

Dive deep into the stories and science that surround the magnificent Orca, apex predator of all oceans. Follow the currents of ecological activism, popular culture and Indigenous beliefs to gain a new appreciation of these sophisticated animals, long feared in Western cultures as “killer whales”. Discover the complex social structure of Orca society and reflect on the surprising consequences of captivity. Dive in to learn which Orca populations are thriving and which are at risk, and resurface with a new understanding of how Orcas and humans are inextricably connected: we are all part of nature, not apart from nature.



- Oceans and humans are inextricably connected—we have a shared ecology. The exhibition weaves together three ways of understanding the world that are often thought of as separate—science, popular culture, Indigenous thought.
- Orcas are animals with unique cultures, languages.
- For Indigenous people of the Eastern North Pacific, the border between the human, natural and supernatural worlds is porous. People are related to the beings of land and sea.
- The Royal British Columbia Museum is uniquely positioned to address both natural history and cultural connections to the orca story.
- The exhibition includes 140 original artifacts and specimens including an articulated adult female orca skeleton, and a life size family of three replica orcas.

KILLER WHALE BOX

Killer Whale was a favourite subject for famed twentieth century Haida artist Bill Reid. His distinctive renditions have the figural form of a killer whale with oversized, razor-sharp teeth and iconic Haida style. Here the meticulously sculpted Killer Whale leaps from the surface of a gilded feast dish. The same whale can be found in Reid’s etchings, bronze casts and wood carvings.



*Bill Reid (T’aanuu, Haida/Canadian)
1971, Gold*



*Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas
(Masset, Haida/Canadian)
2019, Watercolour and pen on paper*

ORCINUS ORCA SKAANAA

This watercolour dives into human-orca relationships across time, space and cultures. The flowing blue line, representing ocean currents, connects Haida ancestors to all the creatures that swim in Pacific waters, and to the looming dangers of trawlers and tankers.



THE SKULL OF RHAPSODY (J32)

A pregnant 18-year-old female Southern Resident Orca who died early December 2014.

ARCHITECTURE & CONTENT

- **Size** 700 to 1,300 m2 (7,500 to 14,000 sq. ft.)
- **Number of objects** 140 original objects and specimens, including an articulated female orca skeleton, a carved wooden screen by renowned Haida artist Bill a life-size family of three replica orcas. Approved facility report required.
- **Exhibition furniture** All exhibition furniture including display cases, decks, projection screens and most seating included. Most display cases have internal lighting and capacity for silica gel.
- **Display cases** Approximately 45 cases come with the exhibition and have their own lighting. Normal museum gallery environmental conditions required at venue.
- **Graphics** Photos and graphic panels include all texts, which can be adapted for two languages.
- **Interactives** Seven digital and physical interactives exploring orca sounds, orca anatomy, whale/human brain comparisons, an ocean health game, digital art, a listening station and an electronic poll. All hardware and control systems included.
- **Films** Eleven different film productions featuring orca research, Indigenous art, captivity and orca rights. All projectors, monitors, speaker systems, media players and control systems included.
- **All audio/visual material** available in two languages.
- **Catalogue/Book and Educator Guide** Included.

LOGISTICS

- **Insurance and shipping.**
- **Installation and dismantling crew** from *MuseumsPartner* plus couriers from the lending museum, including travel and accommodation.

PUBLICATION

A catalogue is available on consignment.

MARKETING MATERIAL

- **High resolution images** of the key images, objects and the exhibition are available to the venue at no cost. All final graphic representations by venue are to be approved by *MuseumsPartner* to ensure adherence to proper citing of partners and lenders.

ADDITIONAL COSTS FOR HOST VENUE

- Marketing and promotion
- Merchandise
- Maintenance during display period
- Gallery lighting, walls, wall painting
- Operational costs—ticketing, security, programming, etc.



ABOUT THE TEAM

 **ROYAL BC MUSEUM** The Royal British Columbia Museum is one of Canada's leading museums and research centres, a showcase of 550 million years of natural history and 9,000 years of human history in British Columbia. They produce original research grounded in their extensive collection of over 7,000,000 specimens, artifacts and cultural objects from across their province. The Royal BC Museum is located on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations). The museum extends its appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on this territory.



In cooperation with international museums, *MuseumsPartner* has conceived a range of travelling exhibitions that are informative and engaging for a multitude of audiences and easy to adapt to different spaces. We offer these exhibitions under a turnkey contract which ensures that our clients are guaranteed a secure investment customized for their own institution without any surprises. Drawing on our extensive experience in fine art transport, we provide full services to our partners and offer project management, logistics and financial management.

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