

łi'laxwə la" (LOVED ONES)

66 In all ancient cultures, children represent the future of our people—an unbroken line of family and community lineage that connects our people to our First Ancestor. Amongst the Kwakwaka'wakw, children are our sacred treasures—what we call 'dlugwe'—transforming from the Spirit World to the Mortal World, bringing hope and renewed energy, generation after generation since the beginning of time.

The pieces I have selected honor our children. They are works created by men and women, parents, grandparents. They are works that show our people's love for our children and provide a glimpse into the ways we honor our children in our everyday lives and in our ceremonial lives.



Beth Carter

Lou-ann Neel Kwakwaka'wakw

CO-CURATING ARTIST

Lou-ann Neel is a descendant of the Mamalilikulla, Da'nax'daxw, Ma'amtigila, `Namgis and Kwagiulth tribes of the Kwakwaka'wakw (Kwak'wala-speaking people). She carries the names K'iditle'logw, Ika'wega and Ga'axstalas. She has been designing and creating original works for over 30 years—first wood carving and painted designs, later textiles and jewelry design. Her work is influenced by her grandmother, Ellen Neel (Kakasolas), and her great-great-grandfather, Charlie James (Yakuglas), and she considers it a great honor to be able to continue the artistic traditions of her family.