PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

Born: 1904 Female E7-1100
Place of Birth: Nottingham Island
Died: May 28, 1983
Resided: Cape Dorset
Drawings, Prints, Printmaking

Pitseolak was the mother of several Cape Dorset artists, the Ashoonas: Ottochie, Komwartok, Kaka and Kiawak; and Napatchie Pootoogook.

“One of Canada’s best known artists, the Inuit graphic artist known simply as Pitseolak was born on Nottingham Island in Hudson’s Bay. She lived the last twenty-five years of her life in a settlement of Cape Dorset where she became one of the most famous and certainly the most prolific Inuit graphic artist. Pitseolak produced more than 7,000 original drawings in her twenty-four year artistic career.

The subject matter of Pitseolak’s prints and drawings is generally the traditional way of life of the Inuit before the coming of the Whites. Scenes of camp life, fording a river with dogs, or sewing a skin tent remind both the artist and viewer of what life was like for previous generations before the appearance of airplanes, snowmobiles, and satellite dishes. Pitseolak’s narrative drawings serve as a means of recapturing these old ways and making them vivid for younger generations of Inuit.

Janet Catherine Berlo
In “North American Women Artists

Pitseolak was born in 1904 on Nottingham Island in the Hudson Straights, while her family was en route from Sugluk (now Salluit) on the north coast of Arctic Quebec to the south coast of Baffin Island. She spent her childhood in several camps on the south Baffin coast. As a young woman she married Ashoona and she bore 17 children, many of whom died in their infancy. Ashoona died during a epidemic in the Nettling Lake area he was still in his prime, leaving Pitseolak to raise their young family on her own. She settled permanently in Cape Dorset in the early 1960’s.

Pitseolak was among the first in Cape Dorset to begin drawing, and the most prolific. She made close to 9,000 drawings during her 20 years in Cape Dorset. Her prints have appeared in every annual print collection since her work was first published in 1960. Her best and most authentic drawings were of “the old Eskimo ways”, a way of life deeply embedded in her memory.

Pitseolak was been awarded several honours over the years, and her work has been the subject of several projects. In 1971 the National Film Board produced a film based on her book, “Pitseolak: Pictures out of my life”. In 1974 she was elected a member of the Royal Canadian Academy and she received the Order of Canada in 1977.

Pitseolak died in 1983 and is buried behind the Anglican Church in Cape Dorset. She fulfilled her promise to work on her drawings and prints until she was no longer able. Her vast legacy of original work now resides on long term loan at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection where it is being photographed, documented and exhibited.*


EXHIBITIONS:

PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

December 1961
Contemporary Canadian Eskimo Art
Gimpel Fils
London, England
(illustrated catalogue)

January – February 1963
ART ESKIMO
Galerie de France
Paris, France
(illustrated catalogue)

1967
Inoonoot Eskima: Grafik och Skulptur från Cape Dorset och Povungnituk
Konstframjandet
Stockholm Sweden
(catalogue)

1967
The Eskimo Art Collection of the Toronto-Dominion Bank
Toronto-Dominion Bank
Toronto, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

January – February 1967
Cape Dorset – A Decade of Eskimo Prints & Recent Sculpture
National Gallery of Canada, in Cooperation with The Canadian Eskimo Art Committee
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

April – May 1967
Carvings and Prints by the Family of Pitseolak
Robertson Galleries
Ottawa, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)
EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

1970

Graphic Art by the Eskimos of Canada:
First Collection
Cultural Affairs Division, Department of
External Affairs, Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

September – October 1970

The Woodget Collection of Eskimo Art and
Artifacts
Nova Scotia Museum of Fine Art
Halifax, Nova Scotia
(catalogue)

September – October 1970

Canadian Eskimo Arts Festival
Alaska Methodist University Galleries
Anchorage, Alaska, U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)

January – February 1971

Art of the Eskimo
The Simon Fraser Gallery
Burnaby, British Columbia

September – October 1971

Eskimo Carvings and Prints from the Collection
of York University
Art Gallery of York University
Downsview, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)

1973

Canadian Eskimo Lithographs: Third Collection
Presented under the auspices of the
Cultural Affairs Division of the
Department of External Affairs Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

December 1973 – January 1974

Les Eskimos/De Eskimo’s
Studio 44 – Passage 44
Brussels, Belgium
(illustrated catalogue)

December 1973 – January 1974

Eskimo Sculpture (and Drawings)
Waddington Galleries
Montreal, Quebec
(illustrated catalogue)

June – September 1974

Ulu/Inua: Form and Fantasy in Eskimo Art
Casino Gallery, Ravinia Park
Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.
(catalogue)
October – November 1974
Eskimo Art
Queens Museum
Flushing, New York U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)

1975 – 1979
We Lived by Animals/Nous Vivions des Animaux
Department of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development in cooperation
with the Department of External Affairs
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

May 1975
Original Drawings by Nine Cape Dorset Women
Gallery of Fine Canadian Crafts
Kingston, Ontario

October 1975 – December 1977
Inuit Games/Inuit Pinguangit/Jeux des inuit
Department of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated brochure)

December 1975
The Art of Eskimo Women: in Sculpture, Prints,
Wall-hangings
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.

1976 – 1982
Shamans and Sprits: Myths and Medical
Symbolism in Eskimo Art
Canadian Arctic Producers and the
National Museum of Man
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

October - November 1976
Selections from the Toronto-Dominion Collection
of Eskimo Art
National Arts Centre
Ottawa, Ontario

November 1976
Hunters of Old
Inukshuk Galleries Inc.
Waterloo, Ontario

1977
The Contemporary Eskimo Prints and Sculpture
Amon Carter Museum of Western Art
Fort Worth, Texas U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)
EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

January 1977 – June 1982

The Inuit Print/L’estampe inuit
Department of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development and the
National Museum of Man
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

September - October 1977

The Eskimo Woman: her life and dreams in
Prints and sculpture
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.

March – June 1978

The Coming and Going of the Shaman:
Eskimo Shamanism and Art
Winnipeg Art Gallery
Winnipeg, Manitoba
(illustrated catalogue)

August 1978

Inuit Games and Contests: The Clifford E. Lee
Collection of Prints
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
(illustrated catalogue)

November – December 1978

Polar Vision: Canadian Eskimo Graphics
Jerusalem Artists’ House Museum
Jerusalem, Israel
(illustrated catalogue)

1979 – 1981

Cape Dorset Engravings
Department of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(brochure)

March – April 1979

Canadian Eskimo Art: a representative
exhibition from the Collection of Professor and
Mrs. Philip Gray
Fine Arts Gallery, Montana State
University
Bozeman, Montana U.S.A.
(catalogue)

May 1979

Inuit Prints
University of New Brunswick
Long Gallery, St. John Campus
St. John, New Brunswick
(tour)
EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

July 1979 – May 1980

Inuit Art in the 1970’s
Department of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development, and the Agnes
Etherington Art Centre
Kingston, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

July 1979 – October 1981

Images of the Inuit: from the Simon Fraser
Collection
Simon Fraser Gallery
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, British Columbia
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

November 1979 – October 1984

Shaman and Spirits: Myths and Medical
Symbolism in Eskimo Art
Arts and Learning Services Foundation
(this is a duplicate of the C.A.P. and
National Museum of Man exhibition of
Minneapolis, Minnesota U.S.A.
(tour)

March – April 1980

The Dorset Group of Four –
Drawings and Prints by Kenojuak, Lucy, Parr
and Pitseolak
Canadiana Galleries
Edmonton, Alberta

April – May 1980

The Klamer Family Collection of Inuit Art
from the Art Gallery of Ontario
University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)

July – August 1980

Inuit Graphics from the Collection of the
Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
Musee des beaux-arts de Montreal
Montreal, Quebec

August – September 1980

Members of the
Canadian National Exhibition

August – October 1980

The Inuit Amautik: I Like May Hood To Be Full
Winnipeg Art Gallery
Winnepeg, Manitoba
(illustrated catalogue)
EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

September – October 1980
La deesse inuite de la mer/The Inuit Sea Goddess
Musee des beaux-arts de Montreal
Montreal, Quebec
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

1981 – 1983
The Movable Feast
Arts and Leaning Services Foundation
Minneapolis, Minnesota U.S.A.
(tour)

February – March 1981
Returns to Origins
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.

April – May 1981
Festival of Birds
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.

April 1981 – March 1982
Inuit Art: A Selection of Inuit Art from the Collection of the National Museum of Man, Ottawa and the Rothmans Permanent Collection of Inuit Sculpture, Canada
National Museum of Man, Ottawa and Rothmans of Pall Mall Canada Ltd.
Toronto, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

June 1981
Transformation
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.
(illustrated brochure)

July - August 1981
Eskimo Games: Graphics and Sculpture/Giùochi Eschimesi: grafiche e sculture
National Gallery of Modern Art
Rome, Italy
(illustrated catalogue)

September 1981
The Year of the Bear
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.

September - October 1981
The Jacqui and Morris Shumiatcher Collection of Inuit Art
Norman Mackenzie Art Gallery
University of Regina
Regina, Saskatchewan
(illustrated catalogue)
October 1981 – January 1983
Cape Dorset Engravings
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, circulated by the Art Gallery of Ontario
Toronto, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

October 1981 – February 1983
The Murray and Marguerite Vaughan Inuit Print Collection
Beaverbrook Art Gallery
Fredericton, New Brunswick
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

April 1982
Cape Dorset Drawings
Godard Editions
Calgary, Alberta

June 1982
Return to Origins II
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.

June – October 1982
Inuit Art from the Art Centre Collection
Macdonald Stewart Art Centre
Guelph, Ontario

December 1982 – January 1983
Noel au Chateau – Art inuit de la collection
Macdonald Stewart Art Centre
Guelph, Ontario
Presented at Chateau Dufresne
Montreal, Quebec

February – March 1983
Return of the Birds
Inuit Gallery of Vancouver
Vancouver, British Columbia
(illustrated catalogue)

May 1983 – April 1985
Grasp Tight the Old Ways: Selections from the Klamer Family Collection of Inuit Art
Art Gallery of Ontario
Toronto, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

September 1983
The Way We Were – Traditional Eskimo Life
Snow Goose Associates
Seattle, Washington U.S.A.

EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

September – October 1983
Inuit Survival
Enook Galleries, Waterloo, Ontario
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

Presented at the University of Waterloo
Art Gallery
Waterloo, Ontario

October – November 1983
The Cape Dorset Print
Presented at Rideau Hall by Indian and
Northern Affairs Canada
Ottawa, Ontario

October – December 1983
Inuit Masterworks: Selections from the
Collection of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
McMichael Canadian Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario

November 1983 – January 1984
Inuit Art at Rideau Hall
Presented by Indian Affairs and
Northern Development
Ottawa, Ontario

November 1983 – March 1985
Contemporary Indian and Inuit Art of Canada
Department of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development, Ottawa,
Presented at the General Assembly
Building, United Nations
New York City, New York U.S.A.
(tour)
(illustrated brochure)

February 1984 – June 1986
Arctic Vision: Art of the Canadian Inuit
Department of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development and Canadian
Arctic Producers
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

March – June 1984
The Oral Tradition
National Museum of Man
Ottawa, Ontario

June 1984
Demons and Spirits and those who wrestled
with them
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.

June – August 1984
Cape Dorset Prints: Twenty-five Years
National Gallery of Canada
Ottawa, Ontario

September – October 1984
On the Land
The Arctic Circle
Los Angeles, California U.S.A.

EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

November 1984 – February 1985
Stones, Bones, Cloth and Paper:
Inuit Art in Edmonton Collections
Edmonton Art Gallery
Edmonton, Alberta
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

December 1984 – February 1985
The Last and First Eskimos
Museum of Science and History
Fort Worth, Texas U.S.A.

1986
Hunting in the Arctic
Alberta Provincial Museum and Archives
Edmonton, Alberta

May – June 1986
The Spirit of the Land
The Koffler Gallery
Toronto, Ontario
(illustrated brochure)

May – July 1986
Cape Dorset Through the Years: Twenty-five Years of Graphics and Sculpture
Arctic Artistry
Scarsdale, New York U.S.A.

May – September 1986
From Drawing to Print: Perceptions and Process In Cape Dorset Art
Glenbow Museum
Calgary, Alberta
(illustrated catalogue)

June 1986
New Beginnings: a celebration of Native Expression at the first Native Business Summit
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
Toronto, Ontario

July – September 1986
Contemporary Inuit Art
National Gallery of Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
(illustrated brochure)

November 1986
Inuit Graphics Through the Year: Rare Prints from the Arctic
Arctic Artistry
Scarsdale, New York U.S.A.

January – February 1987
The Matriarchs: Jessie Oonark, Helen Kalvak, Pitseolak Ashoona
Snow Goose Associates
Seattle, Washington U.S.A.

May – June 1987
Inuit Graphics from the Past
Arctic Artistry
Scarsdale, New York U.S.A.

EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

November 1987
Arctic Artistry
Hartsdale, New York U.S.A.

November 1987 – January 1988
Inuitkonst från Kanada – sculptor och grafik
Millesgarden
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

Lidingo, Sweden
(Illustrated catalogue)

December 1987 – March 1989
Contemporary Inuit Drawings
Macdonald Stewart Art Centre
Guelph, Ontario
(tour)
(Illustrated catalogue)

March – April 1988
A Collector’s Feast
Snow Goose Associates
Seattle, Washington U.S.A.

April 1988
Inuit Images in Transition
Augusta Savage Gallery
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Massachusetts U.S.A.
(Illustrated catalogue)

November – December 1988
Inuit Women and their Art: Graphics and Wallhangings
Gallery 210
University of Missouri
St. Louis, Missouri U.S.A.
(Illustrated brochure)

December 1988 – 1989
Im Schatten der Sonne: Zeitgenossische Kunst
Der Indianer und Eskimos in Kanada/In the Shadow of the Sun: Contemporary Indian and Inuit Art in Canada
Canadian Museum of Civilization
Hull, Quebec
(tour)
(Illustrated catalogue)

January – April 1989
Cape Dorset Printmaking 1959 – 1989
McMichael Canadian Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario

February – March 1989
Inuit Drawings
Inuit Gallery of Vancouver
Vancouver, British Columbia
February – April 1989          Spoken in Stone: an exhibition of Inuit Art
                                Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies
                                Banff, Alberta
                                (tour)
                                (illustrate brochure)

April – August 1989          Cape Dorset Sculptures and Engravings
                                McMichael Canadian Art Collection
                                Kleinburg, Ontario

May 1989          Birds: Sculpture from Cape Dorset and Rock
                                Ptarmigan Limited Edition Print by Kananginak
                                The Guild Shop
                                Toronto, Ontario

May – June 1989          Cape Dorset Engravings, A Retrospective
                                The Inuit Gallery of Eskimo Art
                                Toronto, Ontario

June – July 1989          Drawings of the 1960’s from Cape Dorset
                                Feheley Fine Arts in association with
                                Gimpel Fils, London, England
                                Toronto, Ontario

June – July 1989          A New Day Dawning: Early Cape Dorset Prints
                                University of Michigan
                                Ann Arbor, Michigan U.S.A.
                                (illustrate catalogue)

July – September 1989       Mother and Child: Selections from the Inuit
                                Collection of the Art Gallery of Ontario
                                Art Gallery of Ontario
                                Toronto, Ontario

August – October 1989       Inuit Graphic Art from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
                                Winnipeg Art Gallery
                                Winnipeg, Manitoba

August – October 1989       Dorset: dessins originaux/original drawings
                                Canadian Guild of Crafts Quebec
                                Montreal, Quebec

1990                  Inuit Art from the Glenbow Collection
                                Glenbow Museum
                                Calgary, Alberta

January – September 1990    Arctic Mirror
                                Canadian Museum of Civilization
                                Hull, Quebec

February – March 1990       Inuit Drawings
                                Inuit Gallery of Vancouver
                                Vancouver, British Columbia
                                (illustrated catalogue)

EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)
June – July 1990  Small Sculptures from across the Canadian Arctic
              Feheley Fine Arts
              Toronto, Ontario

              Arctic Gallery
              Hastings-on-Hudson, New York U.S.A.

November 1990 – February 1991  Espaces Inuit
              Maison Hamel-Bruneau
              Ste-Foy, Quebec
              (illustrate catalogue)

January 1991  Sojourns to Nunavut: Contemporary Inuit Art from Canada
              at Bunkamura Art Gallery, presented by the University of British Columbia
              Museum of Anthropology and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection
              Tokyo, Japan
              (tour)
              (illustrated catalogue)

May 1991  Inuit Music in Art: Singing and Dancing and Playing
              Feheley Fine Arts
              Toronto, Ontario

November – December 1991  Cape Dorset, First Generation Printers:
              Engravings 1962 – 1963
              Albers Gallery
              San Francisco, California U.S.A.
              (illustrated brochure)

November – December 1991  Art Inuit: Autour de la Collection de Cape Dorset
              1991
              Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau,
              Douai at Le Columbier
              Ville D’Avray, France

December 1991 - March 1992  In Cape Dorset We Do It This Way:
              Three Decades of Inuit Printmaking
              McMichael Canadian Art Collection
              Kleinburg, Ontario
              (illustrated catalogue)

February – April 1992  Art Inuit
              Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau,
              Douai at Galerie Montador
              Dieppe, France

EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

February – September 1992  Inuit Art:
              Drawings and Recent Sculptures
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

April 1992
Arctic Stories by Pitseolak Ashoona:
Graphics from 1962 – 1980
Arctic Artistry
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York U.S.A.

November – December 1992
Original Drawings from Cape Dorset
by Lucy, Pitseolak, Kingmeata
Albers Gallery
San Francisco, California U.S.A.

June – July 1993
PRINT EXHIBITION
Pitaloosie Siala, Pitseolak Ashoona,
Pudlo Pudlat
Gallery Indigena
Waterloo, Ontario

Contemporary Inuit Drawings
Muscarelle Museum of Art
College of William and Mary
Williamsburg, Virginia U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)

March – August 1994
Kunst aus der Arktis
Volkerkundmuseum der Universitat
Zurich, Switzerland
(illustrated catalogue)

May – June 1994
Cape Dorset Revisited – a collection of
Previously unreleased prints, exhibited at
Selected commercial galleries, organized by
West Baffin Eskimo Co-op
Cape Dorset, Northwest Territories

May – August 1994
Selections from the Herb and Cece Schreiber
Collection
Art Gallery of Hamilton
Hamilton, Ontario

May 1994 – July 1995
Cape Dorset Revisited
McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)

July 1994
Arctic Spirit
35 Years of Canadian Inuit Art
Frye Art Museum
Seattle, Washington U.S.A.

EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

September – October 1994
Kunst van de Inuit Eskimo’s
Gemeentelijk Kunstcentrum
Huis Hellemans
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

October 1994 – September 1995
Isumavut: The Artistic Expression of Nine Cape Dorset Women
Canadian Museum of Civilization
Hull, Quebec
(illustrated catalogue)

March – July 1995
Immaginario Inuit
Arte e cultura degli esquimesi canadesi
Galleria d’Arte Moderna e Contemporanea
Verona, Italy
(illustrated catalogue)

April – June 1995
Exhibition of Inuit Art
Harbourfront Centre
Organized by the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, Guelph
Toronto, Ontario

June 1995
Cape Dorset Engravings and Etchings from the Sixties
Arctic Artistry
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York U.S.A.

June 1995 – February 1996
Inuit Woman: Life and Legend in Art
Winnipeg Art Gallery
Winnipeg, Manitoba
(tour)
(illustrated brochure)

Qiviuq: A Legend in Art
Carleton University Art Gallery
Ottawa, Ontario

December 1995 – March 1996
Imaak Takujavut: Paintings from Cape Dorset
McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario

March – April 1996
Works on Paper from the Permanent Collection of Inuit Art
Canadian Guild of Craft Quebec
Montreal, Quebec

March – April 1996
Vintage Cape Dorset Prints (1960 – 1978)
Upstairs Gallery
Winnipeg, Manitoba

EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

March – June 1996
Imaak Takujavut: The way we see it
Paintings from Cape Dorset
McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)
May – June 1996
Exhibition of Inuit Art
organised by
Glenhurst Art Gallery
the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, Guelph
Brantford, Ontario

May – October 1996
Elagiiqniq/Family
Macdonald Stewart Art Centre
Guelph, Ontario
(tour)

June 1996
Summer Migration: Drawings from the Late 1960’s by Pitseolak Ashoona
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)

April – May 1997
Inuit Prints and Drawings 1961 – 1990
Canadian Guild of Crafts Quebec
Montreal, Quebec

May – October 1999
Three Women, Three Generations: Drawings by Pitseolak Ashoona, Napatchie Pootoogook and Shuvenai Ashoona
McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)

October – November 1999
Pitseolak Ashoona: Facing Dorset
Exhibition by John Reeves (photographer)
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario
(illustrated brochure)

June – September 2000
Arctic Spirit – Canadian Inuit Sculpture
Boise State University
Boise, Idaho, U.S.A.

February – March 2000
Drawings from Cape Dorse
Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)

June
Cross-Currents
Cape Dorset in the 1960’s
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario

EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

January – February 2002
Cape Dorset Prints: 1961 – 1976
Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California U.S.A.

April
Art by Women:
An investigation of Inuit Sculpture and Graphics
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

April
Cape Dorset: First Generation Printmakers
Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)

January 2003
Then and Now: Inuit Prints from 1962 – 2002
Inuit Gallery of Vancouver Ltd.
Vancouver, British Columbia
(illustrated brochure)

April
Women of the Ashoona Family: Inuit Print Retrospective
The Guild Shop
Toronto, Ontario

April – May 2003
Classic Prints from Cape Dorset: 1960 – 1972
Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California U.S.A.
(illustrated brochure)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

1971
Pitseolak – Print Retrospective 1962 – 1970
Canadian Guild of Crafts Quebec
Montreal, Quebec

September – October 1971
Pitseolak Drawings
The Inuit Gallery of Eskimo Art
Toronto, Ontario

1975 – 1977
Pitseolak
Department of Indian and Northern Affairs in cooperation with the Baffin Eskimo Cooperative,
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)
(illustrated catalogue)

February 1975
Drawings by Pitseolak
The Inuit Gallery of Eskimo Art
Toronto, Ontario

SOLO EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

November 1982
Pitseolak: Original Drawings
Houston North Gallery, Lunenburg
In cooperation with the Canadian Book Information Centre
Halifax, Nova Scotia
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

November 1986
Ring House Gallery
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta

December 1991
Spirit of my People
Alaska Gallery of New York
New York City, New York U.S.A.

November 1996 – April 1997
Pitseolak Ashoona: Joys of Life and Art
National Gallery of Canada
Ottawa, Ontario

COLLECTIONS:

Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario
Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.
Anchorage Museum of History and Art, Anchorage, Alaska, U.S.A.
Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia
Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario
Art Gallery of York University, Downview, Ontario
Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton, New Brunswick
CIBC Collection, Toronto, Ontario
Canadian Council Art Bank, Ottawa, Ontario
Canadian Guild of Crafts Quebec, Montreal, Quebec
Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Quebec
Clifford E. Lee Collection, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
Cultural Affairs Division, Department of External Affairs Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
Dennos Museum Center, Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, Michigan U.S.A.
Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta
Fitzgerald Collection, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Banff, Alberta
Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta
Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown University, Bristol, Rhode Island U.S.A.
Inuit Cultural Institute, Rankin Inlet, Northwest Territories
Kitchener-Waterloo art Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario
Klamer Family Collection, Art Gallery of Ontario, Sudbury, Ontario
Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre, Sudbury, Ontario
London Regional Art Gallery, London, Ontario
Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, Guelph, Ontario
Macmillan-Bloedel Limited, Vancouver, British Columbia
McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Ontario
Mendel Art Gallery, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Musee d’arte Inuit Brousseau, Quebec City, Quebec
Musee des beaux-arts de Montreal, Montreal, Quebec
Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia
Museum of Modern Art, New York City, New York U.S.A.
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario
Simon Fraser Gallery, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Northwest Territories
Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Massachusetts U.S.A.
Tom Thomson Memorial Gallery and Museum of Fine Art, Owen Sound, Ontario
Toronto-Dominion Bank Collection, Toronto, Ontario
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta
University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick
HONOURS, ACHIEVEMENTS and EVENTS:

Mintmark Press Special Editions, Toronto. Pitseolak is one of several artists whose reproductions Whose reproductions are presented in folios by Mintmark Press.

1960 Glenbow Foundation Commision, Calgary. The artist’s print “Eskimos Tossing a Boy” was commissioned by the Glenbow Foundation.


1971 Travelled to Montreal to attend the opening of a solo exhibition of her work at the Canadian Guild of Crafts Quebec.

1974 Elected a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

1975 Received a Canada Council Senior Arts Grant.

1975 Two films about Pitseolak and her work were produced by the International Cinemedia Centre Ltd. “The Way We Live Today” and “Spirits and Monsters”.

1976 A retrospective exhibition of drawings organized by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development was accepted by the Smithsonian Institute in Washington as part of Canada’s contribution to the United States Bicentennial celebrations.

1977 Received Canada’s highest civilian honour, The Order of Canada, in recognition of her contribution to Canadian art.

1979 Pitseolak was among ten Canadian artists commissioned by Gallery Moose in Toronto to produce a print for a special portfolio in honour of the Gallery’s twentieth anniversary. Entitled, “Animals of Our Land”, this work is documented in the Cape Dorset Graphic annual catalogue of 1979.

1980 “Etching Portfolio II. Pitseolak was one of six artists who assembled a special portfolio of prints which is documented in the Cape Dorset Graphic annual catalogue of 1980.

1983 Pitseolak was one of several artists commissioned by the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in collaboration with Merritt Editions to create an original print for the portfolio, “Idea of the North”. The print entitled, “Frightened Goslings” is documented in the Cape Dorset Graphic annual catalogue of 1983.

HONOURS, ACHIEVEMENTS and EVENTS: (Continued)

1984 Pitseolak Lithographs Folio. Pitseolak Stonecut/Stencil Folio 1984. The artist produced a special folio of lithographs and a folio of stonecut/stencils which are both documented in the Cape Dorset Graphic annual catalogue of 1984.

1989 A folio of prints by Pitseolak was released by Aux Multiples entitled, “Pitseolak Ashoona 1904 – 1983”.

1993 A postage stamp featuring a portrait of Pitseolak was included in a series honouring Canadian women that was issued on International Women’s Day.
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

SELECTED REFERENCES:


L'ART DES ESQUIMAUX DU CANADA: "vivre et voir le grand jour qui point". Canada d'Aujourd'hui, no. 7, April 1969, pp. 3, 11.


Alaska Methodist University Galleries

Arctic Circle
RETURN TO ORIGINS III. Los Angeles: The Arctic Circle, 1983.

Armour, Drew
THE BLIND MAN THE LOON. The Beaver, Summer 8:12, 1984.

Berlo, Janet Catherine

Berlo, Janet Catherine

Blakeman, Evelyn
STONES, BONES, CLOTH AND PAPER: INUIT ART IN EDMONTON COLLECTIONS. Edmonton, Alberta: Inuit Art Enthusiasts Newsletter, December 1-3, 1984

Blodgett, Jean

Blodgett, Jean

Blodgett, Jean

Canada. Department of External Affairs

Canada. Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA


Canadian Arctic Producers

Cochran, Bente Roed

Cochran, Bente Roed

Collinson, Helen

Driscoll, Bernadette

Eber, Dorothy Harley

Eber, Dorothy Harley

Eber, Dorothy Harley

Eber, Dorothy Harley

Eber, Dorothy Harley

SELECTED REFERENCES: (Continued)

Five College Canadian Studies Program
PERSPECTIVES ON INUIT CULTURE: A Five College Symposium and Art Exhibit, April 4-14, 1988. Proceedings and Catalogue/Edited by Joel M. Halpern [et. al.]. Amherst, Massachusetts: Published jointly by Five College Canadian Studies Program and the University of Massachusetts Department of Anthropology, 1988.

Gagnon, Louis

Gillmor, Allison

Goetz, Helga
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

AN ESKIMO LIFETIME IN PICTURES = EIN ESKIMO-LEBEN IN BILDERN. = UNE VIE D’ESQUIMAU EN IMAGES. Graphis, Vol. 27, No. 157, 1972, pp. 506-512.

Gustavison, Susan J.

Hale, Barrie

Halvarson, Milton
PITSEOLAK, Edmonton, Alberta.: Inuit Art Enthusiasts Newsletter, September 7-9, 1983.

Hassler, Gitta

Houston, James A.

Houston, James A.

Inuit Galerie

Inuit Gallery of Vancouver

Jackson, Marion E.

Jackson, Marion E.
INUIT PRINTS: Impressions of a Culture in Transition. LSA 9 (1) :6-12, Fall (The University of Michigan), 1985.

Jackson, Marion E.

SELECTED REFERENCES: (Continued)

Kahn, Charles and Maureen Kahn

LaBarge, Dorothy

Lalonde, Christine

Leroux, Odette et alia
PITSEOLAK ASHOONA

Lipton, Barbara

Mills, James
TWO ESKIMO ART EXHIBITS A RARE OCCURRENCE. Denver Post, February 8, 1976.

Muscarelle Museum of Art (Williamsburg)

National Film Board of Canada
PICTUES OUT OF MY LIFE: THE DRAWINGS AND RECOLLECTIONS OF PITSEOLAK. A production of the National Film Board in collaboration with the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs: produced by Zina Heczko, 1973.

National Gallery of Canada

National Museum of Man

Norman Mackenzie Art Gallery

Opperman, Hal

Pioneer Woman – Na’amat Organization of Canada

Reeves, John

SELECTED REFERENCES: (Continued)

Richards, Jean

Robertson Galleries

Simon Fraser Gallery

Souchette, Sandra

Swinton, Nelda
Townsend-Gault, Charlotte
NEW ART FROM SPIRIT WORLD OF THE ESKIMO. Vancouver Sun, October 24, 1969.

Van Raalte, Sharon

Vastokas, Joan M.

Verona. Galleria d’Arte Moderna e Contemporanea
IMMAGINARIO INUIT: ARTE E CULTURA DEGLI ESQUIMESICANADESI. Commune di Verona: Galleria d’Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Palazzo Forti, Italy. 1995

West Baffin Eskimo Cooperative

Westra, Monique

Yanef Gallery

*************
An exhibition, in the most general sense, is an organized presentation and display of a selection of items. In practice, exhibitions usually occur within museums, galleries and exhibition halls, and World's fairs. Exhibitions can include many things such as art in both major museums and smaller galleries, interpretive exhibitions, natural history museums and history museums, and also varieties such as more commercially focused exhibitions and trade fairs. Exhibition definition:

1. an event at which objects such as paintings are shown to the public, a situation in which someone shows a particular skill or quality to the public, or the act of showing these things: 2. a collection of things shown publicly: 3. an occasion when objects are shown to the public.

Learn more.