

PLAINS ART MUSEUM

Plains Art Museum Exhibits: Responsibilities and Obligations: Understanding Mitákuye Oyás'íŋ

Press Release
For Immediate Release (February 2020)

Plains Art Museum is proud to exhibit *Responsibilities and Obligations: Understanding Mitákuye Oyás'íŋ* now through August 15, 2020 in Ruth & Seymour Landfield Atrium. The exhibition features work by Clementine Bordeaux and Mary V. Bordeaux from Racing Magpie Gallery in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Mitákuye Oyás'íŋ is a phrase in the Lakota language and culture that loosely translates to “we are all related” or “all my relatives.” It is used by Lakota and non-Lakota alike. The phrase has been appropriated as an all-encompassing idea of inclusiveness. This exhibition is a reflective journey highlighting Lakota female perspectives surrounding the idea and concept of Mitákuye Oyás'íŋ. The project aims to engage Lakota artists, scholars and general audiences to reflect on the (mis) appropriation of this phrase through mixed and multimedia installations. The exhibition provides an opportunity to share the Lakota language and build understanding among the Tetonwan communities of the region and the Native and non-Native populations in the Fargo Moorhead area through arts and culture.

Clementine Bordeaux is an enrolled member of the Sicangu Lakota Oyate and was raised on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Bordeaux earned her graduate degree from the University of Washington, Seattle. Mary V. Bordeaux, Sicangu/Oglala Lakota, is the co-founder and owner of Racing Magpie. She received her BA from the Institute of American Indian Arts and MFA from the University of Arts, both in museum arts.

Mary V. Bordeaux (Sicangu/Oglala Lakota) is the co-founder and owner of Racing Magpie, a collaborative space with a Native art gallery and artist studios. She received her BA from the Institute of American Indian Arts and MFA from the University of the Arts both in museum studies with an emphasis on exhibition design and planning. Bordeaux is currently working on her educational doctorate at Saint Mary's University, researching Lakota epistemology. She has held curatorial positions with The Heritage Center at Red Cloud Indian School and The Indian Museum of North America at Crazy Horse Memorial.

Layli Long Soldier earned a BFA from the Institute of American Indian Arts and an MFA from Bard College. She is the author of the chapbook *Chromosomory* (2010) and *WHEREAS* (2017). She has been a contributing editor to *Drunken Boat*; in 2012, her participatory installation, *Whereas We Respond*, was featured on the Pine Ridge Reservation. *Whereas* received the prestigious PEN/Jean Stein Book Award in 2018. In 2015, Long Soldier was awarded a National Artist Fellowship from the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation and a Lannan Literary Fellowship for Poetry. She is also a recipient of a 2016 Whiting Award. A citizen of the Oglala Lakota Nation, Long Soldier lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with her daughter.

Plains Art Museum is your nonprofit art museum and education center, supported by over 800 individuals and organizations. The Museum and its Katherine Kilbourne Burgum Center for Creativity encompass the largest and only accredited art museum in North Dakota. It is located in downtown Fargo at 704 First Avenue North. For more information about visiting or supporting your art museum, visit www.plainsart.org.

Clementine and Mary V. Bordeaux, *Pñahíŋ*, cotton fabric, glue, wire mesh, MP3, Speakers, 48 x 17 x 10 in.



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