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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- The Cranmer Potlatch and Indian Agent Halliday's Display -- Totem Poles in Stanley Park -- Northwest Coast Art as National Heritage: Two Federal Projects of the Late 1920s -- The New Deals: George Raley and Depression-Era Reform in British Columbia -- Alice Ravenhill and the BCIAWS -- Mathias Joe, Mungo Martin, and George Clutesi: "Art" as Resistance -- UBC, the BCPM, and the Totem Pole Carver Training Program -- The Totem Pole Preservation Committee and the Case of the Gitanyow -- Tales of Ghosts That Hover in the World Like Fading Smoke -- First Nations Groups in British Columbia -- Chronology of First Nations Art in British Columbia, 1921-61 -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	The years between 1922 and 1961, often referred to as the "Dark Ages of Northwest Coast art," have largely been ignored by art historians, and dismissed as a period of artistic decline. Tales of Ghosts compellingly reclaims this era, arguing that it was instead a critical period during which the art played an important role in public discourses on the status of First Nations people in Canadian society. Hawker's insightful examination focuses on the complex functions that

Northwest Coast objects, such as the ubiquitous totem pole, played during the period. He demonstrates how these objects asserted the integrity and meaningfulness of First Nations identities, while simultaneously resisting the intent and effects of assimilation enforced by the Canadian government's denial of land claims, its ban of the potlatch, and its support of assimilationist education. Those with an interest in First Nations and Canadian history and art history, anthropology, museology, and post-colonial studies will be delighted by the publication of this major contribution to their fields.
