

research and work, she says she has acquired a much deeper awareness and understanding of her ancestry.

Campbell was encouraged to pursue Indian art in 1972 by artist Dempsey Bob. She enrolled in art classes taught by Bob and apprenticed with him in the early stages of her study of northwest coast Indian art.

In 1976, her eagle design was chosen from among those submitted by numerous artists to be the logo for the Museum of Northern British Columbia located in Prince Rupert. Her work has been displayed in two major art exhibitions, "Art of the Salmon People" and the first "Indian Woman Art Show".

In July 1982, Campbell, along with her brother, Terry and artist Rick Adkins, carved a 30-foot (nine-metre) totem pole which was raised in the traditional manner in front of the carving longhouse adjacent to the Museum of Northern British Columbia. The pole-raising ceremony included dancing by the artists and a feast for the spectators.

A button blanket that Campbell designed and made was one of 21 items selected for a year-long ceremonial button blanket exhibition entitled "Robes of the Totem Pole on Cloth", which opened in May 1985 at the Festival Centre in Adelaide, Australia. In 1986, coinciding with the city's centenary and Expo '86, the exhibition opened in Vancouver.

Campbell has also completed a course in silversmithing, and many of the masks and plaques she has carved have been commissioned by private collectors in Canada, the United States and Japan.

For the Hong Kong totem, known as the "Killer Whale Pole", Campbell has chosen the clan emblem of the Campbell family. The totem features traditional designs, is highlighted with red and black, and is topped with an eagle.

Campbell and her assistant will be joined by a village elder, a drummer, and dancers who will perform the traditional ceremonial rites to dedicate the totem.

Campbell and her assistant will carve the smaller totem at demonstration sites such as Tai Koo Shing, New Town Plaza and in Happy Valley at the Celebrate Canada picnic on June 30. It will feature a traditional northwest coast Indian motif and will be made of yellow cedar. The smaller pole will remain with the Canadian community in Hong Kong following the Festival.

Ross Meder is a freelance writer working and living in Hong Kong



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