

January 16, 2019

Newest adult learning series reveals Royal BC Museum's hidden treasures

VICTORIA, BC—The fun of a field trip, the stimulation of a grad-school seminar, and the thrill of a backstage pass: that's the promise of *Unexplored Highlights*, the Royal BC Museum's newest adult learning series.

The latest addition to the museum's growing complement of adult-focused programming, this exciting four-part series offers exclusive access to hidden treasures and expert staff.

Ranging over four Saturday afternoons in February, the relaxed and intimate series explores the scope and significance of the museum's collections through small-group conversations, dynamic lectures, guided tours and hands-on encounters with rare artifacts. Highlights include:

- **Feb. 2: Behind the Scenes** | As part of a behind-the-scenes tour highlighting the size, age and diversity of the museum collections, vertebrates collection manager Lesley Kennes will discuss BC's endangered Orca population and reflect on the legacy of Southern Resident Orca J32—aka Rhapsody—whose skeleton represents one of the museum's newest and largest specimens.
- **Feb. 9: The Museum in Five Objects** | Curator of Images and Paintings Don Bourdon discusses Emily Carr's famous 1913 work—Tanoo, Q.C.I.—the museum's most loaned and exhibited painting, and just one of the five exceptional objects to be featured from the museum's vast collection this week.
- **Feb. 16: The Time Factor** | During small-group discussions of how the meaning of objects changes over time, Curator of History Dr. Tzu-I Chung will share a large wall piece from the Federal Immigration Detention Hospital, featuring poetry by early Chinese immigrants to Canada that still resonates today.
- **Feb. 23: High and Low—Collecting Throughout the Province** | Museum artifacts are discovered everywhere between sea and sky—witness the rare glass sponge reefs that live deep in the waters of Hecate Strait. Dr. Henry Choong, Curator of Invertebrate Zoology, will discuss this fragile, ancient marine life habitat and share a specimen once thought to have become extinct during the Jurassic period.

The \$150 fee includes all four sessions; tickets for individual sessions will be available if space allows. For more information and tickets, visit:

<https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/learn/adult-programming/talks-discussions-stories/unexplored-highlights-royal-bc-museum>



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About the Royal BC Museum

The Royal BC Museum explores the province's human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Located in Victoria on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations), we are a hub of community connections in BC—onsite, offsite and online—taking pride in our collective histories.

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