



SUQUAMISH MUSEUM

PRESS RELEASE

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Woven: Contemporary Salish Wool Weavings by Danielle Morsette

SUQUAMISH, WA- January 5, 2016 The Year of Salish Wool Weaving at the Suquamish Museum begins with an exhibit proposed by Weaver Danielle Morsette in 2014. Inspired by a Bill and Fran James (Lummi) Blanket she saw as a youth on display at the Suquamish Museum, Morsette learned traditional Coast Salish weaving from Virginia Adams (Suquamish), Marjorie Lawrence (Tulalip), Marcie Baker (Squamish) and others. The Coast Salish tradition, passed down through the generations, uses a loom and tools unchanged in design over many centuries. Learning how to weave remains similar too. The patterns taught through a hands-on mentor relationship begin with a simple over and under style and then progress through learning twill and twine techniques. Morsette, who began weaving a little over a decade ago, produces unique designs incorporating the many possible pattern variations.

Designed to introduce the viewer to Coast Salish Wool Weaving, ***Woven*** presents individual small woven panels of each style. Together they comprise both a journey through time, as design elements changed, and the journey of a student who learns each technique. Alongside the illustrative panels, unique contemporary designed blankets, skirts, shawls, and more by Morsette also demonstrate how a weaver then translates knowledge of traditional styles into their work. Her loom with a work in progress will also be on display to allow the viewer an intimate view of the process in action.

Danielle Morsette (Suquamish) completed her first major commission blanket in 2010. Since then she has exhibited pieces at the Suquamish Museum (2011), the Burke Museum (2013) and at the O'Brian Gallery (University of British Columbia Museum of Anthropology) (2014). She has also received prominent scholarships to pursue her weaving from the YVR Art Foundation (2012) and the Potlatch Foundation (2015).

The Year of Salish Wool Weaving will feature exhibits and programs about the tradition as handed down through the generations by Coast Salish Weavers and how contemporary Weavers express the traditional forms and incorporate the traditional with contemporary interpretations.

For more information on the Suquamish Museum visit www.suquamishmuseum.org

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