



**Coastal Peoples**  
Fine Arts Gallery

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Thunderbird

No. 7990

CP-Gastown

All measurements height x width x depth



**lessLIE**, Coast Salish Nation

Born in 1973 in Duncan, B.C., lessLIE is Coast Salish of Cowichan, Penelakut, Esquimalt, Irish, Italian, and French descent. His colonized, Catholic, Canadian name is Leslie Robert Sam. His decolonized artist's name is lessLIE. Hitler once said that the bigger the lie you tell, the more people you can get to beLIEve in it. Hitler

was a proponent of racism, genocide, and imperialism, which are political forces which lessLIE is fighting against. Picasso once said that art is a lie that tells the truth. In the spirit of the trickster traditions of the Northwest Coast, lessLIE partially beLIEves in this perspective of Picasso's. lessLIE has a Bachelor of Arts degree in First Nations Studies from Malaspina University-College in Nanaimo, B.C. While working on this undergraduate degree, lessLIE began to study Coast Salish art. He has been studying Coast Salish art since 1995. lessLIE was greatly inspired and encouraged by his cousin Joe Wilson. Later other renowned Coast Salish arts such as Manual Salazar, Maynard Johnny Jr., Shaun Peterson, Luke Marston and John Marston influenced his artistic endeavours. However, his primary inspiration from a very young age has been Coast Salish artist Susan A. Point (to whom he is distantly related to), Robert Davidson and Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun. Currently, lessLIE is a graduate student at the University of Victoria, working on a

Gallery Location:

## Yaletown

We have moved to 312 Water Street  
Gastown, Vancouver BC  
Canada

## Hours

Refer to Gastown Gallery

## Gastown

312 Water Street  
Vancouver BC  
Canada V6B 1B6

P: 604.684.9222

E: [coastalpeoples@telus.net](mailto:coastalpeoples@telus.net)

## Hours

Open Daily 10:00am - 6:00pm  
Extended Hours 10:00am -  
7:00pm (April 15 - October  
15)

After hours: Open by  
appointment only

Closed: Christmas Day;  
Boxing Day; New Year's Day

Near Skytrain station -  
Waterfront

Gallery policy:  
Exchanges or store credit  
only



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Master of Arts degree in interdisciplinary studies with a focus on Coast Salish art. His thesis is a critique of the literature and lack of literature on Coast Salish art. As a component of this graduate degree, lessLIE has also worked at Thunderbird Park Carving Studio in Victoria. lessLIE is artistically bound to Coast Salish art traditions and mythology and his artistic style is true to form and design. His artwork can be found locally and internationally where it is being very well received by new and seasoned collectors. EXHIBITIONS:2011 "Coast Salish Masterworks", Coastal Peoples Gallery