by local elder and beach-keeper Barney Williams with songs from the Kliith Pitaap Taa Qumths Men's Group.

## THE ŁA?UUKWĪATHĪ MURAL PROJECT

Exploring our ancestral relationships with earth, wind, fire, and water. Come witness the first public presentation of its journey and teachings. This community engaged arts project was led by local cultural educator Gisele Martin and visiting muralist Fanny Aishaa. A public/outdoor art space was set up this summer for 23 days in the Tla-o-qui-aht community of Ty-Histanis, inviting community members of all ages to join in with its creation.

## EDGE ART SHOW

An annual showcase of carved works from all corners of our carving community. Discover the relationship between the carver and the coast as you explore the vast variety of carving styles from traditional to contemporary, innovative to whimsical, and from emerging to master carvers. This year, we will be exploring the theme **"Roots/ Mulmumc"** through our Featured Installations and the works of our community carvers.



Photo: Melody Charlie, First Nations Photographers

FROM 2004, AT THE RAISING OF A Čiinut (TOTEM POLE) GIFTED TO THE TSILHQOT'IN COMMUNITY BY TIM PAUL AND THE HOOMIS FAMILY

CREDIT: TSILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

# CARVING WORKSHOPS

REGISTER AT [CARVINGEDGEFESTIVAL.COM](http://CARVINGEDGEFESTIVAL.COM)

## PLATTER MAKING.CARVING WORKSHOP

WITH RICK WOLCOTT

SEPTEMBER.08.SATURDAY.9AM-12PM & 1PM-4PM

FEE: \$40 PER PERSON

Beginners will carve a shallow platter using hand tools with instruction on wood grain, alignment, and tool safety.

## ADZE MAKING.TOOL WORKSHOP

WITH CHARLIE PRINCE

SEPTEMBER.08.SATURDAY.10AM-5PM

FEE: \$180 PER PERSON

Participants will create an elbow adze by shaping handles and affixing them to adze blades provided by Kestrel Tool.

## TRANSFERRING DESIGN WORKSHOP

WITH KELLI CLIFTON

SEPTEMBER.08.SATURDAY.10AM-12PM&2PM-4PM

FEE: \$15 PER PERSON

Participants will transfer a provided design onto canvas, and learn tips for painting. All ages welcome. Children under 12 need to be accompanied by an adult.

## CROOKED KNIFE MAKING.TOOL WORKSHOP

WITH RICK WOLCOTT

SEPTEMBER.09.SUNDAY.9AM-3PM

FEE: \$125 PER PERSON

Participants will make their own crooked (or hook) carving knife by filing and tempering a flat ground 01 tool steel blank which they will fasten to a handle.

## PRINTMAKING FOR FAMILIES

WITH DAN LAW

SEPTEMBER.09.SUNDAY.DROP IN FROM 9AM-5PM

FEE: FOAM BLOCK \$5.LINO BLOCK \$20

Participants will design and carve a 4x6 printing block which they will use to create a small run of prints. All ages welcome.

## TRANSFORMING ČAPAC T'ASHII DUG-OUT CANOE TOUR

SEPTEMBER.08.SATURDAY.10:30AM-2:30PM

FEE: \$89 PER PERSON

Join us for a journey on the inside waters of Clayoquot Sound and a guided walk through the ancient forest. You will learn about how the resurgence of carving canoes has transformed our local communities by instilling respect for Natural Law in our young people. The čapac (or traditional dug-out canoe) is a vehicle for coming together in a good way, for healing, and for gaining a better understanding of the interconnection of all life in our homelands.



# TLA-O-QUI-AHT TOTEM POLE RAISING CEREMONY

SEPTEMBER.07.FRIDAY.2PM

LOCATION: ANCHOR PARK  
CELEBRATION DINNER.5PM



A Čiinul (Totem Pole) will be raised honouring the ʔaʔuukʷiath Haʼwiih (Tla-o-qui-aht Hereditary Chiefs) and their spiritual and physical stewardship of the hahouʔee. The Čiinul acknowledges the powerful and sacred care expressed through this relationship. Not just from the past, but in the present and into the future.

It has been a dream of Tla-o-qui-aht master carver, Joe David, to see this totem carved and raised in the township of Tofino so that everyone before it understands the title of the Haʼwiih. The project has been supported by a core group of carvers who have all donated their time to this legacy project.

This ceremony will be followed by a Celebration Dinner hosted by the District of Tofino starting at 5pm at the Tofino Community Hall.

# “TOTEMS & TRIBUTARIES”

SEPTEMBER.08.SATURDAY.7PM

PRESENTATIONS BY FEATURED CARVERS & GUESTS

HOST.TSIMKA MARTIN.BY DONATION

FILM SCREENING.“GITWILGYOOTS TOTEM POLE RAISING.LELU ISLAND” 3 MINS.



## YES, WOMEN CARVE

ARTIST TALK WITH LOU-ANN KAKASOLAS NEEL, KWAKWAKA'WAKW

Challenging the popular colonial belief that only men were trained in the ancient practice of carving, Lou-ann will honour the legacy of her grandmother Ellen Kakasolas Neel, as a practicing artist and carver who has been largely left out of recorded art history. Lou-ann will share stories from her grandmother's life and the impressive body of work created during her lifetime. Lou-ann will also offer insights and reflections from her own journey as a female carver and artist, including her frequent visits to museum collections in BC and Washington state, where the works of many of her family members are housed.

## HONOURING OF ALLIANCES ALONG SALMON MIGRATION ROUTES

WITH TIM PAUL, NUU-CHAH-NULTH MASTER CARVER  
AND CHIEF JOE ALPHONSE, TSILHQOT'IN TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

In 2004, Tim Paul and the Hoomis family gifted the Tsilhqot'in community a Čiinul (Totem Pole) in support of their ongoing quest for reconciliation. The Tsilhqot'in have made great advances in recent years to assert their inherent rights with recognition of their rights and title in the Supreme Court of Canada. The Čiinul was raised at Teztan Biny (Fish Lake) during the declaration of the Dasiqox Tribal Park. The depth of this alliance will be honoured with a presentation by Nu-u-chah-nulth carver, Tim Paul, and a Tsilhqot'in delegation of the Tsilhqot'in Community.

# “MAKER OF MONSTERS”

THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE

OF BEAU DICK.BY DONATION

SEPTEMBER.09.SUNDAY.7PM

FILM SCREENING.Q&A WITH DAUGHTER LINNEA DICK FOLLOWING THE FILM



Maker of Monsters gives an intimate look into the life of one of Canada's greatest artists. Beau Dick worked within an ancient tradition and rose to the ranks of international success within the white cube world of contemporary art while never forgetting his roots. This film strives to capture the essence of Beau Dick and his mysterious enigma as an artist who symbolized Canada's history with the First Nations and the ethical dilemmas faced in reconciling with that colonialist history. Beau was able to use his celebrity to call attention to the injustices done to his people and the environment.

In reaching into his past, the stories of the Kwakwaka'wakw nations are also brought to the forefront; their rich history, their dramatic mythology, and the deep scars left by colonialism. Weaving together the personal and cultural until both become inseparable, Meet Beau Dick presents an artist who succeeded in reconciling the two.

Maker of Monsters strives to unearth the factors that made Beau who he was – his deep connection to identity, family, and community, his struggle with addiction – and like a carver chipping away at a block of wood, his story brings truth and understanding out of the woodwork. Meet Beau Dick illuminates a man whose art and life continue to transcend expectations and boundaries.

# SEPTEMBER 2018

06.  
THURSDAY

07.  
FRIDAY

08.  
SATURDAY

09.  
SUNDAY

10.  
MONDAY

11.  
TUESDAY

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CROOKED KNIFE

ADZE MAKING

FAMILY PRINTMAKING

TRANSFERRING DESIGN

TOOL SHARPENING

GRANT WRITING

LANGUAGE BLOCKS

LANGUAGE NEST

10am-5pm

10am-2pm

10am-7pm

10am-7pm

10am-5pm

10am-5pm

10am-2pm

10am-5pm

10am-5pm

10am-5pm

10am-5pm

10:30am-2:30pm

11am-2pm

2pm

PG.03  
7pm  
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5pm  
CELEBRATION DINNER  
@ COMMUNITY HALL

PG.06  
7pm  
TOTEMS & TRIBUTARIES

PG.07  
7pm  
"MAKER OF MONSTERS"

ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE AT THE SHORE PIER BUILDING ON THE WATER, 368 MAIN STREET, TOFINO, BC, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

OUR ANNUAL GATHERING TAKES PLACE ON THE TRADITIONAL, ANCESTRAL, AND UNCEDED TERRITORY OF THE TLA-O-QUI-AHT PEOPLE. WE ASK THAT ALL FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS BRING WITH THEM AN OPEN HEART, CURIOUS MIND, AND PRACTICE RESPECT FOR CULTURAL PROTOCOLS.

# EDGE ART SHOW DAILY HOURS

SEPTEMBER.07.FRIDAY.10AM-2PM  
SEPTEMBER.08.SATURDAY.10AM-7PM  
SEPTEMBER.09.SUNDAY.10AM-7PM  
SEPTEMBER.10.MONDAY.10AM-5PM  
SEPTEMBER.11.TUESDAY.10AM-5PM

## ROOTS/MUŁMUMC

Our coastal rainforests have been home to a rich history of cultural carving for thousands of years and they continue to inspire new generations of local carvers. The Edge Art Show is an open call to all community carvers, resulting in an engaging and dynamic display from a wild diversity of carving artists.

This year, we would like to invite you to join us in exploring the theme **ROOTS/MUŁMUMC**: *"The ancient trees of our coastal forests are master storytellers. Rooted in the earth their trunks climb to the sky, filled with circular pages of their ringed history. Ingrained in their fibres are messages, telling us of the places that formed them and contributed to their growth."*

As trees do, Carvers draw up from their roots. Shared values, histories, and relationships nourish their artistic voice and are reflected back through carved shapes and forms. Through visual art, we add to an ongoing narrative that defines us as individuals and can amplify our collective voice on important community issues.

Many of our featured artists will be present at the art show to share stories, knowledge, and connect with our community and visitors.

# FEATURED WORK

## PHIL GRAY, **LELU ISLAND TOTEM POLE**

A multi-media installation featuring a pole carved recently, by Phil Gray, in support of the efforts to save the mouth of the Skeena River from LNG development and in protection of the salmon runs that spawn there.

## DAVE PARSANISHI, **MAMAAŁNI (A TRANSFORMATION MASK)**

The artist on his work: "Coming from conversations with Nuu-chah-nulth carvers, elders and language teachers, I contrast the traditional transformation mask with the Canadian attempt to transform First Nations people by 'removing the Indian from the child.' This is a process of my own reconciliation to the actions of my culture. With the mirrored eyes, I invite/challenge the viewer to see themselves both as the perpetrator and in the focus of the perpetrator."

## ART SHOW GUIDED TOURS

SEPTEMBER.08.SATURDAY.2PM  
SEPTEMBER.09.SUNDAY.2PM

Learn more about the traditions and techniques of west coast carving through an in-depth look at select works. Participants will have the opportunity to meet featured and guest artists and hear them present on their pieces.



# WORKSHOPS

## SEPTEMBER.07.FRIDAY

### GRANT WRITING WITH FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL COUNCIL

10AM-10:45AM

Free Information Session to learn more about applying for arts grants. There will also be opportunities to speak to staff one on one.

### NUU-CHAH-NULTH LANGUAGE BLOCKS WORKSHOP

11AM-12PM.FEE.\$60 PER PERSON

Participants will create a set of 16 language blocks using the phonetics for the Nuu-chah-nulth language. Local language revitalization enthusiast, Timmy Masso, will demonstrate how the blocks can be used for solo study or group exercises. Workshop is designed for ages 6 and up. Register on our website.

### "FISH AND BERRIES" NUU-CHAH-NULTH LANGUAGE NEST DEMO

12PM-12:45PM.BY DONATION

Join us for a demonstration of a Language Nest, an immersion space where fluent speakers create the environment for children and learners to "absorb" the sounds of our language as opposed to "learning" the sounds. The (casual) focus for this nest will be Traditional Foods. Participants are invited to bring traditional foods to share if they feel inspired to. All ages welcome!

Host.The Language Keepers Society

photo.Melody Charlie.First Nations Photographer

## OPEN CARVING AREA

SEPTEMBER.07.FRIDAY.10AM-2PM

SEPTEMBER.08-11.SATURDAY-TUESDAY.10AM-5PM

The Open Carving Area is a space within the festival venue for carvers to set up and work on projects. All carvers are welcome to come and carve alongside each other. This is a great opportunity to share tips and techniques and gather inspiration from fellow coastal carvers of all skill levels. Carvers will also have the opportunity to interact with members of the visiting public that are interested in learning more about the carving arts and their work. Simply arrive with your tools and materials and our Open Carving Area host will set you up with a space to carve.

## TOOL FAIR

SEPTEMBER.09.SUNDAY.11AM-2PM

Join us for an interactive, hands-on tool fair with accomplished tool makers from the Pacific Northwest. The first hour will feature short presentations from tool makers about tool design and construction, followed by an open session to try tools and learn from the experts. Tools will be available for purchase.

## TOOL SHARPENING DEMO & TUTORIALS WITH CHRISTEN DOKK SMITH

SEPTEMBER.09.SUNDAY.12PM-4PM.DEMONSTRATION IS DROP-IN.BY DONATION. TUTORIALS ARE \$45.REGISTER ON WEBSITE

An array of sharpening techniques will be demonstrated to support you in keeping your tools functional, well-maintained, and carving ready. Followed by private 45 min tutorials.





## ARTIST FORUM AND LUNCH

SEPTEMBER.06.THURSDAY.10AM-5PM

Carving artists are invited to the Artist Forum and Lunch before the festival is opened to the public. Guest Artists Phil Gray, Kelli Clifton and Dave Parsinshi will be introduced with an opportunity to learn more about their individual approaches to carving.

## FESTIVAL OVERVIEW ART FOR ACTIVATING SOCIAL CHANGE

A Festival Overview Session will provide detailed information on the ways artists can make the most out of the festival. A panel discussion will explore Art for Activating Social Change with local and guest artists. The forum will close with a presentation by Robinson Cook of Hiłhıyis, a carving created in response to the Hišinqwıł Regional Gathering.

[Register and find out more on our website.](#)

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT THE FESTIVAL

As we arrive in our 9th year hosting the Carving on the Edge Festival, we want to hear from the community of carvers, locals, and visitors that we serve. We have invited Kelly Foxcroft-Poirier from White Raven Consulting to host an installation where all members of our community will have the opportunity to share ideas, experiences, and insights about what the festival means to them and how they would like to see us grow.

## OUR STORY

For thousands of years the monumental trees of the coastal temperate rainforests in Clayoquot Sound have inspired a rich and diverse carving culture. From the practical fine-tuning of the dug-out canoe to the ceremonial roles of headdresses and the record-keeping of great totem poles, coastal carving has made unique contributions to fine art and archival collections around the world.

## CARVING ON THE EDGE FESTIVAL

The Carving on the Edge Festival was born in 2010 on a stormy weekend at Tofino's Tin Wis carving shed. A group of Nuuchahnulth carvers, elders, and culture-makers met for three days to talk about the traditions and cultural teachings of west coast carving. They gathered ideas on how to share and teach their skills with others – carvers, communities, and youth – with the purpose of growing the carving community while sharing traditional teachings and stories. The group became the **'Keepers of the Festival'**.

For nine years we have gathered annually to celebrate the traditional and contemporary west coast carving arts, the carving artists, and the rich cultural history of our region. Each year the Master carvers have led the festival's themes with input from the rest of the festival community. With this direction we have been able to offer opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of the coastal traditions of carving with the goal of building much needed cultural bridges in our communities.

