

## **EMILY CARR CHRONOLOGY**

1871	Emily Carr is born on 13 Dec. in the family home on Government St. in Victoria. She is the fifth girl in the family. Elder sisters are Edith, Clara, Elizabeth (Lizzy) and Alice. A brother Richard, is born in 1875.
About 1880	First begins drawing lessons with Emily Woods.
1886	Mother, Emily Saunders Carr, dies after a long battle with tuberculosis.
1888	In June is promoted to high school. In the autumn her father, Richard Carr, dies having retired from business earlier in the year.
1890	In December sailed on the steamer <i>Walla Walla</i> for San Francisco where she attends the California School of Design.
1893	Family finances necessitate her return home to Victoria.
1894-1899	Teaches children's art classes in the cow barn behind the family home. Exhibits pen and ink sketches in Victoria fairs. Becomes a member of a guitar and mandolin club; as a singer is featured in performances at events and fundraising evenings. Enjoys tennis with her sisters and friends on the lawn court adjacent to their house.
1899	Travels to Ucluelet to join her sister Lizzie, stays at a Presbyterian mission. Receives nickname "Klee Wyck" while visiting First Nations villages.
	In August leaves for England, registers at the Westminster School of Art, London. On 5 Sept. her brother, Richard, dies of tuberculosis in a California sanatorium.
1901	In June, Alice arrives in England, together they travel to Devon and Cornwall. Emily enrolls at art school in St. Ives, Cornwall. Studies under Julius Olsson and Algernon Talmage.
1903	Admitted to the East Anglia Sanatorium in Kent, after suffering a breakdown.
1904	Discharged from the Sanatorium, sketching in Bushey, a few miles out of London, by April. Returns to Canada in June. Spends several months in the Cariboo with a childhood friend Edna (Green) Carew-Gibson. Arrives in Victoria in October.
1905	Teaches art classes and is a political cartoonist for <i>The Week</i> , a Victoria newspaper.
1906	Moves to Vancouver to teach at the Vancouver Ladies' Art Club, soon begins to teach children in her own studio. Exhibits.
1907-10	Visits Alaska with sister, Alice and is inspired by an artist who painted the monumental art of the First Nations. Several trips to First Nations villages to record their art and village settings, including Alert Bay, Campbell River, Sechelt and North Vancouver reserves.
1910	In July, with Alice, travels to France. Enrolls at the Académie Colarossi, then studies under John Duncan Fergusson. Becomes ill.
1911	Travels to Sweden with Alice to regain her health. Returns to Paris, meets and is inspired by artist William Phelan "Harry" Gibb and takes classes with him in Crecy-en-Brie and then St. Efflam. Studies in Concarneau with Frances Hodgkins. Two of Carr's paintings are selected and hung at the 1911 Salon d'Automne exhibition in Paris. Returns to Canada.
1912	Moves to Vancouver. In March exhibits 70 of her French watercolours and oils created in the Fauves style. In July travels to Alert Bay and to other Kwak'wala villages; by steamer to Prince Rupert and up the Skeene River to visit First Nation villages, then to Haida

	Gwaii where she is taken to remote and abandoned village sites. She paints the poles and houses remaining, capturing them within their natural landscape settings.
1913	Rents Drummond Hall in Vancouver and mounts a large exhibition of approximately 200 works. Returns to Victoria and begins to build a boarding house on property behind her birthplace. Begins life as a landlord, a period of nearly a decade in which her art production dwindles.
1918	Employed as a cartoonist for the Western Women's Weekly.
1919	Sisters Clara Nicholles (Carr) and then Edith Carr die.
1926	Enrolls in a remote course on short story writing. Marius Barbeau of the National Museum of Canada visits and is shown her work.
1927	Carr included in exhibition at the National Gallery in Ottawa. She meets members of the Group of Seven and Lawren Harris becomes a mentor and friend.
1928	Returns to the First Nations villages on Haida Gwaii and the Skeena and Nass Rivers. Travels also to the Nass River. Meets Seattle artist Mark Tobey who conducts a master class in her studio.
1930	Has solo shows in Ottawa, Victoria and Seattle. Exhibits with the Group of Seven. Travels to Ottawa, Toronto and New York. Meets Georgia O'Keefe.
1931-1934	Local sketching trips. In 1933 purchases caravan "The Elephant" which provides her with shelter on her trips. Enrolls in a summer school course in short story writing.
1936	Sells her apartment house and moves to 316 Beckley St., Victoria. Lizzie Carr dies.
1937	Suffers her first heart attack. While recuperating, begins writing stories about her experiences in First Nations villages.
1937-1938	Has solo shows in Toronto and Vancouver.
1939-1940	Another heart attack forces her to move in with Alice. A stroke follows.
1941	Klee Wyck is published and wins the Governor General's medal for non-fiction.
1942	The Book of Small is published. Takes last sketching trip. Establishes Emily Carr Trust.
1944	The House of All Sorts is published.
1945	2 March dies while resident at St. Mary's Priory (now the James Bay Inn), Victoria

## The following books were published posthumously:

Growing Pains: An Autobiography (1946), The Heart of a Peacock (1953), Pause (1953), Hundred and Thousands: The Journals of an Artist, November 1927 - March 1941 (1966)

-30-

## Media contact:

Royal BC Museum Media Enquiries 250-387-3207 news@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca