

## Colorado Photographic Arts Center | Month of Photography

### Night Lights Denver - Indigenous Photograph March 14 - March 31, 2021



CAMILLE SEAMAN  
Shinnecock

Icebergs and glaciers,  
Elephant Island,  
Antarctica.

PAT KANE  
Timiskaming First Nation



Melaw Nakehk'o is a moosehide tanner, an artist, a filmmaker and mother.

"Through the process of reclaiming my cultural knowledge, I saw how the many teachings woven into our land practices could positively impact our first nation communities. Our Dene protocols and laws govern our reciprocal relationship with the land and animals. Moosehide tanning is a foundational Indigenous art form, it was our homes, our transportation, our clothes and in hard times our sustenance. It is the canvas of our visual cultural identity. The smoke smell triggers memories of grandmothers, the sound of scraping reminds us of our aunties working together, the beadwork and style of our moccasins represent our nations. Hide tanning is a revolutionary act of resistance. We occupy our traditional land, we are adhering to our traditional teachings and honoring our relationship with the animals that sustain us. Moosehide Tanning is Land Back."



PAUL WILSON  
The Klamath Tribes

Yurok brothers Sammy, Peter, and Jonluke paddle redwood canoes down the Klamath River. Once the main form of transport for tribes along the river, the practice of traditionally dugout canoes is now carried by few. These brothers began the Ancestral Guard to make sure traditions like these continue to be passed from elders to future generations.



BRIAN ADAMS  
Inupiaq

A portrait of Quannah Chasinghorse for the Calvin Klein One Vote campaign.



KAPULEI FLORES  
Hawaiian

The journey to the top of the tallest mountain in the world from sea level (Mauna Kea) to raise the Hawaiian flag.



TAILYR IRVINE  
Confederated Salish & Kootenai

Prairie Cocowee Antoine sleeps in the cradleboard her maternal grandmother made for her. Prairie's middle name, Cocowee, is the original last name of her mother's family before in the early 1800s a Jesuit priest changed a relative's first name to Antoine, which his children adopted as their last name. Her parents, Tiana Antoine and Nathan Drennan, decided that Prairie's last name should be Antoine because they wanted their daughter's name to reflect her family history; Drennan is the name of Nathan's adopted mother and doesn't reflect Salish and Kootenai culture.



DAWNEE LEBEAU  
Cheyenne River Tetonwan

This is a photograph of my tunjan ryia's tinsila relative from our harvest during wipazuka was'te' wi.



JOSUÉ RIVAS  
Mexico + Otomi

"On July 13th, the Washington Football Team dropped its longtime racist name and logo after decades of public outrage. This was a victory for activists and Indigenous communities across the country and the continuation of a larger movement to eradicate all Native mascots in sports. Brands like Aunt Jemima and multiple confederate monuments came down across the nation, adding to the awakening of racial injustices the United States is founded on. For me, burning the Redskins jersey as a ritual allowed me to cope with my emotions about changing the name and envision a country without racist mascots ."



JAIDA GREY EAGLE  
Oglala Lakota

A few hundred protesters marched in downtown Minneapolis in solidarity with Jacob Blake, a black man who was shot in the back by police in Kenosha, WI in August.



CITLALI FABIAN  
Zapoteca

"Men waiting the morning of my cousin Reina's wedding ceremony. The bride's relatives arrive at her home to walk with her to the church. Everyone arrives early in the morning to have a hot drink before the mass and then wait for the bride."



JEREMY DENNIS  
Shinnecock

"On Monday, August 13th, 2018, skeleton remains were found during residential development on Hawthorne Road in the sacred Shinnecock Hills. The developers and homeowners contacted the Southampton Town and Suffolk County police department, who further desecrated the burial by digging out the remains. The lack of empathy toward Indigenous sacred sites and routine disturbances for the sake of evermore Hampton estates influenced the Sacredness of Hills Series, which uses real estate developments as the site for addressing issues of preservation. In my personal efforts, I have stood with elders to protest the continued desecration of our sacred Shinnecock Hills, yet even as recent as December 2019, the local town of Southampton ignored development after offering to purchase a neighboring lot in our sacred lands. For us, there is a sacredness of hills that needs to be protected.

Since beginning the project, on September 10th, 2020, Southampton Town Board approved the Shinnecock Hills Building Moratorium and Graves Protection Act. The Graves Protection Act establishes protocols if human remains are encountered during construction activities while the six-month moratorium halts new home construction or excavation within areas that include the Fort Hill and the Sugar Loaf areas of Shinnecock Hills and beyond to Peconic Road without first completing an archaeological review. New York State is one of only four states that lack the Graves Protection Act."



KILIII YUYAN  
Nanai + Hezhen

A few days after the explosion of protests against the murder of George Floyd, Seattle's Sheriff Department seized control of the downtown region, forcing out protestors with teargas and riot arms. During the days long confrontation with Black Lives Matter protestors, residents and homeless people were seen fleeing the area from teargas exposure.



THOMAS RYAN REDCORN  
Osage

This is Spencer Mckim. He's an Osage and Afghanistan War veteran. He was wounded in Afghanistan and has had many complications with VA regarding his leg. He came to me wanting portraits two days before his leg was to be amputated. He picked the chair and the flag for this occasion. Since Spencer's amputation, his health has aggressively rebounded. He happily attributes his progress to his Oklahoma weed card which has allowed him to leave behind a host of VA medications that he says were making him suicidal.



KALI SPITZER  
Kaska Dena + Jewish

A portrait of Lucy from Will Wilson and Kali Spitzer's CIPIX residency, Ancestral and Unceded Lands of the Abenaki People (The Hood Museum, Dartmouth, New Hampshire, United States), 2020.



PAMELA J. PETERS  
Diné (Navajo)

Kelly Caballero at Malibu Beach sharing the rich culture roots of her Tongva Culture.



Yael Martínez  
Nahua + Mexican

The pandemic has brought more challenges for the development of our children and now we have to support their studies at home. Itzel Martínez, 10, is in 5th grade. Here, she can be seen with an exercise on the geography of the mountains in Taxco, Guerrero on June 29.



Tahila Mintz  
Yaqui

White snake root grows in abundance in Upstate, NY in higher altitude forests. It looks similar to Boneset but must not be harvested by accident. It is poisonous.



JENNY IRENE MILLER  
Inupiaq

"I've been thinking about queerness. What does it mean to be feminine, what does it mean to be masculine? What about a little bit of both? Who gets to decide?"



MINIK BIDSTRUP  
Inuk

President Trump passes supporters as he leaves his campaign headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, on Election Day, November 3.



ELI FARINANGO  
Kichwa

Self portrait in ceremony with myself, February 24.



TOMAS KARMELO AMAYA  
Yaqui + Zuni + Tarahumara

Grant Real Bird (White Mountain Apache) visits a neighborhood in the Turkey Creek community of the Fort Apache Reservation about 20 miles away from Whiteriver, AZ. Real Bird is a contact tracer working with Johns Hopkins University in partnership with the Indian Health Service.



RUSSEL ALBERT DANIELS

Diné + Ho-Chunk

Artist Maurice Archuleta descends from an original Genízaro family in Abiquiú and actively participates in the social life of this community. "Since I was a child," he says, "I've learned our traditional stories, dances, and songs." Archuleta is particularly drawn to ceremonial dance and is a keen observer of other Pueblo dancers' footwork. He helps perpetuate Genízaro dances by occasionally reinvigorating them with new steps.

By the 1700s, northern New Mexico had become a violent imperial frontier marked by deadly clashes, retaliatory raids, and a brutal trade in Native slaves. The creation of New Spain, in 1535, and then the extension of the Spanish Empire into what is now the American Southwest, in the 1600s, had transformed the region. The conflicts forever altered the lives of Native peoples, including those who would become known as the Genízaro.



TEKPATL KUAUHTZIN

Nahua, Cucapa, Tsalagi

Moon watches over her granddaughter on the Mojave flats, summer 2020.



MATIKA WILBUR  
Tulalip + Swinomish

Elyssa Zackuse (Tulalip) prepares for her graduation in the middle of a global pandemic on May 4 in Tulalip, Washington.



WARA VARGAS LARA  
Quechua

Blind population of the city of La Paz, Bolivia march to ask the government for economic support to overcome the economic crisis due to the COVID-19 quarantines. A blind woman is pushed by the police when they try to enter streets near the government palace.



CODY HAMMER  
Cherokee

Bravery Hammer (Osage, Cherokee, Cheyenne Arapaho, Muscogee Creek) wears an Osage Orthography Pendleton.



AISHA BADA  
Yoruba

End SARS protesters in the hundreds walking on the streets during the COVID-19 pandemic demanding that the SARS unit in the Nigerian Police Force should end. October 2020.



ALEX JACOBS-BLUM

Lower Cayuga, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory

The land we are and have always been // tsih.sa:né:yohs (when you are healing), seeks to engage in dialogue with the land and water. Collectively they embody knowledge that is intrinsic to our health and wellbeing. By (re)building our relationships with the land and water, we can ensure a sustainable future for the seven generations. Offering gratitude and centering love ground us to their knowledge.



GAVIN JOHN

Metis Nation of Alberta

A woman cries out as she is arrested by the Seattle Police Department during a protest of the clearing of the "Police Free" Capitol Hill Organized Protest (CHOP) on July 1st, 2020. Earlier in the day, the city ended nearly a month long stand-off with BLM protestors by reclaiming a six block area in the Capitol Hill district, including the Seattle Police East Precinct.



ADEDAMOLA ODETARA

Yoruba

Seetal in Lagos space program's Project 5 collection: Aso Lanki, ki ato ki eniyan (we greet dress before we greet its wearer).



SARA ALIAGA TICONA

Aymara

Before the end of the year the news of the arrival of the second wave of COVID-19 came out, as a precaution my family bought several face masks and cleaning supplies, to avoid another possible shortage, it was the eve of the end of the year holidays and my nephews began to play throwing the masks in the air, it was wonderful to see that, It made me think for a moment that nothing that happened during the year really happened, I believe that their innocence is one of their greatest strengths, to move forward and continue to grow and the fact that they playfully threw and mischievously scattered those masks I felt it as an act of hope for a possible cure to the Coronavirus, watching them play I could only feel joy and gratitude because we were lucky like few others. That real solidarity and caring for others was what saved us and what should remain as learning from all this tragedy that crossed us and transformed us in every possible way.



SOLOMON NZIOKI  
Kikuyu + Kamba



OCTAVIO LOPEZ  
Zapotec



JERO GONZALES  
Quechua



TAIWO AINA  
Yoruba