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Jontay “Kahm” Kahmakoatayo

cultural affiliation Plains Cree

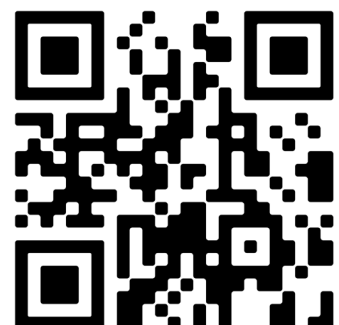
born 1996, North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada

Void, 2023

goose feathers, chicken feathers, ribbon, felt

Courtesy of the artist

Jontay Kahm’s Regalian Bodies collection combines contemporary powwow regalia, face coverings, and high fashion gowns. Created shortly after his father’s death in 2021, the collection explores death, grief, and the afterlife. Kahm said this dress was inspired by “nature taking over.” Kahm graduated from the Institute of American Indian Arts in 2023 and received a full ride to Parsons School of Design. He expects to graduate with a master’s in fashion design in 2025.



Scan the code to see Kahm’s Regalian Bodies collection on the runway at the 2023 SWAIA Art Market in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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Sage Mountainflower

cultural affiliation Ohkay Owingeh

born 1975, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States

She Brings the Rain, 2017

ribbon, brocade, leather, suede, beading

Courtesy of Sage Mountainflower, textiles fused in Beaded Indigenous Fashion

“This was my interpretation of the female rain in the Southwest, blessing us with her soft gentle rain making the land, flowers, and skies vibrant. As she fades away, you see the cloud blossoms fade back into the mountain...The skirt represents the water flow and movement in each step and water depth as the color of the ribbon moves from light to dark. The deeper you go, the darker the water.”—Sage Mountainflower

She Brings the Rain won second place at the Heard Museum Indian Fair and Market in 2021 and was featured in *Vogue* in 2019.



Scan the code to watch an interview with Sage Mountainflower.

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PM Waterlily by Patricia Michaels

cultural affiliation Taos Pueblo

born 1966, Santa Fe, New Mexico, United States

***Antlers in Aspen Meadows*, 2019**

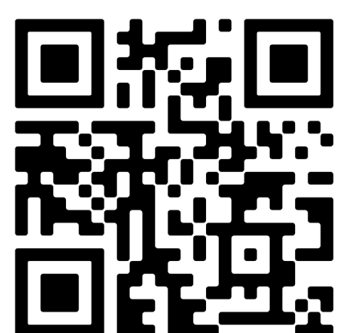
silk satin organza, silk organza, latex slip, hand-painted fiber reactive dyes

Courtesy of Patricia Michaels

Patricia Michaels is known for designs that push the boundary between art and fashion using organic materials and natural dyes. Her designs reflect the majestic landscapes of Taos Pueblo where she grew up. Michaels was a finalist on *Project Runway* Season 11 and competed on *Project Runway All Stars* Season 4.

“While I was on *Project Runway* I encountered the constant battle of the fellow competitors not understanding who I was or where I came from...The judges and the guest judges were not knowledgeable about Natives or anything about my home state of New Mexico and would ask me about it over and over again.”

–Patricia Michaels



Scan the code to watch *PM Waterlily* on the runway at the 2022 SWAIA Art Market in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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Naiomi Glasses, artist

cultural affiliation Diné (Navajo)

born Rock Point, Arizona, United States

Polo Ralph Lauren, manufacturer

founded 1967, New York City, New York, United States

***PRL x Naiomi Glasses Wool Coat*, 2024**

wool jacquard, cotton, metal concho buttons, braided faux-leather

Museum purchase: Peter T. Bohan Art Acquisition Fund, 2024.0116

In 2022, Polo Ralph Lauren (PRL) was accused of plagiarism and appropriation of Mexican Indigenous designs. PRL pulled the clothing from its stores, apologized, and promised that all future Indigenous designs would be created collaboratively with appropriate credit. Naiomi Glasses is the first Native artist-in-residence at PRL. Her collection is inspired by her family’s weaving traditions, the Navajo lands where she grew up, and her love of skateboarding. PRL also hired Native models and photographers to promote the collection.



Scan the code to watch a video about the *PRL x Naiomi Glasses* collaboration.

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Lauren Good Day

cultural affiliations Arikara, Hidatsa, Blackfeet, Plains Cree

born 1978, New Town, North Dakota, United States

***Indigenous Barbie Tee*, 2023**

cotton, screen print

Private collection

This t-shirt celebrates Greta Gerwig's major motion picture *Barbie* (2023) and honors Indigenous identity. Inspired by her two young daughters, Lauren Good Day created this design to help them see themselves as Indigenous Barbies.

"It would be so cool to see a contemporary Native Barbie with a ribbon skirt and a Lauren Good Day hoodie. Maybe she has a pair of moccasins on. I think my daughters would love to play with a Barbie like that." —Lauren Good Day

AJ Holder

cultural affiliations Winnebago, Oglala Lakota, Wichita, Sac and Fox, Northern Cheyenne

born 2000, Lawrence, Kansas, United States

***untitled (ribbon skirt)*, 2023**

cotton, satin ribbon, elastic

Courtesy of the artist

Visit the adjacent gallery to see more of AJ Holder's work and watch a video interview.

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A TiPi Makers Daughter by Claudia Tyner Little Axe

cultural affiliations Seneca-Cayuga, Absentee Shawnee, Mvskoke

born 1972, Tulsa, Oklahoma, United States

***Okholatte (Shades of blue)*, 2024**

gabardine, ultrasuede, lamé, silver, bone, leather, yarn, finger weaving

Courtesy of the artist

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Sunrise Creations by Diamond Williams

cultural affiliation Tlingit

born 1995, Juneau, Alaska, United States

1.

***Moon Guide*, 2024**

ermine pelts, moonstone, dentalium shells, gold plated findings,
gold filled hooks

Courtesy of Sunrise Creations by Diamond Williams

2.

***Raven's Helper*, 2024**

ermine pelts, abalone shell, sterling silver

Courtesy of Sunrise Creations by Diamond Williams

3.

***Land and Sea*, 2024**

dyed salmon skin, ermine tails, gold plated findings, gold filled hooks

Courtesy of Sunrise Creations by Diamond Williams

4.

***The Ones That Got Away*, 2023**

ermine tails, abalone shell, gold plated findings, gold filled hooks

Courtesy of Sunrise Creations by Diamond Williams

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Sage Mountainflower

cultural affiliation Ohkay Owingeh

born 1975, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States

***Black for the Lady*, 2024**

wool, satin, velvet, brass, brass beads, appliqué

Courtesy of Sage Mountainflower, textiles fused in Beaded
Indigenous Fashion

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PM Waterlily by Patricia Michaels

cultural affiliation Taos Pueblo

born 1966, Santa Fe, New Mexico, United States

***Eagle Feather Wings*, 2019**

silk chiffon, silk mesh, sequins, beads, hand-painted fiber reactive dyes

Courtesy of Sandra Claysagmore

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Mona Cliff (Hanuk-gah-nee/Cloud she is Spotted)

cultural affiliations Aaniiih/Nakota (enrolled Gros Ventre Tribe)

born 1977, Prescott, Arizona, United States

NDN-uity, 2024

cotton, satin ribbon, pellon, tin jingles

IA2024.001.a-d

NDN-uity was commissioned by the Spencer Museum of Art following a suggestion from the Native advisors that we “dress up” the pillars in the Central Court for the exhibition. Funding was provided by the Kansas Arts Commission. NDN is an abbreviation of Indian and is used commonly in social media, music, and art. NDN-uity combines NDN and ingenuity. Artist Mona Cliff explains: “NDN-uity is a phrase my grandfather would say when we had to make do with what was around to accomplish a task.”

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Ryia LeBeau

cultural affiliations Two Kettle Band of the Thituwan,

Diné of the Navajo Nation

born 1998, Oceti Sakowin Territory

Lady Sovereign, 2024

satin, shells, leather, metal, horsehair, dyeing

Courtesy of the artist

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Jamie Okuma

cultural affiliations Luiseño, Shoshone-Bannock, Wailaki, Okinawan,

La Jolla band of Indians in Southern California

born 1977, Glendale, California, United States

Becoming, 2022

deer leather, nails, chain, twenty-four-carat gold, walnut wood, beading

Museum purchase: Helen Foresman Spencer Art Acquisition Fund,

2023.0097.a-d

Jamie Okuma is known for her couture high fashion line and use of micro-beads to create exquisitely detailed beadwork on brands like Louis Vuitton. Many of her designs incorporate flowers, animals, and other traditional imagery inspired by her culture. She displays both her passion for horror and skill as a beadworker on this photorealistic backpack inspired by the 1987 cult classic movie *Hellraiser*. Okuma is an avid horror fan and has made multiple works that showcase her love of the genre.

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