

THE ART OF THE PEOPLE

Contemporary Anishinaabe Artists

GVSU
ART
GALLERY
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**Thomas J and Marcia J. Haas
Center for Performing Arts**
January 11 - February 26, 2021

KEY THEMES



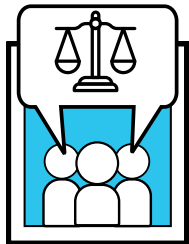
IDENTITY

A legacy of injustice, including generations of colonization, systemic destruction and erasure characterize the identities of Indigenous artists along with celebrations of cultural traditions and creative skills that have been passed down through generations. Learn how artists in this exhibition examine that legacy and express their Indigenous identity through the lens of their contemporary experience.



NATIVE AMERICAN/INDIGENOUS STUDIES

The Anishinaabeg Peoples, comprised of the Ojibwe, Bodawatami, Odawa, and Salteaux tribes, have inhabited the lands around the Great Lakes for many generations including the land upon which GVSU is located. Use the Anishinaabe artworks and stories in this exhibition as a launch pad into deeper conversations about Indigenous people in this area.



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Although, not all of the artists in the exhibition explicitly address centuries of injustice against their ancestors through their work, many of them do so in subtle ways. For some, including traditional motifs or simply celebrating their culture through their work is an act of defiance – a way of keeping their tradition alive in the face of oppression.

MORE INFORMATION

You can find additional learning resources related to the Anishinaabeg Peoples, Indigenous representation, social justice, and more on [gvsu.edu/artgallery](https://www.gvsu.edu/artgallery) along with links to discussion prompts and other activities. The Art Gallery staff welcomes collaboration. Connect with us to develop content for your classroom today.

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