

Inuit Prints: Japanese Inspiration

Early Printmaking in the Canadian Arctic



Inuit Prints: Japanese Inspiration *Early Printmaking in the Canadian Arctic*



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Some fifty years ago, the remote Arctic community of Cape Dorset was introduced to the ancient traditions of Japanese printmaking by James Houston, a Canadian artist who had studied in Japan with Un'ichi Hiratsuka. Inspired, Cape Dorset artists creatively transformed these influences as they launched their own print studio, now one of the most successful in Canada. Featuring rare archival photographs, two essays and 49 exquisite artworks—Japanese prints brought to Cape Dorset, Inuit prints (1957–1963), and works by James Houston—this catalogue presents new scholarship on the birth of Inuit printmaking, situating the movement within global and local contexts.