



Assert, Defend, Take Space: Aboriginal Youth on Identity, Activism and Film

Saturday October 18, 2014

9:30am – 4:30pm, Michael Ames Theatre, MOA

Conference free with Museum admission. Aboriginal people are free.

To register go to www.moa.ubc.ca/eventtickets

Schedule

9:30-10:00am - Registration and Coffee MOA Lobby

10:00am-12:00pm Michael Ames Theatre

Session 1: We are Culture

Moderator and MC introduce films

Films

Panelist Discussion/Q&A

12:00-1:00pm - Lunch Break

1:00-2:30pm Michael Ames Theatre

Session 2: The Gaze

Moderator and MC introduce films

Films

Panelist Discussion/Q&A

2:30-2:45pm

Coffee Break

2:45-4:30pm Michael Ames Theatre

Session 3: Real Medicine

Moderator and MC introduce films

Films

Panelist Discussion/Q&A

Each session starts with introduction to the panel, the moderator and participants followed by the screening of short films. Discussion with invited participants and the audience follows each screening focusing on the theme of that session.

Opening Remarks

Musqueam Welcome Kelsey Sparrow

MC - Rebecca Baker

Rebecca Baker is Skwxwu7mesh and Kwakiutl. She is a UBC student majoring in the First Nations Studies Program and minoring in Law and Society. Rebecca was the Native Youth Program Research Assistant in 2014 and worked closely with Aboriginal youth designing tours of the exhibition *Claiming Space: Voices of Urban Aboriginal Youth*.

Session 1: 10:00am – 12:00pm

We are Culture: Youth Identity Politics and Sovereignty

Screenings:

“*Napi*” by Damien Eagle Bear (11:00)

“*Untitled*” by Marja Bål Nango (2:45)

“*Savage Diaries*” by Alex McCallum (12:07)

“*NDN - Indian*” by Rose Stiffarm (8:57)

Panel Discussion:

Moderator: Matt Wildcat: Matthew is a PhD student in the Political Science department. He intends to explore a history of Indigenous political formation within the context of colonialism.

Participants:

Rose Stiffarm: Rose is a Native mixie of Siksika, Chippewa Cree, Tsartlip, Cowichan, A'aninin, Nakota, Scottish, & French descent born and raised in Seattle, WA. She is an artist whose work spans several types of media: print, textiles, with her primary focus in film.

Marja Bål Nango: Marja is a Sámi artist and filmmaker from Galgjuávri in Norway and one of the artists in the exhibit. During Riddu Riddu Indigenous Festival 2011, she was the young artist of the year, where she had a solo-exhibition of art and her own film program. She will be skyping in.

Kelsey Sparrow: Kelsey is a Musqueam youth based in Ladner, BC and is one of the artists in the exhibit. She is also a former NYP participant. The drum she submitted is a reflection on the fluidity of traditional art forms. It is a marrying of Salish design using unconventional contemporary design.

Session 2: 1:00pm – 2:30pm

The Gaze: Deconstructing the Objectification of Indigenous Women

Screenings:

“Traditional Me” by Jamie Blankenship (2:25)

“Who I Am” by Life Project Auckland (2:32)

“Untitled” by Jeneen Frei Njootle (1:24)

“Tashina” by Caroline Monnet (4:57)

Panel Discussion:

Moderator: Salia Joseph. Salia is of Squamish, Snuneymuxw and European decent. She is a First Nations studies major whose research focuses on Indigenous women/feminisms. She participated in the 2014 F-Word Conference, presenting on Indigenous feminisms.

Participants

Ellena Neel: Ellena is a multi-media artist who explores materials, text and identity to help others understand Native events and issues and is one of the artists in the exhibit. Her submission to the exhibition explored Native Halloween costumes that often sexualize and disrespect Aboriginal women.

Kelli Clifton: Kelli is from the Tsimshian nation and is one of the artists in the exhibit. Her canvas *The Male Gaze* is a response to Laura Mulvey’s theory “*The Male Gaze*,” and causes the audience to experience the same discomfort that women often feel while being subjected to the male gaze.

Andrea Landry: At the World Conference of Indigenous Women in Lima Peru, Andrea spoke on issues of Colonial vs. Indigenous ideologies regarding sovereignty and nationhood. Andrea’s number one issue is violence against native women.

Jeneen Frei Njootli: Jeneen is one of the artists in the exhibit and her works have been published in *Boulderpavement* (2013), *Kimiwan Magazine* (2012), *SAD Mag* (2012), *What’s Up Yukon* (2012), *Oops Magazine* (Japan, 2012) and *Rewire* (2008). Her submission focused on the sexual objectification of Indigenous women and its relationship with textiles.

Session 3: 2:45pm – 4:30pm

Real Medicine: *Environmentalism and Youth Activism*

Screenings:

“*Anishnabe Aki*” by Emilio Wawatie (5:35)

“*Maana (Now)*” by Artcirq Productions (6:34)

“*In Your Heart*” by Raymond Caplin (2:24)

Panel Discussion

Moderator: Matthew Ward. Matthew is a 5th year Indigenous student from Driftpile Cree Nation. He is studying First Nations Studies and Political Science at UBC and is the current President of the First Nations Studies Student Association (FNSSA).

Participants:

Brigette DePape: Brigette first became known for her 2011 protest during the Throne Speech holding the sign “Stop Harper.” She has since been an active ally and activist around environmental issues.

Emilio Wawatie: Emilio is an Anishnabe from Kitigan Zibi and is on the artists in the exhibit. He was the spokesperson at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2013.

Cody Lecoy: Cody is one of the artists in the exhibit and has been the recipient of two consecutive scholarship awards with the YVR Art Foundation in 2011 and 2012. Cody submitted two acrylic paintings to the exhibition, addressing environmental issues and urban landscapes.

Session 1 screenings

Damien Eagle Bear, "Napi"
Marja Bål Nango, "Untitled"
Alex McCallum, "Savage Diaries"
Rose Stiffarm, "NDN - Indian"

Session 2 screenings

Jamie Blankenship, "Traditional me"
Life Project Aukland, "Who I am"
Jeneen Frei Njootle, "Untitled"
Caroline Monnet, "Tashina"

Session 3 screenings

Emilio Wawatie, "Anishnabe Aki"
Artcirq Productions, "Maana (Now)"
Raymond Caplin, "In Your Heart"

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