

News of the arts

People of the Cedar

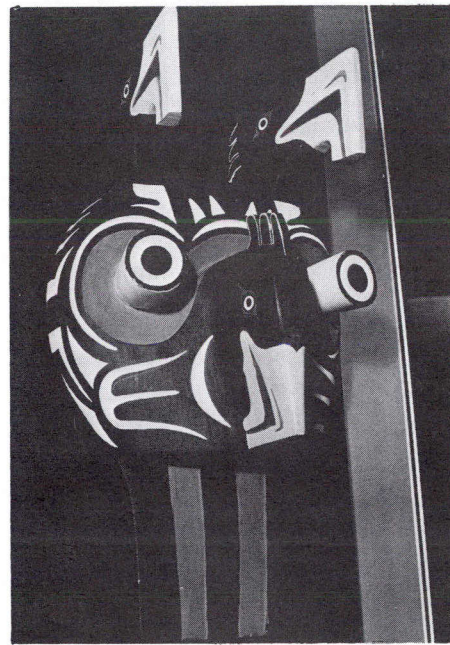
An exhibition mounted by the Department of External Affairs showing the arts of the West Coast native peoples, has been triplicated, with one display on an ongoing tour through France, one on a continuing tour through the United States and a third in Germany, which is destined for Japan in the autumn.

The 45-piece exhibits, which feature contemporary art based on the myths, legends and everyday life of the Pacific West Coast Indians, have been assembled for the Department by Dr. George MacDonald, Director of Archaeological Surveys, National Museums of Canada, in co-operation with the Canadian Indian Marketing Services.

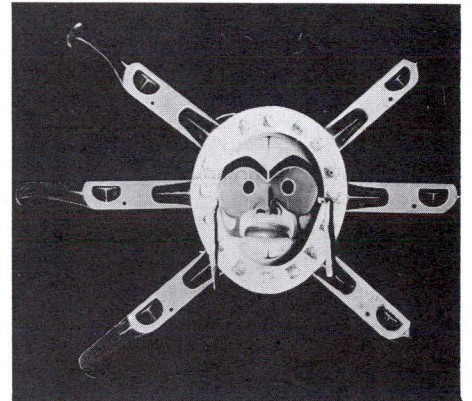
The cedar tree provided the raw material for clothing, housing and the arts of West Coast Indians, and could on occasion even provide a man's personal spirit power as in this representation of the "Yellow Cedar Spirit Helper" as revealed to an Opetchesaht man of Vancouver Island.



Chilkat dance blanket spirit mask



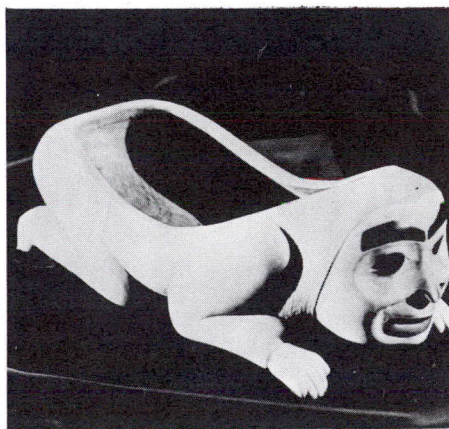
Swaixwe mask



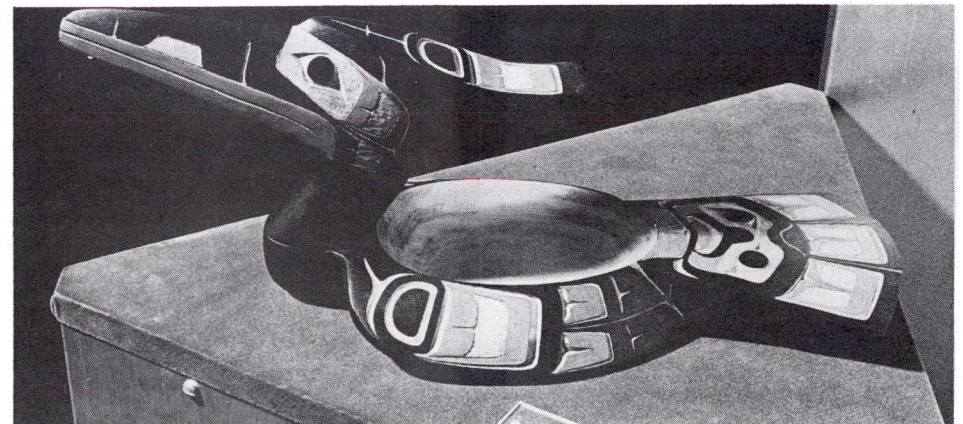
Sun mask



Wolf transformation mask



Human figure feast bowl



Loon feast dish