

Art Exhibits and Installations of the Pacific Northwest

By Alexander Betz for the 2020-2021 Corbett Scholarship

Natural History:



Orcas: Our Shared Future • The Royal BC Museum • Victoria, CA •

<https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/visit/exhibitions/orcas-our-shared-future> • April 16th, 2021 – January 9th, 2022

Capturing the complex position of the Orca population in the Pacific Northwest, this exhibit will explore intersections of popular culture, activism, and Indigenous beliefs. Art on display will include Orca bones, contemporary photography, and Indigenous works all speaking towards our past and present relationship with this animal. With the role as a major aspect of



its ecosystem, this animal shares the Puget Sound and this regions coastlines in a connection between the nations of the United States and Canada. This exhibit hopes to explore the importance of this animal to our shared culture and place, and raise awareness for a common heritage that we share that is threatened by our modern way of life.

National Formations:



Jacob Lawrence: The American Struggle • The Seattle Art Museum • Seattle, USA •
<https://lawrence.site.seattleartmuseum.org/> • March 5th, 2021 – May 23rd, 2021

Celebrating American artist Jacob Lawrence's *Struggle* series, this exhibition will be the first time in decades that the complete series is available for view. Chronicling moments of violence, hope, and service, this exhibit will open up discussion into the sacrifices of many different peoples in the formation of the United States of America. Subjects include slave revolts, significant moments of the Revolutionary war, and interactions between American settlers and Indigenous peoples. Painted at the midpoint of his career, Jacob Lawrence would move to Seattle shortly after this series in order to become a professor at the University of Washington from the early seventies to the turn of the millennium.





Becoming BC Gallery • The Royal BC Museum • Victoria, CA •
<https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/visit/exhibitions/becoming-bc-galleries/> • Perpetual

Serving as an ever-expanding record of British Columbia, this exhibit at the Royal BC Museum focuses on a number of significant moments and objects of the region's past. For example, visitors can walk through a detailed example of Victoria's Old Town, within influences spanning from Nanaimo's Royal Hotel and the office of a 1890s importer. Also part of this replica Old Town is a replica of one of North America's earliest China Towns. Furthermore, a full scale replica of Captain George Vancouver's H.M.S. Discovery is available for visitors to explore. Between these installations and others, this exhibit speaks to the development and colonialization of the region.

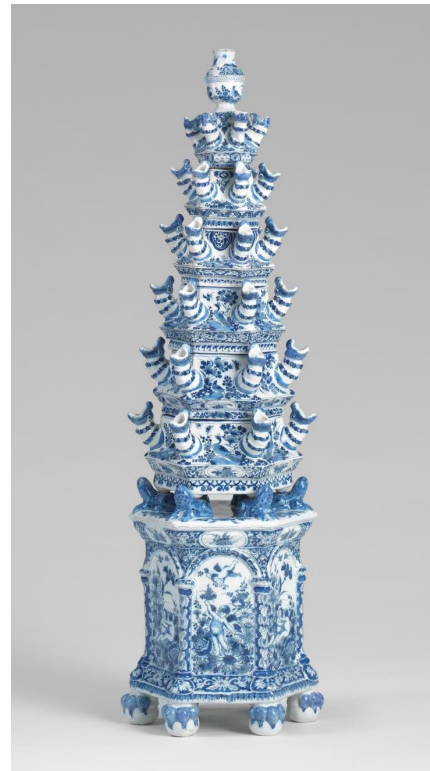


Asian Heritage:



Blue & White • Art Gallery of Greater Victoria • Victoria, CA • <https://aggv.ca/exhibits/blue-white/> • January 30th, 2021 – January 30th, 2022

This exhibit will examine blue and white porcelain art on a global scale, with an emphasis on its birth, development, and current place in culture. Of interest will be understanding comparisons between Asian and Canadian examples of this art, as well as historical and contemporary pieces. Countries of origin on display include China, Japan, the UK, and Canada with dates ranging from the 14th century to present day. This exhibit will use the existing collections of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria to poses these new questions and comparisons, all while celebrating a common Asian heritage and interaction with Canadian culture.





Never Again: The Story of the Japanese American Incarceration • Washington State Historical Society • Tacoma, USA (Virtual) • <https://www.washingtonhistory.org/event/day-of-remembrance/> • May 20th, 2021

Streamed as a virtual play, this exhibit will feature a collection of first-person stories of Americans who were forced into internment camps during World War II. Edited and directed by a descendant of World War II incarceration history, these stories will remember and share a difficult historical moment of the Pacific Northwest Region.