CCA’s weekend celebration of Indigenous Peoples’ Day culminates in radical performance piece

Demian DinéYazhi’ and Kevin Holden are to perform SHATTER/// in the CCA Gallery on Monday, October 10 at 4pm, with a live camera stream to CCA Cinema for public viewing.

September 22, 2022, Santa Fe, NM – The Center for Contemporary Arts Santa Fe (CCA)’s Indigenous Peoples’ Day weekend celebration concludes on the day itself—Monday, October 10 at 4pm—with a special, one-time performance by artists Demian DinéYazhi’ (Diné, born to the clans Naashtézhí Tábąąhá [Zuni Clan Water’s Edge] & Tódích’í’nii [Bitter Water]) and Kevin Holden (Diné, Irish, German, and Norwegian).

SHATTER/// is a cathartic destruction and literal shattering of the racist stereotypes that have, for centuries, violated the rights, sacrality and complexities of Indigenous cultural identity as an act of “anti-colonial ceremonial intervention.” CCA has implemented a live, multi-camera setup in its gallery space to be fed in real-time to CCA’s cinema where audiences can experience the performance on the big screen, at $15 per ticket. The event is proceeded by an in-person moderated discussion with DinéYazhi’, Holden and CCA’s Programming Coordinator, Kiersten Fellrath. After the performance, the audience can relocate to the gallery space from the cinema to view the aftermath.

The performance activates the installation by DinéYazhi’ in CCA’s exhibition Self-Determined: A Contemporary Survey of Native and Indigenous Artists. The SHATTER/// installation will shift from its current state—displayed objects on shelves—to their transformed, shattered state as an “aftermath of destruction: an accumulation of dishonorable Indigenous stereotypes: an extraction of non-consensual desire…” The transformed installation will be on view through the run of Self-Determined, closing on November 27, 2022.

Indigenous Peoples’ Day weekend celebration events include Self-Documented: The 1977 Native American Video Tape Archive, a co-presentation with the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA). The screening showcases rarely seen footage covering various historical subjects, topics, events and personalities, accompanied by a community scholar panel led by IAIA Archivist and Project Director Ryan Fshive and National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) Scholar Dan Bigbee, Jr. The cinema program will be held on Thursday, October 6 at 6pm. Additionally, on Saturday, October 8 at 1pm will be a curator-led exhibition tour with Danyelle Means (Oglala Lakota) and Kiersten Fellrath, featuring an artist spotlight with Ian Kuali’i (Kanaka Maoli/Native Hawaiian – Shis Inday/Mescalero Apache), who will discuss his work in the exhibition.
About the Artists

Demian DinéYazhi’ (they/them) (Diné, born to the clans Naasht'ézhí Tábąąhá [Zuni Clan Water's Edge] & Tódích’í'nii [Bitter Water]) is a transdisciplinary artist who uses social interventions to interrupt colonial power structures. They grew up in Gallup, New Mexico, and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Intermedia Arts from Pacific Northwest College of Art in 2014. DinéYazhi’ received the Henry Art Museum, Seattle, Washington Brink Award and exhibition in 2017, and many institutions internationally have presented their work alone, and through the initiative Radical Indigenous Survivance & Empowerment (R.I.S.E.) founded by DinéYazhi’. Notable exhibitions include the Whitney Museum of American Art, Pioneer Works, Smack Mellon, Artists Space, and CANADA Gallery in New York, New York; the Portland Art Museum, Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery and Portland2109 Biennial, Disjecta Contemporary Art Center in Portland, Oregon; Southern Exposure, San Francisco, California; and the 22nd Biennale of Sydney, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Campbelltown, Australia.

The SHATTER/// performance is dedicated to the life and memory of their cousin, Lee Renee Anderson, as well as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Trans, Femmes, 2Spirit, and Queer relatives.

Kevin Holden (Diné, Irish, German, and Norwegian) is a composer and sound artist based in and around Portland, Oregon.

Kevin Holden joins DinéYazhi’ as collaborator and co-performer for SHATTER///.

About Self-Determined

Self-Determined: A Contemporary Survey of Native and Indigenous Artists is a group exhibition featuring thirteen artists creating profound work in various media including film, installation, photography, sound, beadwork, and studio arts.

Self-Determined centers the artist and their practice, the social and political issues important to them, their relationships to community, their mode of expression, and the ways in which they identify. All these artists are engaged with issues that pervade contemporary art dialogue today—such as engaging with their environment, exploring mythologies, reworking traditions, and utilizing technology as a tool of preservation in both formal and conceptual investigations at the intersection of customary Native techniques or Indigenous philosophies.

The exhibition is located in CCA’s Munoz Waxman and Spector Ripps gallery spaces and is open Friday and Saturday from 11am to 6pm, and Sunday, 11am to 5pm through November 27, 2022.

For further information, images, or interviews, please contact JC Gonzalez, CCA Marketing Manager, at jc@ccasantafe.org.

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SHATTER///

Demian DinéYazhi' with Kevin Holden

SHATTER/// is an anti-colonial ceremonial intervention pulsating through waves of abstract sonic reckoning and destructive catharsis: SHATTER/// is an extractive performance decimating the primitive settler colonizer hyper-romanticized imaginary notions of Indigenous cultures/peoples and racist appropriative conditioning inherent throughout the settler colonial project: SHATTER/// is a flower blooming amidst a barren landscape covered in the shit of FALLING and rotting American culture: SHATTER/// is the aftermath of destruction: an accumulation of dishonorable Indigenous stereotypes: an extraction of non-consensual desire:

SHATTER/// is a refusal to perform the assimilated oppressed and powerless citizen of foreign (un)civilizations: a betrayal against genocidal agendas that concoct simulated realities to dodge accountability or enact proper reparations for all living and thriving Indigenous tribes:

SHATTER/// is a resistance to cis hetero supremacy: a refusal to further internalize the trauma shame and anger through the waves of colonial warfare that is still happening to this day - as you are reading this now: SHATTER/// is a cosmic seedling dependent on the nurturing of Indigenous Trans/Queer/2Spirit kinship: SHATTER/// is dedicated to ancestral Indigenous rebellion and ceremonial healing: