

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.

Summer comes to MIA

The last two weekends of May left everyone here at the MIA in no doubt - summer is here! Victoria Day Weekend brought guests from all over the continent, Doors Open attracted countless fellow Torontonians, and the sunshine and warm weather ensured many people were exploring the waterfront, looking for the Queen's Quay Terminal's newest attractions and events. Great news - MIA has exciting new exhibitions, a promotional offer that can't be beat, and of course, summer-long children's programs. Read on for more.



Doors Open a Success

Once again, MIA participated in the City of Toronto's annual Doors Open event this past weekend, where many of the city's buildings of historical and cultural significance are opened to the public. Tours were conducted 4 times per day and were popular with all visitors. The event was a huge success, and an MIA record, drawing over 1200 guests over two days!

With 2010's focus on architecture, the **Inuit Dwellings** exhibition was curated especially for the event. The show features historic photos of dwellings of the past—

igloos and their construction and a tupiq (summer hide tent)—as well as photos of modern day buildings in the Arctic. See Current Exhibitions below for more information on this exhibition.

What's on in June:

Four Remarkable Museums: One Unbeatable Offer

MIA has collaborated with the Gardiner Museum and the Bata Shoe Museum over the past year to bring our guests an amazing 2-for-1 promotional offer. We are happy to add Toronto's Design Exchange to this unique experience. Pay regular admission at the Museum of Inuit Art, and get a special 2-for-1 price at the Bata Shoe Museum, the Gardiner Museum, and now the Design Exchange, Toronto's finest specialty museums. Keep your receipt, and enjoy this offer within 7 days (including day of purchase). For details and links to these great museums, visit the MIA website.

[Special Admission Offers](#)



Public Lecture by Curator Ingo Hessel

MIA's curator, Ingo Hessel, will be giving a lecture on Inuit art and his involvement with MIA at the Toronto Reference Library on Tuesday, June 15th at 2 p.m., 789 Yonge Street. For more information, please contact: Nancy Cole at 416-397-5964 or ncole@torontopubliclibrary.ca

Current Exhibitions

New "Focus on..." Series

The Museum of Inuit Art presents three new "Focus On..." exhibitions. Each exhibition will explore a different material, artist, or theme in Inuit Art.



“Focus On...Birds in Inuit Art”. The most popular subjects in Inuit art, birds are very compelling images for many artists, who depict them in all media. They are frequently shown as participants in transformation and spirit imagery in Inuit sculptures, prints, drawings, and wall hangings.

In Photo: Davidialuk Alasua Amittu, (1910-1976), Puvirnituq (Povungnituk), *Owl Holding a Hare* c. early 1970s, Stone, Private collection.

“Focus On...Caribou Antler Sculpture”. Readily available, caribou antler is strong yet lightweight and can even be bent when heated, so it is versatile as a carving medium for art. Antler is often used in mixed-media works, and it’s branch-like tines make an ideal base for complex scenes. It also inspires many artists to create a variety of animal and spirit images.

In Photo: Harry Semigak (1963-), Nain, *Northern Couple* 2009, Antler, stone and sinew, Private Collection

“Focus On ...Lucy Tasseor Tutsweetok”. Tasseor’s semi-abstract stone carvings depicting her trademark faces and heads are easily recognizable. It is remarkable though, when you seen them a group, how distinct each work is from the next, and how the shape, hardness and features of the stone help to determine the differences in each piece.

In Photo: Lucy Tasseor Tutsweetok (1934-), Arviat (Eskimo Point), *Untitled (Family)* 1987, Stone, Private collection

Inuit Dwellings was curated especially for Doors Open Toronto and its 2010 theme of architecture, using both sculptures and prints. As well, the show features historic photos of dwellings of the past—igloos and their construction and a tupiq (summer hide tent)—as well as photos of modern day buildings in the Arctic.

In Photo: Daniel Weetaluktuk Museum, Inukjuak (Port Harrison) 2008, Photo credit: Ingo Hessel



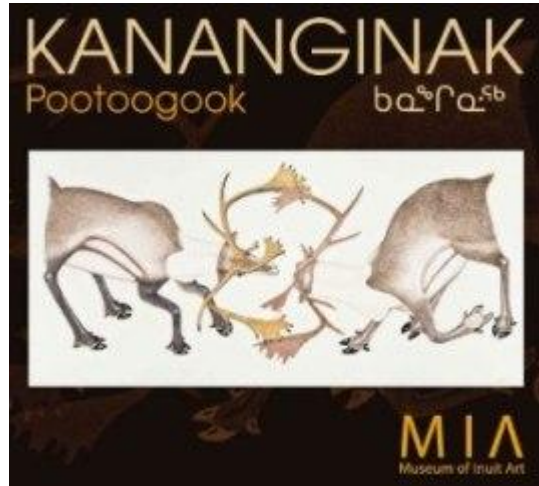
Kananginak Pootoogook: Celebrating Five Decades of Artistic Achievement

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 Kinnigait (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. **This exhibition has been extended to June 30, 2010.**

In 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](#)



Kananginak Pootoogook Special Exhibition Catalogue

The catalogue of the special exhibition ***Kananginak Pootoogook: Celebrating Five Decades of Artistic Achievement*** is for sale at the Museum Front Desk for \$14.95 + tax, with shipping for as low as \$4.00. 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 contact jschmidt@miamuseum.ca for more details on purchasing and shipping.

[Kananginak Pootoogook Catalogue](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Museum of Inuit Art. Be sure to visit us during the month of June to take part in our weekend family activities, held Saturdays and Sundays between 12-5pm.

Regards,

Museum of Inuit Art
www.miamuseum.ca