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Installation view of *Charles Edenshaw* at the Vancouver Art Gallery  
Photo: Rachel Topham, Vancouver Art Gallery

## Vancouver Art Gallery's exhibition *Charles Edenshaw* Travels to the National Gallery of Canada and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection Exhibition at the Vancouver Art Gallery ends February 2, 2014

January 21, 2014, Vancouver, BC – The Vancouver Art Gallery is pleased to announce that the enormously successful *Charles Edenshaw* exhibition will embark on a national tour after it closes on **February 2, 2014**. Featuring 240 extraordinary objects assembled from museums and private collections around the world, this exhibition marks the first major survey of Edenshaw, an iconic figure in Northwest Coast art. The exhibition will be presented at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa from March 7 to May 25, 2014, and at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection in Toronto from June 27 to September 21, 2014.

“We are deeply honoured to tell the story of Charles Edenshaw through this unprecedented exhibition,” said the Gallery’s Director Kathleen S. Bartels. “We are beyond excited to celebrate Edenshaw’s legacy with the rest of Canada through this significant touring partnership.”

The exhibition’s presentation at the Vancouver Art Gallery has been enriched by a series of guided tours with guest speakers, consistently drawing large crowds. Guest speakers have included co-curator and First Nations art specialist Robin K. Wright, artist Robert Davidson, artist James Hart and curator Kwiaahwah Jones. On Saturday February 1st, the last Edenshaw tour at the Vancouver Art Gallery will be led by artist and educator Raymond Boisjoly, who will bring an innovative perspective to Edenshaw’s work as someone deeply interested in current issues of identity and representation.

The exhibition is also accompanied by the first and most comprehensive collection of writing on Edenshaw, co-published by the Vancouver Art Gallery and Black Dog Publishing (London). The first edition of 4000 copies was sold out within two months, making it the most sought-after 2013 exhibition catalogue at the Gallery. In addition, it was named a Favourite Book of 2013 by the *Georgia Straight*.

A crowd-pleasing exhibition, *Charles Edenshaw*’s debut at the Vancouver Art Gallery has welcomed waves of praise:

*“This exhibition rightly shows new Haida art developing as a response to modernity, and it helps situate Charles Edenshaw—some 90 years after his death—not only as a great Haida artisan, but also as a celebrated world artist.”* – Hadani Ditmars, Canadian Art

*“Legendary Haida artist Charles Edenshaw finally gets his due.”* – Shawn Conner, The Vancouver Sun

*“If anyone deserves the recognition that comes with a prominent show at a major Canadian art gallery, surely it is him.”* – Marsha Lederman, The Globe & Mail

*“Edenshaw was unquestionably a virtuoso.”* – Alex Varty, Georgia Straight

*“Many pieces left me jaw dropped speechless and sometimes in tears.”* – Dorothy Grant  
([www.dorothygrant.com](http://www.dorothygrant.com))

*“Charles Edenshaw’s art will touch your heart, soul and intellect.”* – Terri-Lynn Williams-Davidson, on Huffington Post BC.

*Charles Edenshaw* is organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery and curated by Robin K. Wright, Director of the Bill Holm Center for the Study of Northwest Coast Art and Daina Augaitis, Chief Curator/Associate Director with Haida advisors: Robert Davidson and James Hart.

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About the **Vancouver Art Gallery** : The Vancouver Art Gallery is a not-for-profit organization supported by its members, individual donors, corporate funders, foundations, the City of Vancouver, the Province of British Columbia through the BC Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts. We thank everyone for their continuing generosity.

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Images are available upon request.

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