National Gallery of Art

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Department of Communications

Updated 3/2/2026

Sky Hopinka: Kicking the Clouds
April 11–December 6, 2026

Exhibition Organization and Support:
The exhibition is organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington.
The exhibition is made possible through support from Daniel W. Hamiton.

Exhibition Curator(s):
This exhibition is curated by Andrea Nelson, associate curator of photographs, National Gallery of Art.

Press Contact:
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Object ID: 5977-001
Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
Free me from this body, my voice can carry only so far. Free me from this body, as I lay on the grass it feels heavy and I can't move. Free me from this body, the color burns brown with dark limbs so tired and missing the weightless breadth of above., 2020
inkjet print with hand-etched text
image/sheet: 43.6 x 42.4 cm (17 3/16 x 16 11/16 in.)
framed: 47.5 x 46.5 x 4.7 cm (18 11/16 x 18 5/16 x 1 7/8 in.)
National Gallery of Art, Gift of Funds from Sharon Percy Rockefeller and Senator John Davison Rockefeller IV, 2023.99.1

Object ID: 5977-002
Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
O! Being here right now, not thinking of yesterday or the day before. But a long time ago last night aunty mentioned today and the rain falling and streaking against the upstairs window as Stacey and I looked down at the birch waiting to be climbed. This isn't the outside, and being here then felt more comfortable, in slicks and hoods, in boots and our youth., 2020
inkjet print with hand-etched text
image/sheet: 43 x 43 cm (16 15/16 x 16 15/16 in.)
framed: 47 x 46.6 x 4.7 cm (18 1/2 x 18 3/8 x 1 7/8 in.)
National Gallery of Art, Gift of Funds from Sharon Percy Rockefeller and Senator John Davison Rockefeller IV, 2023.99.2



Object ID: 5977-003
Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
Kicking the Clouds, 2021
single-channel video, color, sound, 15:06 minutes
dimensions variable
National Gallery of Art, Avalon Fund, 2023.101.1



Object ID: 5977-004
Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
Protected, 2022
inkjet print with hand-etched text
image: 101.6 x 101.6 cm (40 x 40 in.)
framed: 105.41 x 105.41 x 4.76 cm (41 1/2 x 41 1/2 x 1 7/8 in.)
National Gallery of Art, Gift of Funds from Sharon Percy Rockefeller and Senator John Davison Rockefeller IV and Avalon Fund, 2023.130.1
Courtesy of the artist and Tanya Leighton, Berlin and Los Angeles

Object ID: 5977-005
Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
Illinois I, 2022
inkjet print with hand-etched text
image: 101.6 x 101.6 cm (40 x 40 in.)
framed: 105.41 x 105.41 x 4.76 cm (41 1/2 x 41 1/2 x 1 7/8 in.)
National Gallery of Art, Pepita Milmore Memorial Fund and Avalon Fund, 2023.130.2
Courtesy of the artist and Tanya Leighton, Berlin and Los Angeles

Object ID: 5977-006
Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
Dickson Mounds, 2022
inkjet print with hand-etched text
image: 101.6 x 101.6 cm (40 x 40 in.)
framed: 105.41 x 105.41 x 4.76 cm (41 1/2 x 41 1/2 x 1 7/8 in.)
National Gallery of Art, Pepita Milmore Memorial Fund, 2023.130.3
Courtesy of the artist and Tanya Leighton, Berlin and Los Angeles



Object ID: 5977-007
Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
Cahokia, 2022
inkjet print with hand-etched text
image: 101.6 x 101.6 cm (40 x 40 in.)
framed: 105.41 x 105.41 x 4.76 cm (41 1/2 x 41 1/2 x 1 7/8 in.)
National Gallery of Art, Pepita Milmore Memorial Fund, 2023.130.4
Courtesy of the artist and Tanya Leighton, Berlin and Los Angeles

Object ID: 5977-008
Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
Madison-Style Goose with Zig-Zag Wings. Text from Paul Radin, The Winnebago Tribe, Vol. 37. Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology. Smithsonian Institution, 1923., 2018
Courtesy of the artist

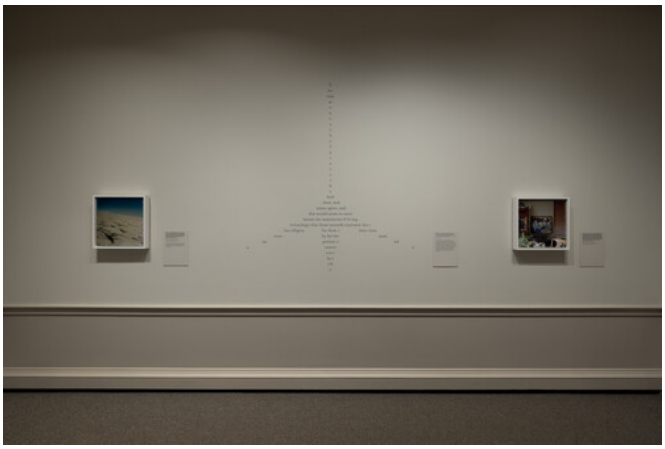
Kicking the Clouds exhibition images by Rebecca Clewes



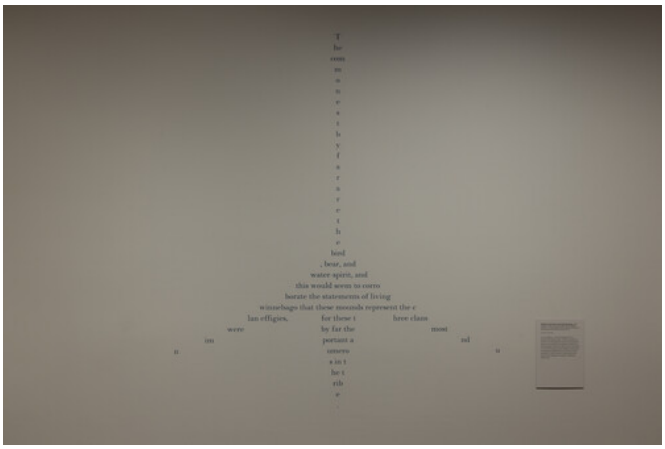
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Kicking the Clouds



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PEX-24593-008.tif



PEX-24593-009.tif

Kicking the Clouds



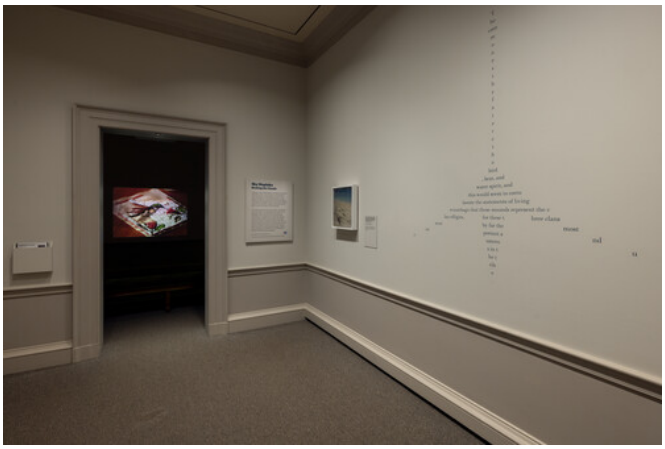
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PEX-24593-011.tif



PEX-24593-012.tif



PEX-24593-013.tif

Kicking the Clouds



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PEX-24593-015.tif



PEX-24593-016.tif

Sly Hopinka artworks photographed by Rick Blanc



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Free me from this body, my voice can carry o...

Gift of Funds from Sharon Percy Rockefeller ...

2023.99.1



D20231113-0008_XBD.jpg

O! Being here right now, not thinking of yes...

Gift of Funds from Sharon Percy Rockefeller ...

2023.99.2