

Chris Paul is a Coast Salish artist whose work we started to collect in 2004. The imagery of two of his drums, *Conservation* and *Swan Drum* was used to print two limited editions of 50 serigraphs that are included in the Salish Weave Collection Box Set I. Works of glass are also part of the collection.

In this newsletter, we introduce Chris and present some of his most recent work exhibited at Alcheringa Gallery of Victoria, BC until September 14. For this exhibition, Chris joined his friend and mentor Mark Preston, a Tlingit artist from the Yukon, whom he met while training in Hazelton, Northern BC.



Born near Victoria, British Columbia in 1969, a member of the Tsartlip nation, Chris was immersed in Coast Salish art as a child. He completed one year of

training at the Gitanmaax School of Northwest Coast Art in 'Ksan and a twoyear apprenticeship under celebrated Tsimshian artist, Roy Henry Vickers.

Chris' artwork often depicts flora and fauna near his home on Vancouver Island and the mythologies of his culture. His designs are rendered as limited edition prints, paintings, carvings, jewelry, glass sculptures and sandblasted cedar panels such as *A New Day Panel* at the right.

In 2007, Chris was commissioned by the Sidney Pier Hotel and Spa. He created three large-scale etched glass panels for the lobby and smaller panels for each of the hotel's 55 rooms. Chris also gained exposure through the hit television series *Grey's Anatomy* in which some of his prints were featured.







A New Day Panel
Sandblasted red cedar, paint
60" x 12" x 1.75"





## **Our Blankets Our Stories**

This collaboration at Alcheringa Gallery (Fort Street, Victoria) between Mark Preston and I weaves a story of our histories and our inspirations together.

As artists, we express in our images the connection we feel to our families, our ancestors, and to the fabric that builds us and holds us together; just as spindle whorl blends with curling wolves and inquisitive ravens, showing patience & unity.

My work is inspired by this inner connection of current and ancient. As artists we weave a story from the threads of our past and the dreams of our future.

This show with Mark, my mentor, and kind, quiet teacher, reflects a deep friendship like a warm blanket wrapped around your shoulders. Tlingit meets Salish.

One thing Mark always taught me was to experiment. This show is where I will take another step into the development of my style with my old friend.

Chris Paul









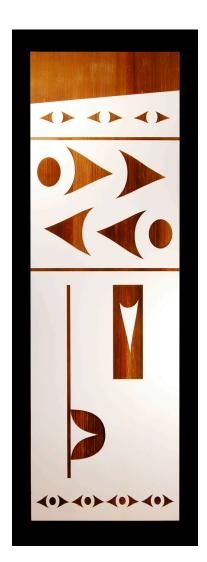


Family Weave
Giclee, Edition of 50, 17.5" x 17"



Elaine Mond, owner of Alcheringa Gallery, has encouraged and supported First Nations artists of the Pacific Northwest Coast for decades, including many Salish artists whose work enriches the Salish Weave collection. Exhibitions such as *Our Blankets*, *Our Stories* are customary at Alcheringa.

The works of art featured herein demonstrate the different ways in which Chris Paul works with red or yellow cedar. The walking stick is also a fine example of Chris' carvings.



For My Friend
Sandblasted red cedar, paint
72" x 22" x 2"



Salmon Run Yellow cedar 46.5" x 7.5" x 7.5"



We Must Come, We Must Go Owl Design Red cedar, yellow cedar, paint 72" x 22" x 2"



Transformation, 2013 Giclee, 8.5" x 16"

Chris is dedicated to teaching his children, and students of the local schools, about the traditions, culture and art form of the Coast Salish people. These are recent works from his son Liam (left) and his daughter Cosiniye (right).



**Beginning**, 2013 Giclee, 10" x 8.5"

In the fall of 2010, Chris was the first Coast Salish artist to participate in the Visiting Artist Program of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Victoria. Teaming with Dr. Andrea Walsh, Chris taught a visual anthropology course titled *The Land is our Culture*. A visit of Chris' studio afforded students a view of his work environment and into the realities of the life of a professional artist.

As part of the program, Chris created *Finding Balance* (at right, courtesy of UVic Photo Services). The inspiration for this large panel of glass, sandblasted red cedar, yellow cedar and steel posts came from a class discussion about the subpopulation of deer and rabbit on campus. "The deer and rabbits represent the abundance of these animals on the University



of Victoria campus. However, the lack of symmetry symbolizes the imbalances in the environment resulting from a lack of predators." *Finding Balance* is on permanent display at the Cornett Building. Learn more about Coast Salish Art at Cornett by visiting <a href="http://uvac.uvic.ca/gallery/cornett/">http://uvac.uvic.ca/gallery/cornett/</a>

See more of Chris' glass works and other works on his website at http://www.chrispaul.ca

Artworks of Chris are also part of the Salish Weave Collection. See them by visiting our virtual gallery after logging in at www.salishweave.com

As always, we welcome and appreciate your comments.