

# The Virtual Coe *Being together while being apart...*

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May 1, 2020

## Porcupine and Fish from the Collection



This loom quilled belt by the artist Madeleine Seyah (Dene) was purchased by Ted Coe on one of his many trips up to Alaska and the Northwest Territories. He found this piece while browsing in the Acho Dene Craft Shop in Fort Laird, Northwest Territories. The moose-hide still holds the remnants of the smokey aroma of how it was tanned and the delicate detail of the quillwork really emphasizes the impact of this technique. The looming of the quills results in a surface that can easily be confused with beading, when glimpsed from a distance, but when examined up close the flattened squares of the quills become distinct. Follow this link to learn more about preparing porcupine quills and to see what the [Acho Dene Craft Shop](#) is carrying today!

Madeleine Seyah (Dene), [Belt](#), 1987-1988. Loom quilled porcupine quills on smoked moose-hide backing, border beads. 1.5 x 38 in. NA0472

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It's easy to be hooked (pun intended) on these amazing fishing lures from the collection!

*These lures were likely attached to fishing lines and then dangled to attract fish such as lake trout and whitefish. The smaller lure would attract trout and smaller fish and is probably the oldest; the larger lure is more recent and still retains some of its feathers and much of its old-fashioned gilt paint and tin trimmings. These small objects transcend the lines between art, culture, and artifact with equanimity. —Ted Coe*

Artist Unkown (Ojibwe), [Two Fish Lures](#), c. 1925. Wood, feathers, tin, tacks, and pigment. Dimensions vary. NA1312ab

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Details, details, details! A virtual hands-on experience reveals endless opportunities for “close looking,” and discover how a wide variety of media are worked by artists from all over the world.

Do you know what this is? Visit our [website](#) to find out!

Hint: Artist Unknown (Ojibwe or Potawatomi (attrib.)), c. 1750.  
Buckskin, sinew, porcupine quill, and metal, NA1070

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