

Pou Pou Tane Hiira, Pou Karanga



TE ANHIO WHIO
WITH FLUTE

TANE HIIRA
KING OF THE FOREST

Te Anhio Whio is calling out over the forest with the flute...he was bringing them all in tune to the sound of the forest, the deforestation... he was saying to Tane Hiira that we need to do something about it... in a quiet protest way. Tane Hiira's tongue tells us he is a great orator of wit, comedy, and knowledge. The tongue... tells us of a man's status, character, and talents. The pendant in the shape of a fish hook, is a good luck charm. The meremere (club) was a close combat weapon; it is now used in our dances to welcome other tribes, people, and dignitaries. Three fingers signifies three baskets of knowledge: etiquette and protocol; creating of Heaven and Earth; spiritual knowledge. The size of his hand and fingers signifies strength (Tupari TeWhata, Interview, Oct 2012).

The panel behind Te Anhio Whio symbolizes the forest and sea creatures in abstract form. The translation of the pole name from Māori is: The Welcoming Pole of the King of the Cedar Forest.©



1986 | Size: 13'0" (4.0 m)

Tupari TeWhata

Tupari was born in 1939 and is Māori from Tautoro, Bay of Islands (North Island), New Zealand. When Tupari was interviewed he stated: I always had a dream... that I would end up in Canada one day. Tupari's dream came true as part of the Islands'86 International Carvers Exchange in 1986. When he was here, Cicero August loaned him his tools.©



Courtesy of the City of Duncan.