



Hat

Date

c. 1960-1980

Primary Maker

Jessie Webster

Medium

Cedar bark and beargrass

Description

These types of hats were worn by chiefs and whalers. The design on each hat is beautifully illustrated with two canoes, manned by the whaling crew. In the front of each canoe stands the harpooner ready to throw his harpoon. Above the canoes are sealskin floats used to keep the

whale afloat after being harpooned. Once brought in to shore the whale was divided amongst the villagers in order of title and rank. The hats are constructed of a twined weave in cedar bark and natural and aniline-dyed grasses. The hats are similar to those recorded by Captain James Cook on his trip to the Northwest Coast in 1778.

Dimensions

Overall: 10 1/4 × 11 in. (26 × 27.9 cm)