

The Arthur Vickers Gallery

The Arthur Vickers Gallery is in a converted 1926 shipyard building that recently opened in the historic and picturesque community of Cowichan Bay on Southern Vancouver Island, B.C. It offers art collectors an invaluable opportunity to meet personally with Arthur and hear the stories that inspired each of the artworks on display. Arthur was born in Northern British Columbia, a child of two worlds- his mother was of English and Canadian descent and his father was of Heiltsuk and Tsimshian tribes. His work reflects his heritage. From First Nations traditional still lifes to vistas of landscapes, each piece tells the story of the beauty of life on the Coast of Western Canada.

With a home and gallery in Cowichan Bay, Arthur Vickers is known for his highly sought after and internationally collected works and has been described as a modern day renaissance man. He believes it is his job as an artist to tell the stories and capture through his artwork not only our world, but also his past and the beauty and legends of the coast he loves. He has said that he believes his ancestors and their teachings are what have guided him to create the art for which he is celebrated.

As a young fisherman travelling the coastal waters, he was so often reminded of his grandfather's teachings of protecting our environment and caring for others who may be less fortunate. He has always held these values very close to his heart and has been deeply involved and supportive of environmental and social initiatives throughout his life. In his early twenties, at his grandfather's suggestion, he became journeyman carpenter and was able to give back to his communities by providing employment on reserves and quality housing. This is just one piece of his journey that demonstrates his commitment to community building.

A Multidisciplinary master of the Arts

Whether it is his sketches, his gold works, his sculptural works of glass, granite and gold, his dimensional wood carvings, he is continually finding new mediums through which to tell his stories. His most recent masterpiece is the Leadership Desk which was created in the form of a traditional cedar bentwood box and gifted to the current and all future leaders of British Columbia in 2009. Arthur Vickers' artwork embodies an immense level of artistry, it is a profusion of visual poetry.

In recognition of his art, his many contributions to charities and his role in keeping First Nations heritage alive, in the summer of 2008 Vickers received the Order of British Columbia. Vickers is also a member of the Order of St. John for his service to humanity and received an honorary doctorate in Fine Arts from the University of Victoria in the spring of 2006.

Gallery Location: 1719 Cowichan Bay Road, Cowichan Bay, BC, V0R 1N0

Telephone: 250-748-7650 **Website:** www.arthurvickers.com **Email:** infor@arthurvickers.com

Gallery Hours: On most days you will find Arthur at the gallery but it is recommended you call ahead of time before a visit.

Media Contact: Melinda Jolley, [The Tartan Group](http://TheTartanGroup.com), (250) 896-3848 or melinda@tartangroup.ca