



## **BELLA COOLA STYLE RAVEN FOREHEAD MASK**

*Instructor – Dave Franklin*

Skill Level:  
**Intermediate - Advanced**

This type of Raven mask is one of my favorite of all traditional mask forms. Worn over the head this mask is a dynamic representation of Raven, one of the most important characters in the lore of the Northwest Coast. Several of these masks are in Museums including the Seattle Art Museum and featured in Steve Brown's book "The Spirit Within." These masks were usually painted blue, red and black and decorated with shredded Cedar bark.

In class we will start from a raw block of wood and carve and hollow out the mask and prepare it for painting. The masks will be approximately 6" wide and 14" long and carved from Alder.

Originally from Denver, Colorado, David began carving model totem poles from pictures in Barbeau's Totem Poles and designs from Bill Holm's Analysis of form. He had some success selling his work at the Pike Market and was directed to Seattle area Master Carver Duane Pasco who began to teach David to make tools, carve, design, paint and draw. Over several years of apprenticeship and then working under Duane on several projects David began to establish his own projects and career.

His first public commissions were for the Bremerton Transportation Center and the Poulsbo Library, and then on to working with Miller Hull Partnership on designing and fabricating four large sliding security doors as integral artworks for the building itself. Public commissions through Washington State Arts Commission would follow as well as major private commissions in Incline village NV and Misty Fjords National Monument. Last November David had a solo exhibition at the Stonington Gallery in Seattle, WA.

David currently lives in Western Washington and has been a faculty member at Olympic Park Institute and has taught carving and design for a variety of private carving clubs. His work can be seen at the Stonington Gallery in Seattle and at [stoningtongallery.com](http://stoningtongallery.com) under Dave Franklin.