



SKWACHÀYS LODGE
ABORIGINAL HOTEL & GALLERY

*Art washes away from the soul
the dust of everyday life*
Pablo Picasso

Ka'sahlas: Rising Son

June 29- July 28

Opening at 7:00 pm June 29

You are invited to experience a unique pop-up exhibition of well-known and current West Coast contemporary First Nations artists at Skwaychays Lodge Aboriginal Hotel and Gallery. Presenting as a collective, they confidently demonstrate the new and innovative expressions, blends and break outs of traditional west coast native art and form line; to inspire a new movement of history, while honouring the past. With guest speakers



Kwakwee Baker is a freestyle, Contemporary West Coast Multi-Media Artist. Born of Squamish, Kwaguilth, Tlingit/Haida and Celtic heritage, with strong traditional roots from Alert Bay and Kingcome Inlet areas of British Columbia Canada. He incorporates all his world travels and experiences in his artistic cultural representation, with an expansive spiritual flow and visionary dream-like impressions. His upbringing in the Potlatch ceremonies and fortunate mentoring, gave him an early understanding of the complexities of form design, history, meaning and of his rights to family crests. Zee Kwakwee accredits his

father Frank Baker and mother Thais Sewell, and family friend Tom Doucette, for his contemporary foundation and inspiration. Accomplished illustrator, animator, graphic designer and instructor, Kwakwee is inspired with a continuous drive to push the boundaries of new and innovative platforms of the old form line. Kwakwee is inspired with a continuous drive to push the boundaries of new and innovative platforms of the old form line.

Bracken Hanuse Corlett is an interdisciplinary artist hailing from the Wuikinuxv and Klahoose Nations. He began working in the theatre and performance 16 years ago, before transitioning towards a practice that fuses digital-media, audio-visual performance, writing, painting, sculpture and drawing. His work combines traditional Indigenous iconography and history with new media and concepts that exist within cyclical space. He is the co-founder of the Vancouver Indigenous Media Arts Festival and over the last five years he has performed across the country, previously as a member of the audio-visual collective Skookum Sound System and currently in the DJ/VJ duo See Monsters. He is a graduate of the En'owkin Centre of Indigenous Art and went to Emily Carr University of Art and Design for a B.F.A. in Visual Arts. He has also studied Northwest Coast art, carving and design from acclaimed Heiltsuk artists Bradley Hunt and his sons Shawn Hunt and Dean Hunt.



Some of his notable exhibitions, performances and screenings have been at Grunt Gallery, Museum of Anthropology, Unit PITT Projects, Vancouver International Film Festival (Vancouver), Three Walls Gallery (Chicago), Ottawa International Animation Festival, SAW Gallery (Ottawa), Royal BC Museum, Open Space (Victoria), Winnipeg Art Gallery, Urban Shaman (Winnipeg), Sâkêwêwak Artists' Collective, Mackenzie Art Gallery (Regina), Atlantic Film Festival, Tidal Force – Independent Media Arts Alliance (Halifax), Art Mur, Sommets du Cinéma D'animation (Montreal), ImagineNative, Toronto International Film Festival, Music Gallery (Toronto).

Corey Bulpitt, Taakeit Aaya or "Gifted Carver" Haida of the Naikun Raven clan was born in Prince Rupert BC in 1978. He is a great-great grandson of the famed Charles Edenshaw and Louis Collison. Corey graduated from the Langley Fine arts School in 1996. He apprenticed



under Master Carver Christian White for three years in Haida Gwaii. He is a prolific artist working in many mediums. A painter, jeweler, carver and spray paint. Corey has carved many totem poles, including a 20' yellow cedar pole for Scouts Canada, a 17' story pole now at Queen Charlotte Lodge, and a 14' mortuary-style memorial, which stands in the Namgis burial ground, Alert Bay, carved in memory of his Haida ancestors who died during the smallpox epidemic inflicted in 1862 and who made their final rest at Bones Bay.