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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Black and Indigenous Futures

work by Akira Iyashikei, bee rodriguez and
Keshia Talking Waters De Freece Lawrence

October 5 – 29, 2023

Opening Reception

Saturday, October 7th

5:30 – 8:30 p

featuring opening prayer by Akira

6:30 p - Performance by Akira + Sinica

7 p - Artist Discussion on the exhibition and
the Winnemucca Indian Colony hosted by Akira

On View Sundays

11 a – 2 p

featuring additional artist programming –

Comfort Music presents Keshia Talking Waters De Freece

Thursday, October 5th 7 – 10 p

featuring Lil MISHO, Victorino and DJ Chirish

Akira: Art Talk and Slideshow Screening

Friday, October 13th 4 – 7 p

Akira + Anysquared Performances

Saturday, October 14th 4:30 – 7:30 p

A night of joy, music and dancing celebrating the land and our existence!

Building Relationship with Land

Sunday, October 22nd 3 – 7 p

A leisure event with workshops on starting land relationships

Homestead products made by Chicago Patchwork Farms

Freedom Fighter Herbs and Herb Botanicals

Book discussion on three titles -

Custard Died For Your Sins by Vine Deloria Jr.

Indigenizing Philosophy Through The Land by Brian Burkhart – Chapters 1 and 2

Fresh Banana Leaves by Jessica Hernandez

Closing Ceremony Performance by Akira + Sinica

Sunday, October 29th during Viewing Hours

Black and Indigenous Futures: Lessons from the Winnemucca Frontline work by Akira Iyashikei

The future of Black and Indigenous people is one of healing through the liberation of the land.

This photo document series is reflective of the awakening power that emerges from Black and Indigenous resistance movements that I have witness to, alongside my journey of deepening my relationship with land and using philosophies of the land to build a world outside settler colonialism.

In this second iteration of my largest body of work, I look at the lessons from the Winnemucca Indian Colony Frontline, in Winnemucca, Nevada, taking a further look into ego and trauma.

How does ego and trauma affect us in the way we show up to resistance spaces?

How can land help us heal and build a world outside of settler colonialism?

What is your relationship to land?..

- Akira,

Light that heals

Through the arts, I capture truths of the land and with it build a world outside settler colonialism. My work focuses showing inner city kids like myself a place on the land they can heal and belong to.

@_indio__

Archiving Memories

work by bee rodriguez

bee's archives attempt to preserve memories of ancestors, traditions, and changing landscapes. they draw inspiration from the different ways their kin relate stories of land, movement, and resisting colonialism: oral, recipes, cook-outs, vhs and disposable camera archives.

bee is a land-based creative archiving personal stories and experiences using mediums like poetry, photography, and black-book sketching.

@abeja.explorando

RAMAPO, GOOD RELATIVES

work by Keshia Talking Waters De Freece Lawrence

featuring guest artwork by and in honor of –

Kathleen Spirit Dancer Mann Crippen and Janey Hecht

RAMAPO, GOOD RELATIVES is the liberating visual of under recognized New Jersey, New York and Connecticut tribal peoples, The Ramapough. The photographs and microfilm imagery has been rematriated and liberated from the Vineland NJ residential school archives, while the vibrant depictions of land and water are exactly that.

RAMAPO, GOOD RELATIVES is placing relatives back in good relation with one another and space. August 15th, 2023 lead Ramapough Clan Mother and Cultural Knowledge Bearer passed away at 72 years of life. Kathleen Spirit Dancer Mann Crippen's famous beadwork and baby moccasins (which she would make for every new child of the tribe), are included in this exhibition as an honoring.

Keshia Talking Waters De Freece Lawrence is a Ramapough Lenape Munsee, Deer Clan member. De Freece's artwork is to evoke ecosystem, community and self- negotiation through lively positioning, colors and more than human relatives.

@sakimaxkwe

Comfort Station activates a historic building with public, community-driven programs that foster vibrant connections at the intersection of art and life. Our exhibition program is a rotating monthly series that showcases Chicago-based emerging and established artists, selected through an annual open call for proposals by Comfort Station staff.