
Manifestations: New Native Art Criticism approaches contemporary Native American art from a critical perspective. Manifestations profiles eighty living artists, from fifty-one different nations. The artists profiled work in a wide variety of styles and media and come from diverse cultural backgrounds. One of the strengths of this book is how it showcases the depth of this diversity, and how this diversity contributes to the scholarship of Native American art, as well as the struggles and discourse of contemporary native art.

The artists and scholars chosen to be included in the book address the theme of native representation, as well as shared histories of colonization, issues of race and identity, and how history and culture are communicated through story and art.

This work is a great complement to reference resources such as the St. James Guide to Native North American Artists (1998), as well as the more current Encyclopedia of Native American Artists (2008), which profiles seventy artists. However, the scholarly essays and critical profiles in Manifestations, by Native American scholars and artists, also make this work an excellent complement to other recent publications on contemporary Native American art, such as Shapeshifting: Transformations in Native American Art (2012), Native American Art at Dartmouth (2011), and Contemporary Native American Artists (2012).

Along with the thought provoking essays, this book includes beautiful illustrations and some bibliographic references. The unique focus of the essays and the artists makes Manifestations a great addition to any public or academic art library collection, and it should not be missed for any academic collections focusing on Native American art or contemporary art theory.

Adding value to this publication are the free online resources supporting the text, available at the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts’ website: http://www.iaia.edu/museum/vision-project/curriculum-guide/. There is a beautifully organized curriculum guide online which could be used alone but would serve best when used in conjunction with the book. The curriculum guide also includes additional bibliographies and lists of web resources.

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