

# MIA

## Museum of Inuit Art

**Dear Subscriber,**

Thank you for subscribing to our monthly e-Newsletter, keeping you up to date on important events and happenings at the Museum of Inuit Art, southern Canada's public museum dedicated exclusively to Inuit Art.

### **Kananginak Pootoogook Vernissage**

March 28th, 2010, marked the official opening/vernissage of the **Kananginak Pootoogook: Celebrating Five Decades of Artistic Achievement** special exhibition at the Museum of Inuit Art. There was a strong turn-out as supporters, members and friends celebrated Kananginak and his artistic career. Jimmy Manning, recently retired as the Manager of the Cape Dorset Print Studio after almost 40 years of involvement, interpreted for Kananginak and his wife Shooyoo, who made a rare trip to the south in honour of Kananginak receiving the **2010 National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the Arts** and having his first solo show in a public institution.

Those giving speeches in honour of Kananginak were Terry Ryan, longtime Arts Advisor to the Kinngait Studios, Director Emeritus of Dorset Fine Arts, and recipient of the 2010 Governor General's Special Award in the Visual Arts for his contribution to Inuit Art; Jimmy Manning; Patricia Feheley, Director of Feheley Fine Arts and Kananginak's Nominator for the National Aboriginal Achievement Award; and Ingo Hessel, MIA's Curator. Kananginak himself spoke eloquently, translated by Jimmy Manning who also gave a touching speech in Inuktitut which in turn was graciously translated by John Houston. The speeches were a moving tribute to Kananginak and his long and accomplished career.

The Museum of Inuit Art thanks all the guests for being part of this special evening.



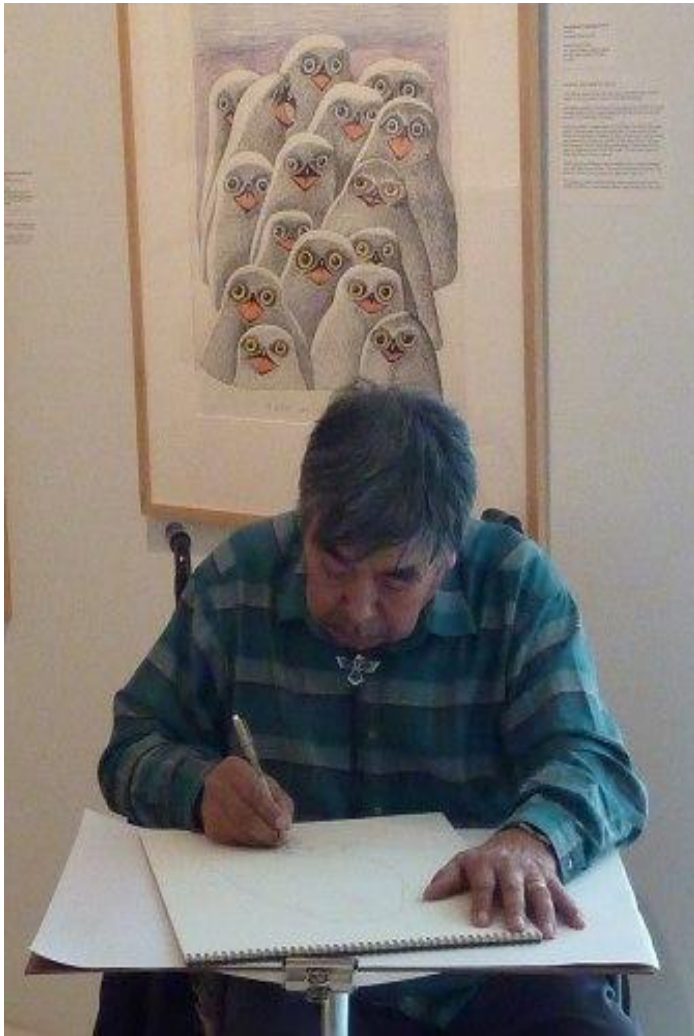
*Left: From left to right, an illustrious group: Shooyoo, wife of Kananginak, Kananginak Pootoogook, Jimmy Manning translating for Terry Ryan to his left and Ingo Hessel, Museum of Inuit Art Curator.*

*Terrence (Terry) Ryan, one of the speakers at the opening and arts advisor and former general manager of the West Baffin Eskimo Co-op since 1960, was originally hired by Kananginak. Three days after the opening, on April 1, 2010, Terry was granted the Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts for his outstanding contribution and key role in Cape Dorset's artistic success.*

Right: Kananginak being interviewed for Rogers TV on Monday March 29, 2010 in front of his solo exhibition, **Kananginak Pootoogook: Celebrating Five Decades of Artistic Achievement** at the Museum of Inuit Art (MIA). From left to right: Ingo Hessel, MIA Curator, Shooyoo, Jimmy Manning translating and Kananginak Pootoogook.



Below: Monday, March 29, 2010: Kananginak Pootoogook drawing an Owl in front of the *Untitled [Owls]* drawing displayed in the special exhibition **Kananginak Pootoogook: Celebrating Five Decades of Artistic Achievement** at the Museum of Inuit Art.



The Museum of Inuit Art gratefully acknowledges the generosity of those whose financial support made the **Kananginak Pootoogook: Celebrating Five Decades of Artistic Achievement** special exhibition and catalogue possible:

#### **Major Sponsors**

The Schreiber Family  
Samuel and Esther Sarick  
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The Museum of Inuit Art also wishes to express sincere appreciation to the lenders of works to the exhibition: Dorset Fine Arts, Toronto; Jamie Cameron and Christopher Bredt; Dr. E. Daniel Albrecht; Feheley Fine Arts, Toronto; Galerie Elca London, Montreal.



## Busy March Break

MIA's Education Program is in full swing! Throughout March Break, our staff and volunteers ran numerous children's activities including the creation of MIA fridge magnets and bookmarks, MIA button-making, sculpting plasticine Inukshuks and arctic animals, museum scavenger hunts of all levels, and more. Be sure to take part in our free weekend activities, held in the Print Gallery activity centre each week.

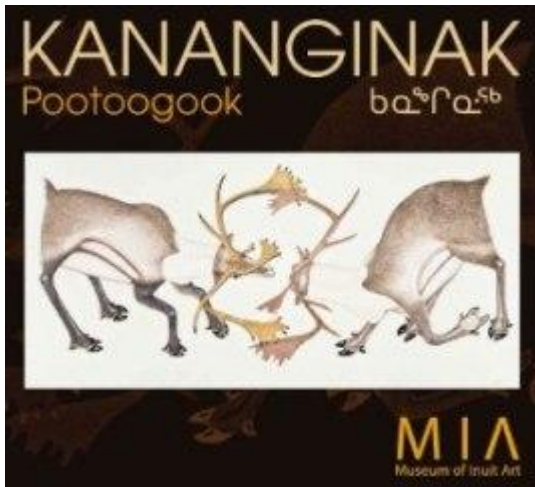
To experience the creativity of our young MIA guests firsthand, check the new **MIA Kids** section on our website for a slideshow of a few of the pieces created over March Break.

[MIA Kids Slideshow](#)

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## What's on in April:

### Kananginak Pootoogook Special Exhibition Catalogue



The catalogue of the special exhibition ***Kananginak Pootoogook: Celebrating Five Decades of Artistic Achievement*** is now for sale at the Museum Front Desk for \$14.95 + tax. The catalogue offers not only a glimpse into the sophisticated art of Kananginak, it also grants the artist the opportunity to explain in his own words his life story, his inspiration, his artistic thought processes, and his perspectives on living "at the crossroads" of cultural change. Included are full colour photographs and details of all the prints – representing five decades – and recent drawings in the exhibition.

Pick up a copy at Front Desk, call 416.640.1571 or email [jschmidt@miamuseum.ca](mailto:jschmidt@miamuseum.ca) for details on purchasing and shipping.

[Kananginak Pootoogook Catalogue](#)

## Current Exhibitions



### **Kananginak Pootoogook: Celebrating Five Decades of Artistic Achievement**

This first solo exhibition of Pootoogook's drawings and prints in a public museum is in celebration of his 2010 National Aboriginal Achievement Award in Arts. A mainstay of Kinngait (Cape Dorset) print collections since 1959, Kananginak is renowned for his wildlife art. No less impressive are his witty visual commentaries on social change in the Arctic. Visit the MIA's newest exhibit, on display until May 31, 2010.

Photo:

#### **Kananginak Pootoogook**

(1935- )

Kinngait (Cape Dorset)

*Two Caribou 2009*

coloured pencil, ink and graphite

48" x 86"

Photo by Dieter Hessel

[Kananginak Pootoogook at MIA](#)

### **Big, Bold, and Beautiful: Large-scale Drawings from Kinngait (Cape Dorset),**

*Big, Bold, and Beautiful: Large-scale Drawings from Kinngait (Cape Dorset)* features various drawing styles and media shown at large-scale. Drawing as an art form blossomed in Kinngait (Cape Dorset) and Qamanittuaq (Baker Lake) in the 1970s, but drawings were not widely exhibited until the 1980s. In the past decade, some younger Kinngait artists have begun pushing the boundaries of Inuit art with their drawings. Many of these artists enjoy working on a larger scale as they explore both traditional and modern themes.

**This exhibition has been extended to April 30th, 2010.**



Photo:

**Tim Pitsiulak**

(born 1967)

Kinngait (Cape Dorset)

*Cranes 2009*

Colored pencil, ink and graphite

48" x 48"

On loan from Dr. E. Daniel Albrecht, Scottsdale, AZ

Photo Courtesy of Dorset Fine Arts

[Big, Bold, and Beautiful at MIA](#)

## **Inuit Dolls from the Esther Sarick Collection**



*Inuit Dolls from the Esther Sarick Collection* presents forty spectacular examples of traditional and contemporary Inuit dolls from across the Canadian Arctic (and one each representing Greenland and Alaska). Created from many different materials, they illustrate a variety of regional clothing styles. The date of the dolls range from the early 20th century to the 1990s.

**This exhibition has been extended to April 30th, 2010.**

Photo:

**Martina Pisuyui Anoe**

(born 1933)

Arviat (Eskimo Point), Nunavut

*Old Tattooed Woman with Walking Stick, c. 1998-99*

Sealskin, seal fur, muskox hair, wood, thread

Collection of Esther Sarick

Photo by Dieter Hessel

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**Thank you** for your ongoing support of the Museum of Inuit Art. Be sure to visit us during the month of April to experience our unique exhibitions and award-winning space.

Regards,

Museum of Inuit Art  
[www.miamuseum.ca](http://www.miamuseum.ca)