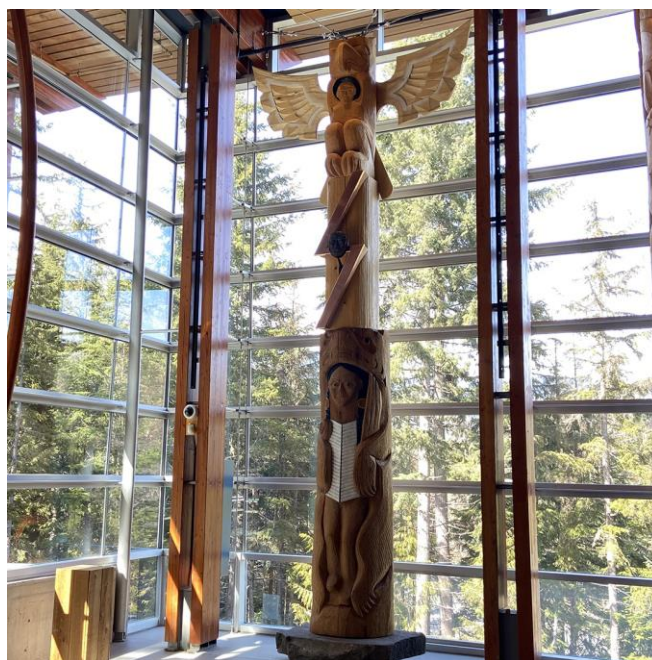


#SLCCWhistler



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## SLCC to host Story Pole Awakening Ceremony for *Sqātsza7 Tmicw – Father Land*, by Ed Archie NoiseCat



**April 5, 2022, Skwxwú7mesh and Lílwat7úl Territory (Whistler, BC)** – The Story Pole *Sqātsza7 Tmicw – Father Land*, a twenty-foot cedar carving by Lílwat Artist Ed Archie NoiseCat will receive an awakening ceremony in the Great Hall at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (SLCC) on April 22nd, 2-5pm, 2022.

In 2020, the SLCC hosted a solo-artist exhibition - *Sqātsza7 Tmicw – Father Land*, featuring a collection of art pieces celebrating the lifetime achievements of the multi-disciplinary artist, Seattle-based artist Ed Archie NoiseCat, NoiseCat's first exhibit on his father's traditional territory.



**Skwxwú7mesh Lílwat7úl**  
SQUAMISH LÍLWAT CULTURAL CENTRE

The exhibition culminated in this carving of a twenty-foot story pole as part of the exhibit and permanent collection. The *Sqātsza7 Tmicw – Father Land*, story pole represents this land, Ed NoiseCat's father's land, on the Lílwat territory. It is the story of the old growth cedar that this artwork is made from. It is the story of the Thunderbird and Black Tusk, and how this territory became a shared territory with the Squamish Nation. It is the story of how a spirit called "Black crawler" brought the Woman's warrior song to Ed's Auntie Martina Pierre during a sweat ceremony. It is the Bear dancer wearing a bone and trade bead breastplate. He holds a frog rattle in his right hand and an eagle wing fan in his left. All of this, carved in red and yellow cedar, standing on a 900 lb block of basalt, local to Lílwat territory.

"*Sqātsza7 Tmicw* represents THIS land. My father's land. This territory that is the home of the Peters family from Samahquam and T̓zil. The home of Nkasusa, Chief Harry Peters, my great grandfather. The home land of my father, Ray Peters," says NoiseCat. "*Sqātsza7 Tmicw* means Father land."

Deep themes of fatherhood and family are woven through this historic story pole. The project included the apprenticeship of SLCC Ambassador and young Lílwat Artist Qáwaḥ Redmond Andrews, whose father is the late master carver Lhalqw Bruce Edmonds whose selections of his work can be found inside the SLCC. Qáwaḥ is also commemorated in the story pole, with NoiseCat featuring the young Lílwat artist as the face of the bear dancer.

"My work is inspired by the stories that comprise my life," shares NoiseCat, "the people, tricksters, tragedies and triumphs of the Indigenous experience." NoiseCat works in various media, including wood, bronze, silver, gold, glass, print and more.

After a lifetime of living and practicing art in the United States, and a long absence during border closures, the SLCC is proud to celebrate Lílwat artist Ed Archie NoiseCat return to his father's traditional territory, and that of Lílwat artist Qáwaḥ Redmond Andrews.

On Friday April 22nd, 2022 at 2pm, the *Sqātsza7 Tmicw - Father Land* story pole will be awakened ceremoniously with a public gathering in the Great Hall of the SLCC. NoiseCat will be in attendance. The public is welcome to come enjoy the drumming, bear dancing, and other Lílwat offerings. Entry to the awakening ceremony and museum admission is free or by donation from 1pm.

The *Sqātsza7 Tmicw - Father Land* pole has been made possible through the generous support of Whistler Blackcomb Foundation, First People's Cultural Council, BC Arts Council and the Province of BC.

Guests are encouraged to join in the evening at the **Spo7ez Winter Feast** from 5:30pm - 9pm - to celebrate the spirit of the Skwxwú7mesh and Lílwat7úl, a cultural-infused shared feast and performance. To learn more and buy tickets in advance, visit [slcc.ca/feast](https://slcc.ca/feast)

## About Ed Archie NoiseCat

Salish and Lílwat artist Ed Archie NoiseCat grew up in British Columbia's remote, mountainous interior with his mother's people, the Canim Lake Band of Shuswap Indians. He draws inspiration from his mother's plateau culture, and from his father's people, the Lílwat.

Trained as a master printmaker at the prestigious Emily Carr College of Art & Design, NoiseCat's vision was then distilled by experience as a fine art lithographer in New York and Boston before beginning his exploration as a contemporary artist of monumental sculpture, working in mixed multimedia including works in glass, wood, steel, silver and gold.



His pieces are in public and private collections, including the *Sq̓ātsza7 Tmicw – Father Land* collection at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, and the National Museum of the American Indian, in Washington, D.C. His portfolio of monumental works includes a portrait mask of Taoyateduta, or Chief Little Crow, in Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In 1986, NoiseCat graduated from the Emily Carr College of Art and Design in Vancouver then moved to New York to work as a lithographer for world-renowned Tyler Graphics, producing prints for Frank Stella, Roy Lichtenstein and other legends of contemporary art.

To learn more about this Press Release and Story Pole Awakening Ceremony visit:  
[slcc.ca/ed-noisecat-story-pole/](http://slcc.ca/ed-noisecat-story-pole/)

Huy Chexw (thank you) Wa Chexw Yuu (take care) – Squamish Language  
Kukw`stumc`kalap (Thank-you all) – Líl'wat Language

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#### About Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (SLCC)

Spo7ez Cultural Centre and Community Society is a registered Canadian charity and the first centre of its kind in Canada. The Squamish and Lil'wat Nations came together to celebrate and share our cultures with the world while creating meaningful employment opportunities for members of both nations. By sharing where we are from and where we are going, our visitors acquire a greater understanding of our Nations and the shared territories that Whistler resides upon. [www.slcc.ca](http://www.slcc.ca)



**Sq̓wxwú7mesh Líl'wat7úl**  
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