

## Sea and Sky



1990 | Size: 20'0" (6.1 m)

*The pole was done more as a symbol of British Columbia, as the figures represent sky and sea, and were done in a balanced relation to one another. The powerful Thunderbird being a symbol of the supernatural and of strength, with lightning and thunder as signs of his flight. The Killer Whale is shown in its awesome form reflecting its natural presence (Harold Alfred, Submission, 1990).*

The Thunderbird is a mythical creature that is common in First Nations stories on the Northwest Coast, and the Killer Whale is often shown on poles with the Thunderbird. The colours that Harold used to paint this pole were inspired by commercial products: an Export "A"® cigarette package for the green and a Coca Cola® pop can for the red. John Ingraham, who taught the art of carving in the Kwakwaka'wakw territory, assisted Harold with carving this pole.©



### Harold Alfred

Harold is from the 'Namgis (Alert Bay, Cormorant Island, off Vancouver Island) of the Kwakwaka'wakw people. Since 1990, he has become an accomplished jewellery maker working in both silver and gold.©



*Courtesy of the artist.*