

Documentary

Chainsawmadonna in Canada

Synopsis:

Long

Lotta Boholm Wall, also known as the Chainsaw Madonna, is a Swedish wood sculptor living in Långserud, Värmland. In the summer of 2022, Lotta traveled to British Columbia, Canada, to meet with indigenous peoples and gain a deeper understanding of the art form that has inspired her for over thirty years.

These ambitions led her to the heart of North American woodcraft in British Columbia, with main destinations being Fort Rupert (Vancouver Island) and Haida Gwaii (a small archipelago in northern British Columbia). Fort Rupert is a small village where many members of the indigenous Kwakwaka'wakw people live. The island of Haida Gwaii is home to the indigenous Haida people. Both the Kwakwaka'wakw and Haida populations have inhabited their areas for over 6,000 years.

In British Columbia, Lotta meets several artists with powerful stories about their people and the history of their art form. Thanks to their shared passion for creation, bridges are built over language, nationality, and ethnicity, allowing Lotta to experience a craft that few Westerners have been exposed to.

Short

Swedish sculptor Lotta Boholm Wall travels to British Columbia to meet Indigenous artists, exploring the traditions that inspired her and building connections through a shared passion for woodcarving.

Log Line

Swedish sculptor Lotta Boholm Wall explores Indigenous woodcarving traditions in Canada.