

BEAU DICK

(Born 1955, Village Island, Kingcome Inlet, B.C. Kwakwaka'wakw community
Lives and works in Alert Bay, BC)

BIOGRAPHY

Beau began carving at the age of fifteen after careful instruction from his grandfather, Jimmy Dick. Beau assisted both his grandfather and father, Ben Dick, in the carving and painting of the worlds tallest totem pole (173') which is raised in Alert Bay. He was also taught and influenced by Henry Speck. Through the encouragement of Henry Speck Beau developed his skill as a Kwakwaka'wakw dancer and singer and joined the Kwak-Kwala Arts and Crafts Society. His uncle, Jimmy Dawson taught Beau much of the Kwa-gulth mythology and storytelling. Tony Hunt invited Beau Dick to come to Victoria to work alongside him and Chief Henry Hunt. This proved to be a turning point in his career. Since then, Beau has worked with a number of master carvers including Doug Cranmer, Bill Reid and Robert Davidson.

Beau Dick's work is included in many important private and public international collections. He is known for the powerful quality of his masks, and reaching out beyond the confines of his own culture. Dick's work can be found at the Museum of Civilization, in Hull, Quebec, the Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia and the Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC.

SELECTED EXHIBITION HISTORY

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| 2010 | <i>THE BEAUTY OF DISTANCE: Songs of Survival in a Precarious Age</i> , 17th Biennale of Sydney
Curated by David Elliott, May 12 - August 1, 2010 |
| 2010 | Blanket Contemporary Art, Vancouver, BC |
| 2006 | <i>75 Years of Collecting: First Nations: Myths and Realities</i> , Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC |
| 2004 | <i>Supernatural</i> , with Neil Campbell, curated by Roy Arden, Contemporary Art Gallery,
Vancouver, BC |