

## **COLE SPECK**

(B. 1991, Alert Bay, BC; Kwakwaka'wakw)

Cole Speck was raised on the 'Namgis reserve on the island of Alert Bay, BC. Speck comes from a strong cultural and artistic heritage. His great grandfather was the late Chief John Speck of the Tlowitsis, father of the late Henry Speck Sr. Cole is also the great grandson of the late Harry Hanuse of Mamalalaka (Village Island). As an apprentice of the late master carver Beau Dick, Speck continues to promote Kwakwaka'wakw culture through his practice and the knowledge gained from his mentor. He also apprenticed under master carver Wayne Alfred. Speck has a tremendous love and respect for his culture and aspires to keep traditions alive while allowing his contemporary style to emerge. In 2010, Speck assisted in the making of the Pat Alfred Memorial pole, and in 2012, he was selected by Rande Cook to apprentice on a totem pole that was installed in Holland for a special Northwest Coast exhibit. In 2017, Speck contextualized Beau Dick's presentation at *documenta 14* in Athens, GR and Kassel, DE through a re-telling of the Undersea Kingdom story. His work has been included in exhibitions at the Bill Reid Gallery, UBC's Museum of Anthropology, White Columns in New York, and the Frans Hals Museum in the Netherlands. Cole lives and works in Wei Wai Kum, the ancestral territory of his grandmother, now known as Campbell River, BC.

### **Selected Exhibitions**

- 2025** Beau Dick: Insatiable Spirits, Frye Art Museum, Seattle WA
- 2024** Pasa'p, Norberg Hall, Calgary, AB, Curated by LaTiesha Fazakas
- 2023** Cole Speck, Solo Exhibition, Fazakas Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2022** Land Back, Contemporary Native Art Biennial (BACA) - 6th edition, La Guilde, Montréal, QC  
Meymey'em | Ripple, Libby Leshgold Gallery, Vancouver, BC, curated by Dana Claxton
- 2020** Winterfest: An Exhibition of Arts and Crafts, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO  
Chief Henry Speck | Cole Speck, Ceremonial / Art, Vancouver, BC  
Image Power: Institutional Critique Today, Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem, NL  
Independent Art Fair, Fazakas Gallery booth, Spring Studios, New York, NY
- 2019** Early Works II, Tanúyap Project Space, Fazakas Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
Devoured by Consumerism, White Columns, New York, NY; Remail Modern, Saskatoon, SK
- 2018** NADA New York, Fazakas Gallery Booth, Skylight Clarkson, New York, NY
- 2016** Divergent Convergence, Fazakas Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2014** Art Toronto, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, ON  
Inappropriate, Fazakas Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
Claiming Space, Museum of Anthropology, Vancouver, BC
- 2013** Story, Fazakas Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
Rez Erect: Native Erotica, Bill Reid Gallery, Vancouver, BC

### **Talks and Presentations**

- 2017** Performer: Learning from Athens, *documenta 14*, Athens, GR and Kassel, DE

### **Awards**

- 2020** BC Achievement Foundation Fulmer Award in First Nations Art
- 2015** YVR Art Foundation Youth Scholarship