



MALAYA AKULUKJUK
INUIT ARTIST

Malaya Akulukjuk (1912-1995) was a talented, versatile and prolific Inuit artist. She lived the traditional Inuit life on the land before settling in Pangnirtung, Baffin Island, Nunavut, in 1962. That same year she started to carve in stone, antler and whalebone. With the development of the Pangnirtung Weaving Studio in 1970, she started to create designs for the Pangnirtung tapestries, and in 1975 her drawings began to be made into prints. She was a multitasking artist whose designs often depicted camp scenes and local fauna. Malaya's most dramatic designs, however, were her spirit figures that came from her imagination and the traditional stories she heard as a child. Her drawings laid the foundation for the international acclaim the Pangnirtung tapestries have garnered over the last 45 years. Many of Malaya's 13 children are also recognized artists.

The necklace is made from hand-woven parka braid from the Pangnirtung Weaving Studio and incorporates images associated with Malaya's traditional Inuit life.

wool, sterling silver, caribou antler, soapstone, walrus ivory
15 x 35 cm