

Solo Exhibitions

- 2010 **Sonny Assu**
Equinox Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
- 2009 **iDrums**
Equinox Gallery (Gallery 2), Vancouver, Canada
- 2007 **iPotlatch**
Art Gallery of South Western Manitoba, Brandon, Canada
- 2006 **Sonny Assu: As defined by the Indian Act.**
Belkin Satellite Gallery, Vancouver, Canada

2/3-Person Exhibitions

- 2009 **Pop Goes the World**
The Red Shift Gallery, Saskatoon, SK Canada
- 2005 **Futuristic Regalia.**
Campbell River Art Gallery, Campbell River, BC, Canada
Alternator Gallery, Kelowna BC, Canada
- 2004 **Futuristic Regalia.**
Grunt Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Group Exhibitions

- 2010 **Exhibit E**
Rennie Collection at Wing Sang, Vancouver, Canada
**Challenging Traditions:
Contemporary First Nations Art of the Northwest Coast**
The Reach Gallery Museum, Abbotsford, BC, Canada
The Home Team
Equinox Gallery (Gallery 2), Vancouver, Canada
Alternorthern
The LAB - San Francisco, CA, USA
Endlessly Traversed Landscapes
Public Transit exhibit - Vancouver, Canada
Seattle City Light Portable Works: Part III
Seattle Municipal Tower Gallery - Seattle, WA, USA
- 2009 **Challenging Traditions:
Contemporary First Nations Art of the Northwest Coast**
The McMichael Canadian Art Collection - Kleinburg, Ontario, Canada
Continuum: Vision and Creativity on the Northwest Coast
Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art - Vancouver
Beat Nation: Hip Hop as an Indigenous Culture
Grunt Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
SAW Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
Blue Like an Orange
Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
How Soon Is Now?
Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
- 2008 **Winter Group Exhibit**
Equinox Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
INFLUENCE
Equinox Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
World Histories
Des Moines Art Center. Des Moines, IA, USA
Comic Relief
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, ON, Canada
Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation, 2
Tucson Museum of Art. Tucson, AZ, USA
- 2007 **SAM at 75**
Seattle Art Museum. Seattle, WA, USA
Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation, 2
Anchorage Museum of History & Art, Anchorage, AK, USA
Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, MN, USA
- 2006 **The Altered Image**
Equinox Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Group Exhibitions, cont.

- Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation, 2**
Naples Museum of Art, Naples, FL, USA
Eiteljorg Museum, Indianapolis, IN, USA
Institute of American Indian Arts Museum, Santa Fe, NM, USA
- Past to Present**
Equinox Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- Earth: the World Urban Festival**
Great Northern Way Campus, Vancouver, Canada
90° (Talking Stick Festival)
Roundhouse Community Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2005 **Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation, 2**
Museum of Arts & Design, New York, NY, USA
HIVE: A New Works Group Show
Studio #1 - 901 Main St. Vancouver, BC.
Dem(ouse)graphics
New Perspective Gallery, Passmore, BC.
Evolution (Alumni Exhibition)
Emily Carr University, Vancouver, BC
- 2003 **Thinking Textile**
Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond, BC, Canada
- 2002 **Urban Red Wire. (Talking Stick Festival)**
Round House Community Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Emily Carr Graduation Exhibit
Emily Carr University, Vancouver, BC
- Artist Talks**
- 2010 **Current Body of work**
- University of Lethbridge Visiting Artist Series
- Vancouver Island University Speaker Series
- Capilano University, North Vancouver, BC.
- Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art - Vancouver, Canada
Contemporary Art Society of Vancouver Studio Visit.
Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2009 **The McMichael Canadian Art Collection**
Kleinburg, Ontario, Canada
Art + Identity (Panel discussion)
Hotshots Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
REMIX, Open Education Conference
Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
Pleasure and Doom (Panel discussion)
Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
Current Body of Work
Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
- 2008 **World Histories**
Des Moines Art Center. Des Moines, IA, USA
- 2007 **Contemporary Traditions: The Work of Sonny Assu**
Seattle Art Museum Lecture, Seattle, WA, USA
Current Body of Work
UBC Museum of Anthropology, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Contemporary Art Society of Vancouver Studio Visit.
Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2006 **90° (Talking Stick Festival)**
Round House Community Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2004 **Full Circle (Talking Stick Festival)**
Grunt Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Artist in Residence

- 2010 **Baie St. Paul International Artist Symposium**
Baie St. Paul, Quebec, Canada
The Richmond Art Gallery
Richmond, BC, Canada
- 2009 **The McMichael Canadian Art Collection**
Kleinburg, Ontario, Canada
- 2008 **Des Moines Art Center**
Des Moines Art Center. Des Moines, IA, USA
ArtStarts in Schools
Kitsalano Secondary, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2007 **ArtStarts in Schools**
North Delta Senior Secondary, North Delta, BC, Canada
- 2003 **NEW MEDIA INNOVATION CENTRE**
Vancouver, BC, Canada

Grants and Awards

- 2010 British Columbia Arts Council - Mid-Career Production grant
2009 British Columbia Arts Council - Mid-Career Production grant
2007 Canada Council for the Arts - Production grant
British Columbia Arts Council - Production grant
Emily Carr University - Distinguished alumni award
2005 Canada Council for the Arts - Travel grant
2004 British Columbia Arts Council - Artist production grant
2003 First Peoples' Cultural Foundation
- Production/Development grant
Vancouver Foundation (VADA)
- Production/Development grant

Peer Assessment Juries

- 2010 Canada Council for the Arts. - International Residency jury.
2008 British Columbia Arts Council -Level 1 & 2 Awards jury.
2007 Visual Arts Development Awards (VADA) - Awards jury.
2005 Canada Council for the Arts. - Emerging artist grant jury.
2004 Art Underfoot Selection Panel -City of Vancouver

Permanent Collections

- The City of Richmond - Olympic Oval
Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs
The National Gallery of Canada
Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia
The Seattle Art Museum

Community Services

- 2009 - Current Grunt Gallery - Vice President, Board of directors.
2007 - 09 Grunt Gallery - Board of directors.

Publications + Catalogues

- 2010 *Troubling Tricksters: Revisioning Critical Conversations*
ISBN# 978-1554581818
- 2009 Challenging Traditions ISBN# 978-1-5536-414-8
How Soon IS Now? ISBN# 978-895442-74-8
- 2008 World Histories ISBN# 978-1-879003-53-8
- 2005 Changing Hands:
Art Without Reservation 2 ISBN# 1-890385-11-5
- 2004 Thinking Textile ISBN# 0 - 9692572 - 8 -7
Futuristic Regalia ISBN# 1 - 895329 - 60 - 4
- 2002 Grad Catalogue Emily Carr University

Media (print/tv/radio/web)

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| 2010 | The Vancouver Review | Fall |
| | SAD Mag | Fall |
| 2009 | Pushing the line:
Art without reservations
beckoningforchange.org | Bravo!
Featured artist |
| | The Vancouver Review | Fall |
| | The Vancouver Review | Summer |
| | Socket | CBC Radio One |
| | North by Northwest | CBC Radio One |
| 2008 | Art Papers | Vol. 5, Issue #32 |
| | The Vancouver Sun | Sept. 10th |
| 2007 | Common Ground | August |
| | The Olympian | May 5th |
| | Seattle Post-Intelligencer | May 3rd |
| 2006 | Socket | CBC Radio One |
| | The Vancouver Sun | July 3rd |
| | The Vancouver Sun | June 22nd |
| | The Vancouver Sun | June 17th |
| | The Georgia Straight | March 2th |
| 2005 | The Vancouver Courier | March 6th |
| | The National Post | January 6th |
| 2004 | Colour TV | CityTV |
| | North by Northwest | CBC Radio One |
| 2004 | Westender | February 26th |
| | Richmond News | January 7th |
| 2004 | Art Zone (Season two) | APTN |
| 2003 | The Georgia Straight | December 4th |
| | The Richmond Review | December 4th |
| | North by Northwest | CBC Radio |
| | Red Wire Magazine | Vol. 5 Issue # 3 |
| 2002 | ZeD | CBC TV |
| | Art Zone | APTN |
| | Westender | March 28th. |
| | Red Directions. | Vol. 2 Issue #4 |
| 2001 | North by Northwest | CBC Radio One |

Education

- 2002 **Emily Carr University of Art + Design**
BFA (Visual Art: Print Making, Painting, Digital Arts)
Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 1999 **Kwantlen Polytechnic University**
Transfer credits to Emily Carr
Surrey, BC, Canada

Representation

- Equinox Gallery**
2321 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC, Canada
V6H3G4
604.736.2405
<http://www.equinoxgallery.com/>

Biography

Sonny Assu
(b.1975)

Painter, sculpture/installation and mixed media artist

Regarded as a ' Vanguard' for his piece in the Vancouver Art Gallery's exhibit, *How Soon Is Now?*, Sonny Assu continues to push the boundaries of contemporary art by challenging the perception of Aboriginal art. A multi-disciplinary artist, Assu merges Aboriginal iconography with the aesthetics of popular culture to challenge the social and historical values placed upon both. An exploration of his mixed ancestry, his work appropriates or transforms items of consumer and popular culture to trace the lineage of his own personal life. Interested in ideas around Aboriginal issues, branding and new technologies, he works across many boundaries and disciplines and in doing so, reveals a ravishing oeuvre that speaks to many.

Assu's work has been featured in several group shows over the past years, notably *How Soon is Now?* at the Vancouver Art Gallery, *Comic Relief* at the National Gallery of Canada and *Changing Hands: Art With Reservation Part 2* at the Museum of Arts and Design in New York City. Sonny's first solo exhibit, *Sonny Assu: As Defined Within the Indian Act*, was held at the Belkin Satellite Gallery in Vancouver, in April 2006. It garnered him considerable attention and landed him a partnership with the Equinox Gallery in the fall of 2006. Assu's work has been accepted into the National Gallery of Canada, the Seattle Art Museum, the Museum of Anthropology at UBC and in various other public and private collections across Canada and the United States.

Sonny Assu is Laich-kwil-tach (Kwakwaka'wakw) of the Weka'yi First Nation (Cape Mudge), the artist has lived in Vancouver since 1999. He graduated from the Emily Carr University in 2002 with a major in Printmaking.

To inquire about commissions or sales, please contact
Equinox Gallery,
2321 Granville St., Vancouver, BC.
V6H 3G4,
(t): 604.736.2405
(f): 604.736.0464
info@equinoxgallery.com

Artist Statement

Aiming to shed light on the dark, hidden history that Canada continues to harbour towards it's Aboriginal people; Sonny Assu's work is conceptually and aesthetically designed to challenge the authenticity of Aboriginal art while simultaneously reflecting upon our western civilization's consumption culture.

His work is a richly layered introspection of our consumer driven monolithic society. He infuses his work with wry humour to open the dialogue towards the use of consumerism, branding and technology as totemic representation. Within this, his work deals with the loss of language, loss of cultural resources and the effects colonization upon the indigenous people of North America.