



Sky Hopinka
The Land Describes Itself

Reception: April 20, 6 - 8pm
Exhibition: April 20 – June 1, 2019

The Green Gallery
1500 N Farwell Ave Milwaukee, WI

The land describes itself–

over and over again, never repeating, never stuttering, never faltering in the language it uses to convey meaning and meaninglessness. Our interpretation of that voice and that presence is contingent on our thoughts and from where our meaning draws meanings. How do we hear and see something so grounded in our own sense of history? Usually by defining ourselves in place of these spaces.

The photos, are photos of photos from landscapes around the Pacific Northwest, the western Southwest, and the Great Lakes. Homelands of me and many different peoples, containing histories of many more. Projected 35mm transfers on transparencies illuminated by an Eiko overhead projector and photographed once more via digital camera. Their construction was guided by a desire to remove the intelligibility of a topography and the weighted memory of that production. Not the memory entirely, I've got nothing against nostalgia, but to create remembrance without longing or

desire. An accretive scene so far removed from the place that was photographed, where the texts etched into the image are as hypothetical as they are hesitantly descriptive.

The two channel video, *Cloudless Blue Egress of Summer*, operates in similar functions, in a place built upon more forgotten, yet reverent, histories. Fort Marion, also known as Castillo de San Marcos, has a long and complex past. Built in 1672 and located in St. Augustine, Florida, it served as a prison during the Seminole Wars in the 1830's, and a prison at the end of the Indian Wars in the late 1880's. It was where Captain Richard Pratt developed a plan of forced assimilation through education that spread across the United States to boarding schools – built with the philosophy "that all the Indian there is in the race should be dead. Kill the Indian in him, and save the man."

Each section of the video tells a small part of this history, from Seminole Chieftain Coacoochee's account of his escape from the fort, to ledger drawings made by the prisoners from the plains given pen and paper and told to draw what they see and what they remember. Each section traces the persistence of presence and memory experienced through confinement and incarceration, through small samplings of space and hope. Where the ocean is a beginning of a story that is incomplete, whose end is lingering on a surface that is innately unstable and effortlessly resolute.

I've often had a difficult time in understanding my relationship to landscapes. I could never pinpoint why. These moving and static images attempt to stumble through that difficulty and uncertainty, with a shape given form by the poem from Franklin KR Cline, from his book–

SO WHAT

i'm trying
to avoid
this dangerous culture
of want

mercury it seems is always
in retrograde

it's all getting jumbled

meanwhile i'm telling someone
i don't remember

if they asked or not

about pastoral poetry it describes the land without calling it stolen

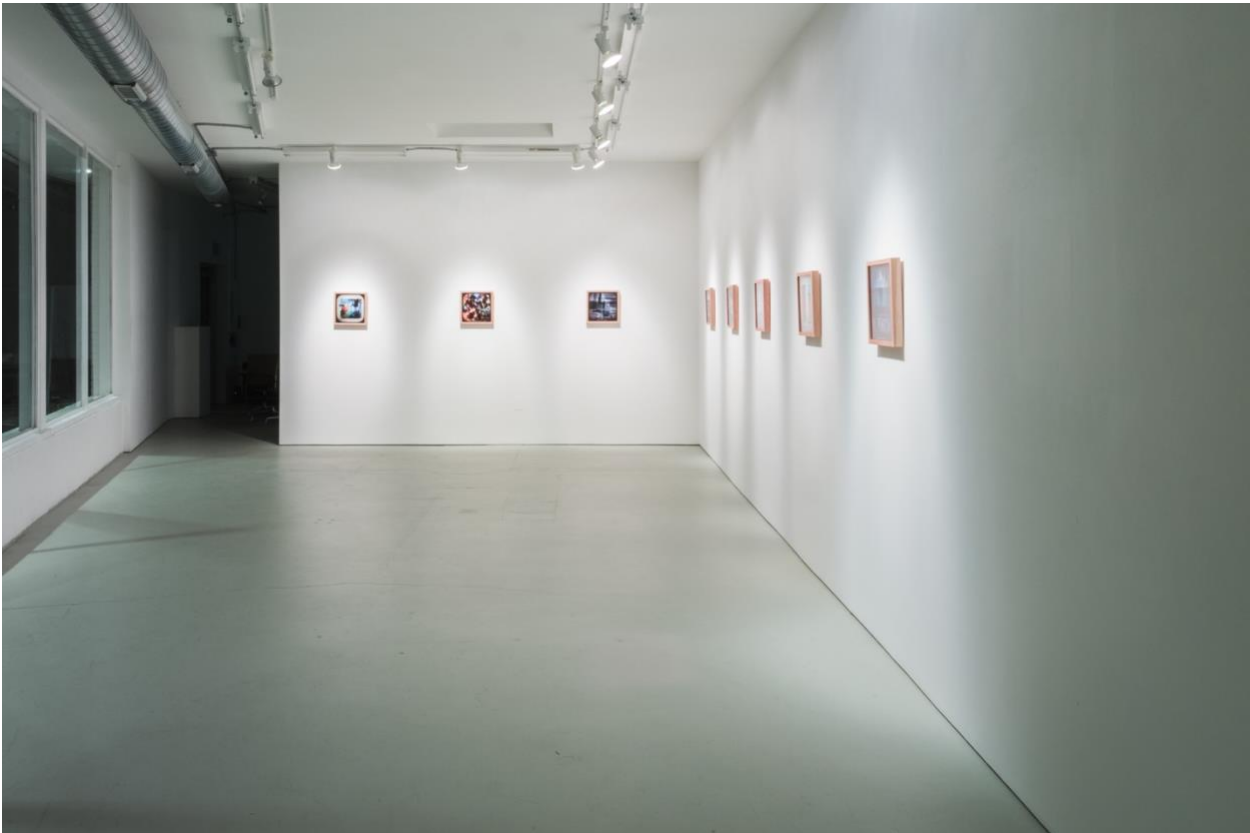
generally speaking

anyway
why write poems about the land

it describes itself

Poem from *So What* by Franklin KR Cline

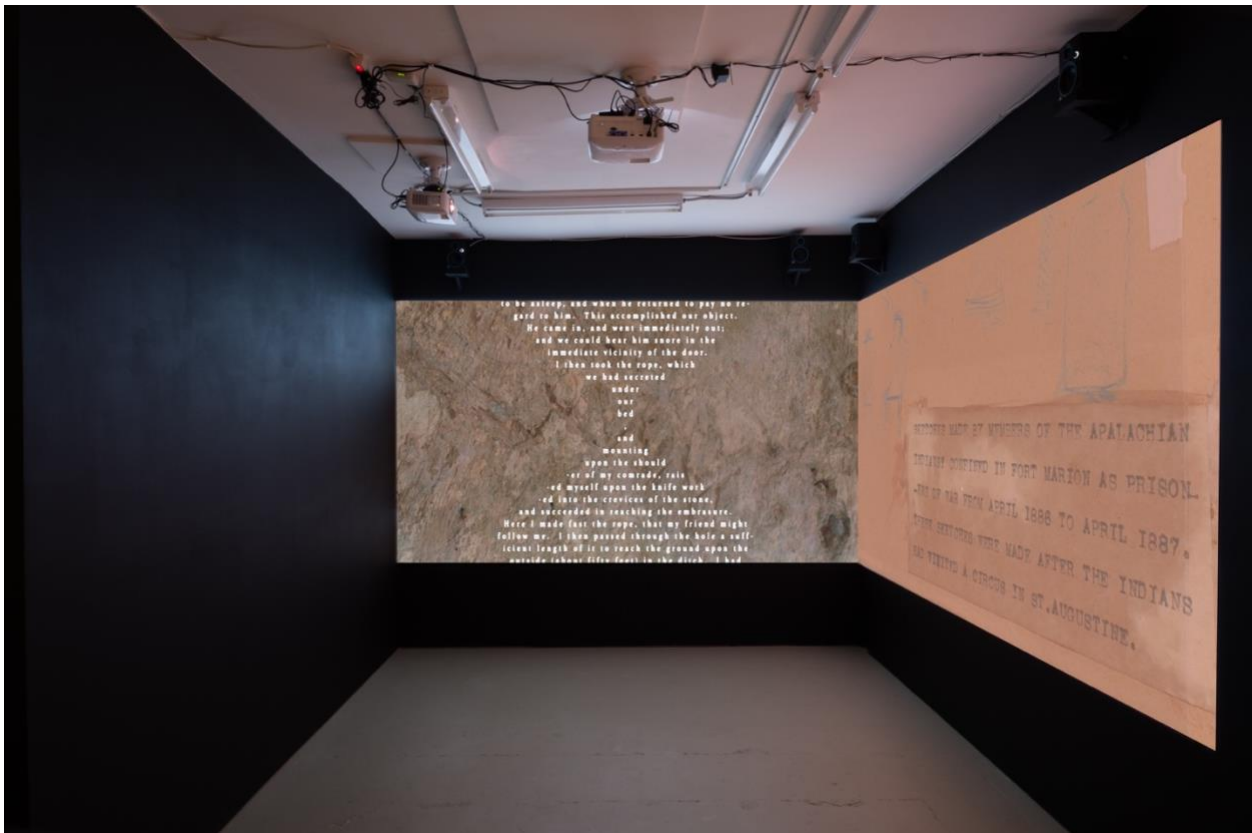
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SKY HOPINKA - THE LAND DESCRIBES ITSELF



Sky Hopinka

This is a mnemonic for Truman Lowe, 2019

Inkjet print, etching

13h x 13w in

33.02h x 33.02w cm

Edition 1 of 3, 2 APs

\$ 2,000.00

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Sky Hopinka
These are the moieties, 2019
Inkjet print, etching
13h x 13w in
33.02h x 33.02w cm
Edition 1 of 3, 2 APs
\$ 2,000.00

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Sky Hopinka
The light was blue and so were you, 2019
Inkjet print, etching
13h x 13w in
33.02h x 33.02w cm
Edition 1 of 3, 2 APs
\$ 2,000.00

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Sky Hopinka
This is you describing what I saw, 2019
Inkjet print, etching
13h x 13w in
33.02h x 33.02w cm
Edition 1 of 3, 2 APs
\$ 2,000.00

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Sky Hopinka
This is the by and by, 2019
Inkjet print, etching
13h x 13w in
33.02h x 33.02w cm
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\$ 2,000.00

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Sky Hopinka

This is eidos and caprice, 2019

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33.02h x 33.02w cm

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\$ 2,000.00

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Sky Hopinka
The salt from the sea or an ocean, 2019
Inkjet print, etching
13h x 13w in
33.02h x 33.02w cm
Edition 1 of 3, 2 APs
\$ 2,000.00

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Sky Hopinka

The outside being here right now, 2019

Inkjet print, etching

13h x 13w in

33.02h x 33.02w cm

Edition 1 of 3, 2 APs

\$ 2,000.00

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Sky Hopinka

Cloudless Blue Egress of Summer, 2019

HD Video, stereo, 2 channel, color

Synchronous loop

Run time: 13:15 min

1 of 3 +2AP

\$ 10,000.00

SKY HOPINKA (b. 1984, US)
skyhopinka@gmail.com

www.skyhopinka.com

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, MFA – Film, Video, Animation and New Genres, 2016
Portland State University, BA – Liberal Arts, 2012

TEACHING

Assistant Professor - Simon Fraser University, 2018-Present
Associate Lecturer - University of Illinois-Chicago, 2017-2018
Associate Lecturer - University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2016-2018
Teaching Assistant - University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2014-2016
Unangam Tunuu Summer Language Intensive (June to August) 2015
Chinuk Wawa Social Club - 2011-2013
Nuumu Summer Language Intensive (June to September) 2011

SOLO SCREENINGS, EXHIBITIONS, AND ARTIST TALKS

2019

Harvard Film Archive – An Evening with Sky Hopinka – Cambridge, MA
Courtisane Festival – 05: Sky Hopinka – Ghent, Belgium,
LACE – Unraveling Collective Forms – Los Angeles, CA
Brooklyn Academy of Music – On Resentment: An Evening with Sky Hopinka – Brooklyn, NY
Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago – Screening: Sky Hopinka – Chicago, IL – *Solo program*
Green Gallery – The Land Describes Itself – Milwaukee, WI – *Solo exhibition*
School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University – Screening and Conversation – Boston, MA
Brooklyn Academy of Music – An Evening with... – Brooklyn, NY – *Solo program*
Museum of Contemporary Art – Screening: Sky Hopinka – Chicago, IL – *Solo Program*
Yale University – Film screening – New Haven, CT – *Solo program*
Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales – Autochthonous Cinema – Paris, France – *Artist talk*
Wesleyan University – Audible Bacillus – Middletown, CT – *Artist talk*

2018

Cellular Cinema – CAVE 3 – Minneapolis, MN – *Solo program*
Portland Art Museum – Dissecta program – Milwaukee, WI – *Solo program*
UWM Union Cinema – Mary Nohl Screening – Milwaukee, WI
Peck School of the Arts UWM – Artists Now! – Milwaukee, WI – *Artist talk*
Institute of Modern Art - Brisbane, Australia - *Solo program*
Crisp-Eller Art Museum - St. Augustine, FL - *Solo exhibition*
Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival - Berwick-Upon-Tweet - *Solo program*
Tacoma Film Festival - Tacoma, WA - *Solo program*
Wellesley College - Wellesley, MA - *Artist talk*
Massachusetts College of Art and Design - Boston, MA - *Solo program*
Walker Art Center - Minneapolis, Minnesota - *Solo screening*
Bockley Gallery - Minneapolis, Minnesota - *Solo exhibition*
LUX Scotland Masterclass - Glasgow, Scotland - *Artist talk*
LUX - London, United Kingdom - *Solo screening*
Visions - Montreal, Quebec - *Solo screening*
CineMarfa - Marfa, TX - *Solo screening*
Lease Agreement - Huntsville, TX - *Solo screening*
SF Cinematheque - San Francisco, CA - *Solo screening*
Rubicon Cinema - Akron, OH - *Solo screening*
First Person Cinema – Boulder, CO - *Solo screening*
FDM Porter Visiting Artist: Sky Hopinka – Santa Cruz, CA - *Solo screening*
Redcat Theatre – Los Angeles, CA - *Solo screening*
Gallery 400 - Chicago, IL - *Artist talk*
IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts - Santa Fe, NM - *Artist talk*
Visiting Artist Colloquium, University of Wisconsin - Madison - Madison, WI - *Artist Talk*
Northwestern University - Chicago, IL - *Solo screening*
Flagler College CEAM Artist Residency - St. Augustine, FL - *Solo screening*

2017

The ARTS Project - London, Ontario - *Solo screening*

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Union Docs – An Evening with Sky Hopinka – Brooklyn, NY - *Solo screening*
Bard College – The Films of Sky Hopinka – Hudson, NY - *Solo screening*
IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts – American Traditional War Songs – Santa Fe, NM - *Solo screening*
MassArt Film Society – Sky Hopinka – Boston, MA - *Solo screening*
Squeaky Wheel Film and Media – Sky Hopinka in Person – Buffalo, NY - *Solo screening*
Spectral Microcinema – 04: Sky Hopinka – Stevens Point, WI - *Solo screening*
Conversations at the Edge – Sky Hopinka: Translations and Transmutations – Chicago, IL- *Solo screening*
Visual Studies Workshop – Video Works by Sky Hopinka – Rochester, NY - *Solo screening*

2016

Headroom Screening Series – Sky Hopinka at FilmScene – Iowa City, IA - *Solo screening*
Microlights Presents: Sky Hopinka – Milwaukee, WI - *Solo screening*
The Nightingale Microcinema – Presents Sky Hopinka – Chicago, IL - *Solo screening*
Tahoe Underground Film Festival - Tahoe City, CA - *Solo screening*
Screening: Sky Hopinka - Hosted by the Center for 21st Century Studies – Milwaukee, WI - *Artist talk*

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018

LACE – Unraveling Collective Forms – Los Angeles, CA
Disjecta – I've known rivers – Portland, OR
Front International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art – Cleveland, OH
Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami - Monarchs - Miami, FL
Mary L. Nohl Fund Fellowship for Individual Artists Group Exhibition - Milwaukee, WI
Wattis Institute - Los Angeles, CA
MSU Broad Museum - When the Land Speaks - East Lansing, MI
516 ARTS - 21st Century Cyphers - Albuquerque, NM
The Mistake Room - A Tender Spot - Los Angeles, CA
Walker's Point Center for the Arts - Native Voices - Milwaukee, WI
Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts - Monarchs - Omaha, NE

2017

Out of Sight – Seattle, WA
Whitney Biennial – New York City, NY

2016

Berwick Media + Arts Festival – Berwick, England
mamuk xalaqt ili?! at the Littman Gallery – Portland, OR
Wisconsin Triennial at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art – Madison, WI

2015

Art Toronto, Verge Video – Toronto, ON
Survivance: An Indigenous Intervention – Portland, OR
#ImNotBuyingIt at the Chinatown Arcade - Los Angeles, CA

GROUP SCREENINGS

2018

Union Docs – World Records Launch – Brooklyn, NY
Houston Cinema Arts Festival – Compressed Air – Houston, TX
Infrared - SF Cinematheque - San Francisco, CA
Cinema Multiversal – Programmed by Ana Vaz
The Flaherty Seminar - Invited filmmaker - Hamilton, NY
Anthology Film Archive: Cinema of Gender Transgression - New York City, NY
The Nightingale - Heaven is a Place - Chicago, IL
Nocturnal Reflections - Milan, Italy
Other Cinema, San Francisco, CA
Cinema Politica - Montreal, Quebec

2017

Artists Space – Without Us There is No You – New York City, NY
Mini Microcinema – Shorts from Standing Rock – Cincinnati, OH
Pleasure Dome - This Landscape Tells Stories: Caroline Monnet and Sky Hopinka – Montreal, Quebec
Whitney Biennial – Sites, Sines, Songs: Mary Helena Clark, Sky Hopinka, and Cauleen Smith – New York, NY
Urban Video Project – Haunted Ethnographies – Syracuse, NY
Sheffield Fringe – Object! On the Documentary as Art – London, UK
Northern Norway Art Museum – View from Up Here – Tromsø, Norway

2016

Now! Journal Presents: Shut It Down – Brooklyn, NY
Cinema Project – Passages curated by David Dinnell – Portland, OR
Ipswich Art Gallery – Projected States – Ipswich, Queensland, Australia
TIFF Lightbox Short Documentary Showcase – Toronto, ON
NMAI Native Cinema Showcase - Santa Fe, NM
Native Documentary by Sundance Indigenous Program – St. Paul, MN
Geography of the Body of the World at LA Film Forum – Los Angeles, CA
UNEXPOSED – Midwest Screening with Emily Oscarson - Durham, NC
The Best Short Films of Sundance at the Phi Centre - Montreal, QC
Minority Report - at Pleasure Dome - Toronto, ON
Shapeshifters – at The Grange, East Haddam, CT
The Being of Seeing UNEXPOSED Microcinema, Durham, NC
NMAI Mother Tongue Film Festival - Washington D.C.

2015

Minority Report - at Mothlight Microcinema - Detroit, MI
People & Places, at the Mini Microcinema - Cincinnati, OH
Indigene Guerilla Independent Film Showcase - Pine Ridge, SD
NO HOME: Films by Dan Smeby at Mothlight Microcinema - Detroit, MI
A Program of Short Films, curated by Steve Wetzels - Paris, France
Alsharif/Hopinka/Smith at Courtisane Festival – Ghent, Brussels

PROGRAMMING/CURATION

"What Was Always Yours and Never Lost" for the Whitney Biennial – New York, NY, 2019
"What Was Always Yours and Never Lost" at Yale Union – Portland, OR, 2019
Yale Union Powwow at Yale Union – Portland, OR, 2019
"What Was Always Yours and Never Lost" at VISIONS - Montreal, Quebec, 2018
Canyon Cinema Salon with Sky Hopinka - San Francisco, CA
"On Loneliness – Post-Colonial Vagaries" at Film Front – Chicago, IL, 2017
"What Was Always Yours and Never Lost" at the Haggerty Museum – Milwaukee, WI, 2017
"What Was Always Yours and Never Lost" at One Flaming Arrow Indigenous Film Festival – Portland, OR, 2016
"A Series of Concrete and Luminous Images: Recent Work in Ethnopoetics" at Union Cinema – Milwaukee, WI, 2016

PUBLICATIONS

Around the Edge of Encircling Lake Published by The Green Gallery Press, 2018
"The Centers of Somewhere" Walker Reader, Apr. 2018
"Sky Hopinka Introduces his film "Dislocation Blues." MUBI Notebook Feature, Oct. 2017
"American Traditional War Dances" This Long Century, Nov. 2017
"Anti-Objects, or Space Without Path or Boundary" Design Week Portland, 1 Feb. 2017

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abrams, Matthew Jeffrey. "In Search of Lost Words: The Work of Sky Hopinka." L.A. Review of Books, 29 Sept. 2017
Cumming, Jesse. "The Land of Sound, the Land of Images: On Recent Works by Sky Hopinka." *Cinema Scope* 70. 2017
Guzmán, Alicia. "American Traditional War Songs: The Ethnopoetic Videos of Sky Hopinka." THE Magazine, 1 Aug. 2017
Lopez, Almudena Escobar. "In Conversation with Sky Hopinka and belit sag." Brooklyn Rail, 2 Nov. 2017
Lopez, Almudena Escobar. "Ethnopoetics of Reality: The Works of Sky Hopinka." *Afterimage*, Vol. 45
Khalil, Adam, and Zach Khalil. "Sky Hopinka." *Third Rail* 10. 2017
Lim, Dennis. "Openings: Sky Hopinka." *Artforum* Mar. 2017
Nixon, Lindsay. "Wistful, Wayward Warriors" Deep-Time Construction at The Wattis Institute. 2018

AWARDS + SCHOLARSHIPS + FELLOWSHIPS + RESIDENCIES

Sundance Art of Nonfiction Fellowship - 2019
Filmmaker Magazine 25 New Faces of Film - 2018
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts YBCA 100 Honoree - San Francisco, CA, 2018
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study Fellow - Harvard University - Cambridge, MA, 2018-2019
Jury Award – Chicago Underground Film Festival, 2018
MoCNA Social Engagement Artist in Residence - Santa Fe, NM, 2018
CEAM Artist Residency – Flagler College, 2018
Mary L. Nohl Fund Fellowship for Individual Artists – Emerging artist category, 2018
New Cinema Award, Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival, 2017

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Best of Festival, ICDOCS, Iowa City, IA, 2017
Best New Form Short Film, FilmfestDC, Washington, DC, 2017
Best Experimental Film, Santa Fe Indian Market - Santa Fe, NM, 2016
First Prize, UNXFEST 1.1, Durham, NC, 2016
More with Less Award – Images Festival, 2016
Jury Award – Milwaukee Underground Film Festival, 2016
Tom Berman Award Most Promising Filmmaker – 54th Ann Arbor Film Festival, 2016
Juror Award – Student Experimental Film Festival, 2015
Adoor Gopalakrishnan Film Archive and Research Fund Merit Award – UWM, 2015
Princess Grace Graduate Film Scholarship, 2015
3rd Prize - Media City Film Festival, 2015
Advanced Opportunity Program Fellowship Award – UWM, 2015
Jury Award - Milwaukee Underground Film Festival, 2015
Levin Scholarship Award from UWM Peck School of the Arts, 2013
Honorable Mention - Indigenous Language Award, ImagineNATIVE Film Festival, 2013
Longhouse Native Creative Development Program, 2013
Oregon Indian Education Association Outstanding Student in Higher Education, 2012

COLLECTIONS

The Anchorage Museum – Anchorage, AK
JP Morgan Chase Art Collection – New York City, NY
Kadist – San Francisco, CA
Museum of Modern Art – New York City, NY
Walker Art Center – Minneapolis, MN
The Whitney Museum – New York City, NY

FILMOGRAPHY

Cloudless Blue Egress of Summer - 2 channel video, 13:15, 2019
When you're lost in the rain – video, 4:53, 2018
Fainting Spells – video, 10:45, 2018
Dislocation Blues – video, 16:57, 2017
Anti-Objects, or Space Without Path or Boundary – video, 13:05, 2017
I'll Remember You as You Were, not as What You'll Become – video, 12:32, 2016
Visions of an Island – video, 14:55, 2016
Jáaji Approx. – video, 7:37, 2015
Venite et Loquamur, Come All and Let Us Speak – video, 9:30, 2015
Kunjkága Remembers Red Banks, Kunjkága Remembers the Welcome Song – video, 9:30, 2014
wawa – video, 6:00, 2014
huyhuy – video, 5:05, 2013
Fishday at the Scaffold – video, 23:10, 2010

FILM FESTIVALS

2019

Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival – Minneapolis, MN
Spectral Film Festival – Stevens Point, WI
Portland International Film Festival – Portland OR
Onion City Film Festival – Chicago, IL
Maoriland Film Festival – Otaki, New Zealand
Cosmic Rays Film Festival – Chapel Hill, NC
True/False – Columbia, MO
FLEXfest – Tampa, FL
Sundance Film Festival – Park City, UT

2018

Transformation Film Festival - Berlin, Germany
Media City Film Festival – Windsor, ON
Toronto Queer Film Festival - Toronto, ON
ImagineNATIVE Film and Media Festival - Toronto, ON
November Film Festival - London, UK
Viennale – Vienna, Austria
Milwaukee Film Festival – Milwaukee, WI

Antimatter Film Festival – Victoria, B.C.
Denver International Film Festival – Denver, CO
Syros International Film Festival – Syros, Greece
Projections – New York City, NY
Wavelengths – Toronto, ON
Lima Independiente - Lima, Peru
Freeland Film Festival - Green Lake, WI
Winnipeg Underground Film Festival - Winnipeg, Manitoba - Canada
ICDOCS - Iowa City, IA
MSP Film Festival - Minneapolis, MN
Fronteira Festival - Goiânia, Brasil
Ashland Independent Film Festival - Ashland, OR
Images Festival - Toronto, Ontario - Canada
Onion City Film Festival - Chicago, IL
Punto De Vista International Documentary Festival - Pamplona, Spain
Cosmic Rays Film Festival - Chapel Hill, NC
Skábmagovat - Inari, Finland
International Film Festival Rotterdam - The Netherlands
Children's Film Festival – Seattle, WA

2017

Kaunas International Film Festival - Kaunas, Lithuania
AFI Fest - Los Angeles, CA
Doc Lisboa - Lisbon, Portugal
Antimatter Film Festival - Victoria, BC - Canada
ImagineNATIVE Film Festival - Toronto, Ontario - Canada
Tulsa American Film Festival - Tulsa, OK
Milwaukee Film Festival - Milwaukee, WI
The Unseen Festival - Denver, CO
Berwick Film + Media Arts Festival - Berwick-Upon-Tweed, UK
Camden International Film Festival – Camden, MA
Projections – New York, NY
Wavelengths – Toronto, Ontario
San Diego Underground Film Festival – San Diego, CA
Présence Autochtone – Montréal, Quebec - Canada
Media City Film Festival – London, Ontario - Canada
Encounters Documentary Fest – Cape Town, S. Africa
Crossroads Film Festival – San Francisco, CA
Winnipeg Underground Film Fest – Winnipeg, Canada
RSC Shorts Fest – Denver, CO
Dallas Medianale – Dallas, TX
Kyiv International Film Festival – Kiev, Ukraine
Iowa City Documentary Film Festival – Iowa City, IA
International Wildlife Film Festival – Missoula, MT
FilmFest D.C. – Washington, DC
Milwaukee Underground Film Festival – Milwaukee, WI
Minneapolis International Film Fest – Minneapolis, MN
Images Festival – Toronto, ON, Canada
Columbus International Film Fest– Columbus, OH
Mother Tongue Film Festival – Washington, DC
Sundance Film Festival – Park City, UT
One Flaming Arrow Intertribal Art, Music, & Film – Portland, OR

2016

AFI Film Festival – Los Angeles, CA
November Film Festival – London, United Kingdom
Antimatter Film Festival – Victoria, B.C., Canada
ImagineNATIVE Film + Arts Festival – Toronto, ON
Eastern Oregon Film Festival – La Grande, OR
Tulsa American Film Festival – Tulsa, OK
Images Festival - Toronto, ON
FlexFEST - Gainesville, FL

Wavelengths – Toronto, ON
Winnipeg Underground Film Fest – Winnipeg, Canada
LA Film Festival – Los Angeles, CA
UNX Fest 1.1 – Durham, NC
Chicago Underground Film Festival, Chicago, IL
Milwaukee Underground Film Festival – Milwaukee, WI
Sheffield Fringe – Sheffield, UK
SF International Film Festival – San Francisco, CA
Images Festival – Toronto, ON
Onion City Film Festival – Chicago, IL
Milwaukee Film Festival – Milwaukee, WI
New York Film Festival, Projections – New York, NY
Agua Caliente Native FilmFest – Palm Springs, CA
Ann Arbor Film Festival – Ann Arbor, MI
Sundance Film Festival – Park City, UT

2015

Student Experimental Film Festival – Binghamton, NY
Antimatter Film Festival – Victoria, BC
Thunder Film Festival – Minneapolis, MN
ImagineNATIVE Film + Arts Festival – Toronto, ON
Media City Film Festival - Windsor, Ontario
One Flaming Arrow Intertribal Art, Music, & Film – Portland, OR
Chicago Underground Film Festival - Chicago, IL
Milwaukee Underground Film Festival – Milwaukee, WI
Images Festival - Toronto, ON
FlexFEST - Gainesville, FL
Wavelengths – Toronto, ON
Winnipeg Underground Film Fest – Winnipeg, Canada
LA Film Festival – Los Angeles, CA
UNX Fest 1.1 – Durham, NC

2014

Agua Caliente Native FilmFest - Palm Springs, CA
Cine Las Americas International Film Fest – Austin, TX
NMAI Cinema Showcase - Santa Fe, NM
First Peoples' Festival - Montreal, QC
LA Skins Festival - Los Angeles, CA

2013

ImagineNATIVE Film + Arts Festival - Toronto, ON
American Indian Film Festival - San Francisco, CA
Red Nation Film Festival - Los Angeles, CA
Vancouver Indigenous Media Fest - Vancouver, B.C.