

# Ian Lowe *(Canada)*

Ian Lowe (Lowe Tide Design) is a Coast Salish metal sculptor based on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada. With over 30 years of experience in welding and fabrication, he transitioned from senior management at one of British Columbia's largest steel fabrication and welding manufacturers to a full-time artist. His work is inspired by the biodiversity of the West Coast, capturing the delicate balance between wildlife, land, and ocean in stainless steel, often incorporating wood and stone.

Ian's work is a tribute to the interconnectedness of species and habitats, highlighting the resilience and beauty of the natural world and beyond. Hand-collecting materials from the very environment he lives in and transforming them into works of art creates a deep and tangible connection to the biodiversity his region sustains.

His art is a translation of the environment that surrounds him. The energy he receives from nature produces a desire for him to create and share his interpretations with others. Many of his sculptures intertwine mediums such as wood, rock and steel. Combining the natural elements allows him to feel connected to his subject collecting these pieces is part of the process.

Many years of welding and hand forging steel has unravelled into what one sees in his art today, limitless expression of multiple mediums. His processes include plasma arc cutting, Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW), Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW), oxy-fuel heating, hand forging, buffing, and mirror-polished accents.



Sharing has always been a very important part of who he is as a person and art has gifted him this ability. Gratitude for art has many layers.

## Contact info

Artwork Archive: Art by Ian Lowe | Artwork Archive

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### **Exhibit “Seafood Montage”**

Vancouver Island is renowned for its fishing industry. This montage shows three examples of marine life which make a significant contribution to the success of the industry.

The two ocean-inspired sculptures, a dynamic salmon and a striking crab, are handcrafted entirely from stainless steel using a combination of plasma cutting, Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW) and Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW).

Each form was forged by hand, then heat-treated for patina, buffed and polished to enhance their natural brilliance. Rooted in a deep personal connection to the ocean, both pieces reflect a harmonious blend of technical precision and reverence for life.

#### **Dimensions of Exhibit**

The Spot Prawn, The Knight of Saanich Inlet, 100% hand forged and welded stainless steel, 42 in long, 8.0 in wide, 25.25 in high, weight 46 lbs.

The Dungeness Crab, The Guardian, 100% AISI 304 Stainless Steel, 11.25 in long, 12.00 in wide, 3.75 in high, weight 9 lbs

The Chinook Salmon, The Knight of Georgia Strait, 100% Handcrafted, AISI 304 Stainless Steel, wall mounted, 35in long, 2.0 in wide, 33.5 in high, weight 30lbs.

### **Exhibit “Colossal the Giant Squid”**

Giant Squids are the largest of all the living cephalopods and the largest individual invertebrate in the world. There is still little known of the identity, distributions, biology and behaviour of giant squids. Two thirds of the length of these squids is made up by a pair of long feeding tentacles each bearing an elongate club on the tip. These metre-long tips bear large suckers armed with toothed horny rings.

#### **Dimensions of Exhibit**

18.5 in long, 6.5 in wide, 14.25 in high, weight 22.5 lbs.

### **Exhibit “Eternity”**

Eternity is a sculpture honouring the bald eagle. The biodiversity of the Bald Eagles on Vancouver Island is currently threatened by deforestation, shoreline development and pesticides accumulated through the food chain. Ian’s eagle sculpture Eternity is 100% hand forged and welded stainless steel mounted in a stainless steel tree with 3/8in thick stainless steel round base plate and a concrete slab.

#### **Dimensions of Exhibit**

Each eagle 91.60 cm high, the tree 182.88 cm high.





*Eternity*  
Ian Lowe

