Welcome to Native Cinema Showcase 2018, when the National Museum of the American Indian brings many of the best Native films beyond our museum locations in Washington, D.C., and New York City.

It’s no coincidence so many Native filmmakers are using their creative talents to create films that examine criminal and societal justice. We find ourselves at a moment in contemporary life where outdated notions and ways of doing things are being challenged. Many of the films selected magnify complex stories. Join me and my fellow museum directors at the “State of the Art” conversation where we will examine how Native art fits in the broader narrative of American art history.

Native Cinema Showcase hosts free screenings at the New Mexico History Museum, and on Saturday night at the Santa Fe Railyard Park we feature Disney’s COCO.

I deeply appreciate the support from the sponsors and partners for Native Cinema Showcase.

On behalf of the SWAIA Indian Market and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian board and staff, thank you for joining us this year.

Kevin Gover (Pawnee)
Director, National Museum of the American Indian
Presenting Organizations

Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian

The Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian advances the knowledge and understanding of Native cultures of the Western Hemisphere—past, present, and future—through partnership with Native people and others. The museum works to support the continuance of culture, traditional values, and transitions in contemporary Native life.

Visitors can experience museum exhibitions and programs in New York at the George Gustav Heye Center and on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as well as see collections by appointment at the Cultural Resource Center in Suitland, MD.

AmericanIndian.si.edu

The Southwestern Association for Indian Arts (SWAIA) and Santa Fe Indian Market

SWAIA’s mission is to bring Native arts to the world by inspiring artistic excellence, fostering education, and creating meaningful partnerships. This largest juried show of Native fine art displays the work of more than 1,100 artists from 100 tribes in more than 1,000 booths over a two-day period. This year marks the 97th annual SWAIA Santa Fe Indian Market, taking place on the Plaza and surrounding streets in Santa Fe. Join us for a week of festivities that include music and cultural performances on the Plaza Stage and the NMAI Native Cinema Showcase, developed and presented by the National Museum of the American Indian—all leading up to an exciting weekend of incomparable Native arts at the Santa Fe Indian Market on August 18 and 19.

Swaia.org
TUESDAY, AUGUST 14
7:00 p.m.    Dawnland (pg. 6)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15
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3:00 p.m.    Tribal Justice (pg. 9)
7:00 p.m.    Waru (pg. 10)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16
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SUNDAY, AUGUST 19
1:00 p.m.    Rise Above Shorts Program (pg. 28)
3:00 p.m.    Out of State (pg. 31)
TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

Dawnland
7:00 p.m./Tuesday
(USA, 2018, 86 min.)
Directors: Adam Mazo, Ben Pender-Cudlip
Producers: Adam Mazo, N. Bruce Duthu (Houma); Executive Producers: Heather Rae, Beth Murphy, Shirley K. Sneve (Sicangu Lakota); Impact Producer: Tracy Rector (Seminole/Choctaw)

For decades child welfare authorities have been removing Native American children from their homes to “save” them from being Indian. In Maine the first official “truth and reconciliation commission” in the United States begins a historic investigation. Dawnland goes behind the scenes as this historic body grapples with difficult truths, redefines reconciliation, and charts a new course for state and tribal relations.

In Person: Esther Anne (Passamaquoddy), Co-director of Maine-Wabanaki REACH and Tracy Rector (Seminole/Choctaw).

PRECEDED BY:

yooxatuwatánk (We Speak)
(USA, 2018, 5 min.)
Director: Tracy Rector (Seminole/Choctaw)
English, Lushootseed, and Tlingit without subtitles

Filmmaker Tracy Rector and Duwamish elder Ken Workman show what “identity” can mean when you know your ancestors and where they come from.

Keewaydah (Let’s Go Home)
(Canada, 2017, 9 min.)
Director: Terril Calder (Métis)

The moth’s powerful transformational gifts can bring us from one world to the next. In this stunning work, the moth brings home 12-year-old Chanie Wenjack and calls for change in the fraught relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canada.

Program presented in partnership with Vision Maker Media.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

More Than a Word
1:00 p.m./Wednesday
(USA, 2017, 70 min.)
Directors: Kenn Little (Hunkpapa Lakota), John Little (Hunkpapa Lakota)

More Than a Word analyzes the Washington football team and their use of the derogatory term “r*dskins.” Using interviews from both those in favor of changing the name and those against, More Than a Word presents a deeper analysis of the many issues surrounding the Washington team name.

In Person: NMAI Director Kevin Gover (Pawnee)

Tribal Justice
3:00 p.m./Wednesday
(USA, 2017, 90 min.)
Director: Anne Makepeace

Two Native judges look to traditional concepts of justice in order to reduce incarceration rates of Native people, foster greater safety in their communities, and create a more positive future for Native youth. By addressing the root causes of crime, these judges are modeling restorative systems that work, and mainstream courts across the country are beginning to take notice.

PRECEDED BY:

How to Steal a Canoe
(Canada, 2016, 4 min.)
Director: Amanda Strong

How to Steal a Canoe is a song that tells the story of a young Nishnaabeg woman and an old Nishnaabeg man who rescue a canoe from a museum and return it to the lake it was meant to travel. On a deeper level, it speaks of stealing back the precious parts of us that were always ours in the first place.
**Waru**

7:00 p.m./Wednesday  
(2017, Aotearoa, 86 min.)  
Directors: Briar Grace-Smith, Casey Kaa, Ainsley Gardiner, Katie Wolfe, Renae Maihi, Chelsea Cohen, Paula Jones  
*English and Māori with English subtitles*

**FOR MATURE AUDIENCES**

Eight female Māori directors each contributed a ten-minute vignette, presented as a continuous shot in real time that unfolds around the *tangi* (funeral) of Waru, a small boy who died at the hands of his caregiver. In Māori, *waru* means “eight.”

Discussion to follow.

**PRECEDED BY:**

**Mud (Hashtł’ishnii)**

(USA, 2017, 10 min.)  
Director: Shaandiin Tome (Diné)

On the day of her death, Ruby faces the inescapable remnants of alcoholism, family, and culture.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 16**

**Family Dynamics Shorts Program**

1:00 p.m./Thursday  
Program running time: 76 min.

**Wapikoni (Flower)**

(Canada, 2017, 4 min.)  
Director: Élisa Moar (Atikamekw)  
*French with English subtitles*

A visual poem that narrates traditional teachings, passed down by women from time immemorial, related to femininity.

**Water**

(Australia, 2017, 12 min.)  
Director: John Harvey (Torres Strait Islander)

A pregnant woman must survive in a dystopian world without water.
**Just One Word**
(Canada, 2017, 11 min.)
Director: Jani Lauzon (Métis)

A board game, great cupcakes, and a bottle of scotch—an intervention between sisters, or another reason to get drunk?

**Stage Name: Victoria**
(Canada, 2017, 3 min.)
Director: Taran Morriseau (Ojibwe)

An intimate look at a drag queen starting his career in the community of Fort William First Nation and his relationship with his mother who has always encouraged him.

**Faka’anaua**
(Tonga, 2017, 10 min.)
Director: Sio Sateki Malani Wolfgramm (Tongan)

Tongan with English subtitles

A young girl learns to cope with death during preparations for a funeral.

**Megwetch Kiajashk/Thank you Seagulls**
(Canada, 2017, 5 min.)
Directors: Jolene Chartrand (Saulteaux), Austin Delaronde (Saulteaux)

Seagull egg harvesting has been a Saulteaux tradition for many centuries. Elaine Ferland was mayor of Duck Day for over a decade, and she continues her dedication to that tradition by ensuring youth learn it too. Every year she brings youth to experience the harvesting and the process of boiling and eating the seagull eggs.

**Possum**
(New Zealand, 2016, 15 min.)
Director: David Whitehead (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Porou)

A tale of two young brothers who accompany their lumberjack father to a forest campsite. At odds with each other, the two hatch a plan to head into the woods and hunt for a notorious possum named Scar.

**Twilight Dancers**
(Canada, 2017, 16 min.)
Directors: Theola Ross (Cree), Paola Marino

A group of Indigenous teenagers from Pimicikamak Cree Nation use square dancing to help heal from the trauma of a suicide epidemic in their small, remote community.
Reclamation Shorts Program

3:00 p.m./Thursday
Program running time: 78 min.

Shásh Jaa’: Bears Ears
(USA, 2016, 23 min.)
Director: Angelo Baca (Navajo/Hopi)

Shásh Jaa’ (Bears Ears) is 1.9 million acres of Utah wilderness considered sacred land to the Native American communities of the region. They unite to protect this pristine area from natural resource extraction and designate it a National Monument in collaborative management partnership with tribes.

Return
(USA, 2018, 28 min.)
Director: Karen Cantor

Disturbed by their community’s declining health, Native American women reclaim ancient traditions leading toward better food ways and spiritual awakening.

Then, Now, and Forever: Zuni in the Grand Canyon
(USA, 2017, 27 min.)
Director: Daniel Byers

Follow the A:shiwi rain priests and medicine men as this sacred migration down the Colorado River is documented on film for the first time. The journey takes place from the pueblo at Halona Idiwana’a to shrines and ancient settlements and through canyon walls carved by the petroglyphs of the ancestors.

Program presented in partnership with the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.
Moroni for President

7:00 p.m./Thursday
(USA, 2018, 78 min.)
Directors/Producers: Saila Huusko, Jasper Rischen
Producers: Sara Goldblatt, Mel Shimkovitz.
Executive Producer: Billy Luther (Diné/Hopi/Laguna Pueblo)

Moroni Benally is running for president of the Navajo Nation, the largest Native American nation in the U.S. Young, gay, Mormon, and highly educated, he sets out to confront the political establishment in a homecoming that challenges what he imagined both home, and himself, to be.

In Person: Moroni Benally (Navajo)

PRECEDED BY:

iVote—Nikkita Oliver—Exercise Our Power

(USA, 2017, 1 min.)
Director: Tracy Rector (Seminole/Choctaw)

A powerful voice for local and global change, poet/lawyer/activist Nikkita Oliver shows what can be accomplished when people come together and advocate for what they believe in.

The Ice Cream Man

(USA, 2016, 5 min.)
Director: Rebecca Drobis

A story of young entrepreneurship and hope on a Montana Indian reservation.

Program presented in partnership with Vision Maker Media.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

Future Focused Shorts Program
1:00 p.m./Friday
Program running time: 56 min.

Koriva
(Papua New Guinea, 2017, 6 min.)
Director: Euralia Paine (Tainya-Dawari)
Tok Pisin and English with English subtitles

A young girl from the city tries to participate in traditional village life against her father’s wishes.

Amásání/The Grandmother
(USA, 2017, 13 min.)
Director: Stacy Howard (Navajo)

When Riley gets suspended from school, her mother sends her to spend a day with her grandmother. Riley is resistant at first, but the loving and strong nature of her grandmother opens Riley’s world as she learns more of her Diné culture and language.

68 Voces (68 Voices):
El origen de las mariposas y la chaquira (About the Origin of the Butterflies and Sequins)
(Mexico, 2016, 2 min.)
Series Creator and Art Director: Gabriela Badillo
Tohono O’odham with English subtitles

An animated retelling of the origin of the butterflies and sequins.

The Theft of Fire
(USA, 2016, 2 min.)
Director: Desiree Walker (Chukchansi Yokut)

A short animation adapted from a Miwok/Yokut story as told by Bill White and Captain Charlie.

Shaman
(Canada, 2017, 5 min.)
Director: Echo Henoche (Nunatsiavut Inuk)

This animated short tells the story of a ferocious polar bear turned to stone by an Inuk shaman.
**Sun and the Great Frog**

(USA, 2017, 5 min.)
Director: Joseph Erb (Cherokee)

In this Cherokee eclipse story in the Cherokee language, a great frog tries to swallow the sun.

**The Mountain of SGaana**

(Canada, 2017, 10 min.)
Director: Christopher Auchter (Haida)

A magical tale of a young man stolen away to the spirit world and the young woman who rescues him.

**Black Mountain Boy**

(USA, 2018, 4 min.)
Director: Jonathon Yellowhair (Diné)

In the rugged terrain of Navajo land, a young boy must protect his baby horse from the dangers that lurk in the mountains.

**68 Voces (68 Voices): El tigre y el grillo (The Tiger and the Grasshopper)**

(Mexico, 2016, 1 min.)
Series Creator and Art Director: Gabriela Badillo
*Tojolabal with English subtitles*

An animated retelling of a traditional Tojolabal story about a tiger and a grasshopper and the power of small things.

**Nan Isht Akokpachi/The Gift**

(USA, 2017, 8 min.)
Director: Steven Paul Judd (Kiowa)
*Choctaw with English subtitles*

After returning home from his grandfather’s funeral, a young Native American boy opens a mysterious gift bequeathed to him by his grandfather.
NMAI “State of the Art” Conversation  
3:00 p.m./Friday

Please join Kevin Gover and directors of leading museums for a discussion about “changing the narrative” to facilitate a better understanding of Native American art within the contexts of broader American and global art history and criticism. David Penney, Associate Director of the National Museum of the American Indian, will moderate the panel of distinguished directors.

Participants:

David M. Roche, Director & CEO, Heard Museum

John Vanausdall, President & CEO, Eiteljorg Museum

W. Richard West, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer, Autry Museum of the American West

Indictment: The Crimes of Shelly Chartier  
7:00 p.m./Friday

(Canada, 2017, 44 min.)
Directors: Shane Belcourt (Métis), Lisa Jackson (Anishinaabe)

The media sensationalized the story of a troubled, reclusive young Manitoba woman from Chemawawin Cree Nation as a high-profile catfishing case involving an NBA superstar and an aspiring model. Was Shelly Chartier a master manipulator who used social media as her weapon? With sensitivity, intelligence, and in-depth access to Shelly, *Indictment* raises important questions about the Canadian justice system.

In Person: Shane Belcourt and Lisa Jackson

PRECEDED BY:

Jackrabbit  
(USA, 2017, 15 min.)
Director: Jesse Littlebird (Laguna and Kewa Pueblos)

A short film drama about a Native American boy who questions who he is growing up on the Rez.
Nieiddaš ja guollečikŋa/
Girl with the Fish Necklace
(Sápmi/Norway, 2017, 12 min.)
Director: Egil Pedersen (Sámi)
*Northern Sámi with English subtitles*

A young girl is obsessed with every little detail of her adored late father, envisioning his clothes, hands, face, behavior, and actions, but an accidental meeting triggers doubt in her love for him.

Rae
(Canada, 2017, 10 min.)
Director: Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs (Mohawk)

Today is Rae’s seventh birthday and she’s excited for the party her mom, Ista, has promised her. As the day wears on, it becomes obvious that the promises have been derailed by personal demons. As Rae’s strength is revealed, parental roles are reversed.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 18**

**Future Voices**

1:00 p.m./Saturday
Program running time: 90 min.

Native Cinema Showcase welcomes the seventh Future Voices showcase of Native films. Future Voices of New Mexico is a collaborative filmmaking project that works with Indigenous and underrepresented voices from around the world. Future Voices brings together filmmakers and various cultural institutions to encourage young producers to tell stories through film and photography.

For more information, visit www.futurevoicesofnewmexico.org

In Person: Introduced by Marcella Ernest (Bad River Band of Chippewa), Project Director, Future Voices of New Mexico
Kayak to Klemtu

3:00 p.m./Saturday
(Canada, 2017, 90 min.)
Director: Zoe Leigh Hopkins (Heiltsuk/Mohawk)

Fourteen-year-old Ella is determined to travel the length of the Inside Passage by kayak in order to protect her home. She plans to protest a proposed pipeline that would spoil her beloved homeland’s waters. Ella strives to ensure that the coast remains a place for all her people to call home.

PRECEDED BY:

Ɂaciltalbixʷ Ɂǝtǝsiliš xʷǝlč:
People of the Salish Sea

(USA, 2018, 4 min.)
Produced by Longhouse Media
Lushootseed without subtitles

Suquamish, Snoqualmie, Lummi, Muckleshoot, and Squaxin Island Tribes are the people of the Salish Sea who live in close relationship with nature.

səshəlɁ kʷi qʷuʔ?: Water is Life

(USA, 2018, 4 min.)
Produced by Longhouse Media
Lushootseed without subtitles

Duwamish tribal member and direct descendant of Chief Sealth, Ken Workman, reflects on the water that has loved and supported his people from time immemorial, as well as the sacred responsibility the Duwamish have to protect it.

8:00 p.m./Saturday
PROGRAM AT SANTA FE RAILYARD PARK SCREEN

Guadalupe St. and Paseo De Peralta, Santa Fe
(505) 982-3373

COCO

(USA, 2017, 105 min.)
Director: Lee Unkrich

In Disney/Pixar’s vibrant tale of family, fun and adventure, aspiring young musician named Miguel (voice of newcomer Anthony Gonzalez) embarks on an extraordinary journey to the magical land of his ancestors. There, the charming trickster Hector (voice of Gael Garcia Bernal) becomes an unexpected friend who helps Miguel uncover the mysteries behind his family’s stories and traditions.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

Rise Above Shorts Program

1:00 p.m./Sunday
Program running time: 87 min.

Wamin (Apple)
(Canada, 2017, 2 min.)
Director: Katherine Nequado (Atikamekw)

A young Atikamekw woman shows that living outside her reserve does not make her any other person than who she really is.

A Tribe Called Red—The Light II Ft. Lido Pimienta
(Chile, 2017, 6 min.)
Director: Lido Pimienta, Paz Ramirez

Juno Award-winning group A Tribe Called Red and Polaris Music Prize-winner Lido Pimienta release their video “For You” off their collaboration We Are The Halluci Nation.

Legacy
(USA, 2017, 9 min.)
Director: Mark Lewis (Gila River/Sac and Fox Nation)

In the world of professional mixed martial arts, Nikki Lowe (Muscogee Creek) stands out as one of the few Native Americans competing in the sport today. A fighter inside and outside of the cage, she continually strives to maintain her cultural identity.

Injunuity: The Mission
(USA, 2017, 4 min.)
Director: Adrian Baker (Hopi)

A short history of the Catholic mission system, first implemented in the 1760s by the Spanish Crown, where Indigenous communities of California were forced to become Catholics.

Alaskans in Internment Camps
(USA, 2017, 5 min.)
Produced by the Anchorage Museum

Japanese American Greg Kimura and Unungaq tribal member Qanglaagix Ethan Petticrew talk about their families’ separate histories of incarceration by the U.S. government during World War II.

Dislocation Blues
(USA, 2017, 19 min.)
Director: Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)

This incomplete and imperfect portrait of reflections from Standing Rock features Cleo Keahna (White Earth Ojibwe/Meskwaki), who recounts his experiences of the camp and the difficulties in looking back.
Chacahuita
(Mexico, 2016, 24 min.)
Director: Juana Reyes Díaz
Spanish with English subtitles

A story of resistance by the inhabitants of Santa María Tonameca, Oaxaca who 22 years ago organized to defend their wetlands from a company that wanted to establish a shrimp farm on communal land.

Pepe Carlos
(Mexico, 2018, 7 min.)
Director: Yolanda Cruz (Chatino)

Pepe Carlos was just five years old when his parents brought him across the US-Mexico border. Today he is a member of the Los Angeles-based Grammy Award-winning band La Santa Cecilia.

Ka Duu (Natural Color)
(Mexico and USA, 2018, 11 min.)
Director: Yolanda Cruz (Chatino)
English, Zapotec and Spanish with English subtitles

Zapotec master-weaver Porfirio Gutiérrez and dye-master Juana Gutiérrez hold a community workshop for young weavers demonstrating the ancient art of dyeing yarns with the use of local plants and cochineal.

Out of State
3:00 p.m./Sunday
(USA, 2017, 79 min.)
Director: Ciara Lacy (Native Hawaiian)

Shipped thousands of miles away from the tropical islands of Hawai‘i to a private prison in the Arizona desert, two Native Hawaiians, David and Hale, discover their Indigenous traditions from a fellow inmate serving a life sentence. Eager to prove to themselves and to their families that this experience has changed them forever, they struggle with the hurdles of life as formerly incarcerated men, asking the question: Can you really go home again?

PRECEDED BY:

68 Voces (68 Voices): El Viento (The Wind)
(Mexico, 2016, 1 min.)
Director: COMBO
Zoque-Ayapaneco and Tabasco with English subtitles

An animated retelling of the traditional Zoque-Ayapaneco story about the origin of the wind.

Shinaab
(USA, 2017, 8 min.)
Director: Lyle Mitchell Corbine Jr. (Bad River Lapointe Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians)

This portrayal of Indigenous people’s dislocation and alienation on their own land focuses on an Anishinaabe man who feels restless and isolated in the city of Minneapolis, haunted by an ominous sense that he doesn’t belong.
Main Screening Venue:
New Mexico History Museum (NMHM)

Screenings are **FREE**. Seating is on a first come, first served basis. All programs subject to change.

Museum location
113 Lincoln Avenue
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 476-5200
nmhistorymuseum.org

Further Information
AmericanIndian.si.edu
Swaia.org
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@ New Mexico History Museum
@ The Railyard