Fact Sheet
Art & Architecture at YVR

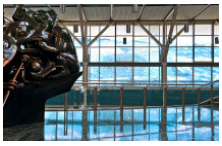
For many visitors, Vancouver International Airport (YVR) provides the first and last impression of British Columbia with art and architecture reflective of the province's diverse landscape and people. YVR currently houses the largest collection of Northwest Coast Native art in the world. With its own curator, Vancouver Airport Authority has transformed YVR into more than just an airport.

Highlights in the art collection include:

- **The Spirit of Haida Gwaii: The Jade Canoe**, by Bill Reid, International Terminal, Level 3

As the focal point of YVR's art collection, *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii: The Jade Canoe* can also be spotted on the back of the Canadian $20 bill.

- **The Great Wave Wall,** by Lutz Haufschild, International Terminal, Departures Level 3



Made up of thousands of glass pieces representating the ocean, the 40-metre by 10-metre wall forms a dramatic backdrop for the *Spirit of the Haida Gwaii: The Jade Canoe*.

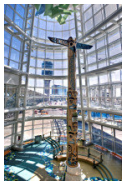
- **Flight Spindle Whorl,** by Susan Point, International Terminal, Arrivals Level 3 (after security)

Five metres in diameter and 30 centimetres thick, the world's largest Coast Salish Spindle Whorl welcomes passengers as they enter the Customs Hall.

- **Clayoquot Welcome Figures**, by Joe David, International Terminal, Arrivals Level 2

Carved in the Clayoquot tradition, figures like these were temporarily positioned on the beach in front of villages, with arms raised, to welcome guests to special events. These figures stand 3 metres tall and provide a dramatic welcome to arriving passengers.

- **Celebration of Life,** by Don Yeoman, Link Building Atrium, Departures Level 3



The totem pole was created as a tribute to humans - the only creatures not naturally gifted with the ability to fly but who have learned to do so. Along with important Haida mythology symbols, other Western and Eastern cultures are included on the totem pole to welcome travellers and to recognize the multicultural meeting place that is YVR.

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Highlights of architectural features:

- **Pacific Passage**, International Terminal, Arrivals Level 4 (after security)

Passengers arriving internationally enter a traditionally constructed post and beam longhouse doorway, into a Northwest Coast world, complete with a sandy beach, a 12-metre carved whaling canoe and a spectacular thunderbird sculpture soaring overhead.

- **Aquarium and Creek**, International Terminal, Departures Level 3 (after security)

An indoor creek surrounded by cafes, shopping, comfortable seating and original artwork is at the heart if the International Terminal. A large, 114,000-litre aquarium showcasing 850 indigenous sea animals serves as its centerpiece, celebrating the nature of the West Coast.

- **Link Atrium**, Link Building, Departures Level 3

Providing a calm, restful space for passengers, the Link atrium stands five storeys tall and captures an abundance of natural light. The space features a 10-metre tall totem pole, a circular moon mask overlooking the central atrium and a series of curved acrylic panels depicting the Northern Lights.

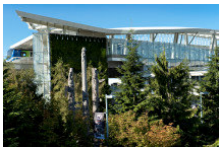
- **Public Observation Area**, Domestic Terminal, Level 4

The Public Observation Area features floor-to-ceiling windows with unobstructed views of the airfield and the Strait of Georgia. Ceiling-suspended panels inspired by cloud formations, draw the public into 500 square-metre space filled with interactive exhibits and telescopes.

- **Domestic Gates**, Domestic Terminal, C Pier (after security)

Highlighting the story of a mythical canoe leaving Stanley Park for Whistler, architectural features include raindrop light fixtures illustrating the rainy climate, a rock wall reminiscent of formations along the Sea to Sky highway and a Whistler Village-inspired dining and shopping area.

- **Green Wall**, YVR-Airport Canada Line Station, North Wall



The Green Wall is the largest living wall in North America, measuring 17 metres high and 11 metres wide. With 27,391 individual plants, the wall is a giant living tapestry that connects YVR-Airport Station to Chester Johnson Park below.

Further Information :

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B-roll footage and photos of art and architecture at YVR: http://yvr.brollarchive.com