

## **More about the Art Bank Collection**

### **Vancouver Art in the Sixties**

The nineteen sixties saw a burst in Vancouver talent and the beginning of a number of important careers for Michael Morris (L6), Claude Breeze (L4), Bodo Pfeifer(L9), Glenn Lewis (L8) and N.E Thing Co.(L2/7/8). The spirit of the sixties inspired artists to test limits, try new forms, and expand their range of visual expression. Additionally, painters like Gordon Smith (L4/9) were exploring colour and form as ends in themselves.

### **N.E Thing & Co.**

N.E Thing Co. Ltd. (NETCO) an art collective working from 1966-1978 placed Vancouver on the world map of art through its contribution to conceptual art – an artistic assertion that artwork is essentially ideas rather than material objects. Legally incorporated as a business in 1969, NETCO used all the forms of a commercial enterprise as a vehicle for raising themes about the nature of art, personal authorship, and the art world as a parallel consumer culture.

### **Vancouver Photo-Based Work**

Since the 1980s Vancouver has become internationally renowned for conceptually-based photographic work, often referred to as “photoconceptualism.” An offshoot of 1970s conceptual art, photographs are staged to illustrate a preconceived idea—a contrast to more traditional forms such as landscape photography or photojournalism. Currently on display at the VPL (L8) are Vancouver’s earliest practitioners such as Roy Arden, Stan Douglas, Michael de Courcy, Ian Wallace, Marian Penner-Bancroft, and Vikky Alexander, as well as the next generation of artists they influenced.

### **Contemporary Indigenous Art of Resistance**

Indigenous artists Rebecca Belmore, Dana Claxton, Mary Longman, Marianne Nicolson, Arthur Renwick, Richard Rivet, and Jeffery M. Thomas on display at VPL (L8/9) were selected from the Art Bank as central to the new wave of contemporary Indigenous artists who examine Indigenous identity and impacts of colonialism in innovative and conceptual ways within a local geographic context.