

# Beau Dick

*Si-si-utl & Tli-sli-gi-la*, 1976

silkscreen on paper  
58.4 cm x 58.4 cm

Collection of the Vancouver Art  
Gallery, Gift of Potlatch Arts Ltd.  
VAG 86.101



# Beau Dick

*Si-si-utl & Tli-sli-gi-la*, 1976

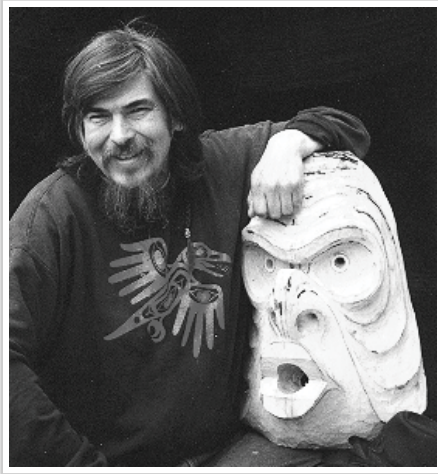


Image source:  
[www.douglasreynoldsgallery.com](http://www.douglasreynoldsgallery.com)

## Artist's Biography

Nationality: Canadian  
First Nations Affiliation: Kwakwaka'wakw  
Born: 1955-11-23, Kingcome Inlet, B.C.

Beau Dick was born in 1955 at Alert Bay, a Kwag-guluth community 300 km north of Vancouver. After spending the first six years of his life in Kingcome Village, speaking only his native language Kwakwala, Beau moved with his family to Vancouver to attend school.

As a teenager, Beau demonstrated an interest in carving, after watching his grandfather, Jimmy Dick, and assisted him and his father in the carving and painting of the World's Tallest Totem raised in Alert Bay.

Beau first attempted to sell clam shells on which he had painted designs to tourists visiting Alert Bay. Tony Hunt understood Beau's desire to become a carver and asked the seventeen year old to move to Victoria and become his apprentice.

Once Beau moved back to Vancouver, he became influenced by the work of Doug Cranmer, whom he credits with helping him understand the importance of patience and pride in one's work. Beau also assisted Bill Reid in his Haida canoe project at UBC. Later, he worked with Robert Davidson on the Edenshaw Memorial House Front at Masset.

## Artistic Context

Nationality: Canadian

First Nations Affiliation: Southern Kwakiutl

Training: Studied under Doug Cranmer and Tony Hunt

Group: Northwest Coast art; 20th century; 21st century

Peers: Tony Hunt, Henry Hunt, Bill Reid, Doug Cranmer, Robert Davidson

Provenance: Gift of Potlatch Arts Limited in 1986

Subject: mythological figures; masks

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### Other Works in the Vancouver Art Gallery Collection

Beau Dick  
*Kwa-giulth Owl*, 1976  
silkscreen on paper  
Gift of Potlatch Arts Ltd.  
VAG 86.99

Beau Dick  
*Creation of the Moon; Creation of the moon*, 1976  
silkscreen on paper  
Gift of Potlatch Arts Ltd.  
VAG 86.100

Beau Dick  
*Loon*, 1977  
silkscreen on paper  
Gift of Potlatch Arts Ltd.  
VAG 86.102

Beau Dick  
*Raven*, 1977  
silkscreen on paper  
Gift of Potlatch Arts Ltd.  
VAG 86.103

Beau Dick  
*Bear*, 1977  
silkscreen on paper  
Gift of Potlatch Arts Ltd.  
VAG 86.104

Beau Dick  
*Khen Kho*, 1980  
silkscreen on paper  
Gift of Potlatch Arts Ltd.  
VAG 86.105

Beau Dick  
*Raven Rattle*, 1978  
wood  
Gift of J. Ron and Jacqueline Longstaffe  
VAG 2003.4.15

### Further Reading

Arden, Roy. *Supernatural*. Vancouver: Contemporary Art Gallery, 2004.

*Life of the Copper*. Victoria: Alcheringa Gallery, 1994.

Ostrowitz, Judith. *Privileging the Past: Reconstructing History in Northwest Coast Art*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 1999.

*Transformation*. Vancouver: Gallery of Tribal Art, 1994.

Wyatt, Gary. *Spirit Faces*. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 1994.

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## Exhibition History

### Exhibitions at the Vancouver Art Gallery

*75 Years of Collecting: First Nations: Myths and Realities.* May 6, 2006 - August 27, 2006.

## Archival History

### Board Minutes

Acquisition Record  
1986-07-21

[transcription]

### SCHEDULE "A" Recommended for Acquisition

#### Submission

Artist: Beau Dick  
Donor: Bud Mintz

Silkscreen prints, various sizes and dates.

**Curatorial Comments:** Accept

**Committee Disposition:** Agree—Unanimous

### Condition Report for Acquisition

Conservation  
1986-12-08

[transcription]

VANCOUVER  
ART  
GALLERY  
750 HORNBY STREET VANCOUVER B.C. CANADA V6Z 2H7 TELEPHONE  
(604)682-5621

### CONDITION REPORT FOR ACQUISITION

ARTIST: Dick, Beau

TITLE OF WORK: "Si-si-utl & Tli-sli-gi-la" 9/200 '76

DATE OF REPORT: 12/8/86

#### CONDITION:

Silkscreen on paper  
creased along top edge, top at corner.  
beige coloured paper (discoloured?)

# Beau Dick

*Si-si-utl & Tli-sli-gi-la*, 1976

## COMMENTS:

Should be stored in solander box, tissue separator (removed from plastic sleeve).

REQUIRED CONSERVATION: none

TIME/COST OF MATERIALS: —

SIGNED [signed Mervyn F. Hutchinson] cc. Director, Curators, Head of Preparations  
Mervyn F. Hutchinson  
Head, Conservation Dept.

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