

Beadwork

by: Liliane Lortie
Technician, Mammalogy
Royal Ontario Museum

[Animated ROM logo appears with sound sting]

[Liliane Lortie is standing in front of a display of beadwork in the Daphne Cockwell Gallery of Canada: First Peoples]

Hello. Here is beadwork display. The reason why I am interested in First Peoples gallery, painting, beadwork, because uhm my background is from Indian and French. I'm fourth generation, therefore a lot culture. And my family moved from Indian reserve in Quebec to north of Ontario. Therefore I know nothing about Indian culture. My father knew a little bit, knew a little bit [about] Indian remedies. I learned one thing from him through my mother. So I come here to learn about beadwork, painting.

[Video cut away to detail of beadwork flower and returns to Liliane in front of display] Here is beadwork display and often I thought like other people that beadwork means big size, big size small, big. Really wrong. Not that. And beadwork really small, very tiny beads, that I was shock[ed]. Come look close. This *[Liliane gestures to beadwork]* close. That requires people [be] patient ... sew, sew, sew, sew, beads, very small ... beautiful, colourful, art think, and blue, white, yellow, green. They know how to make leaves, they know how to make pictures of flowers, with tiny beads, without patterns, imagine that. Look at this ... *[Liliane gestures to beadwork; video shows details of beadwork]*.

[Liliane stands in front of display] They sell to people, purse, belt, band ... boots for Indian people. They, people sell during 18th/19th century. Now Indian people still teaching how to work, how to sew beads. There's Indian centre in Toronto. If you want to know more about beadwork, go to Native centre and learn to sew. See how you can develop patience. That's very important for people to learn sewing and to make beautiful things, make you feel good. These [look] really wonderful and I hope you will enjoy when you come here. Thank-you.

[Video ends with animated ROM logo and sound sting]