

Portraits (Short Docs)

Thursday, August 11, 6:00pm
@ Ottawa Art Gallery (Alma Duncan Salon)

[BUY TICKETS](#)

Six Strings



Bawaadan Collective - Tsi Tyonnheht Onkwawenna (Writer/Producer) • 7m • 2022 • Canada • Mohawk

**Members of Bawaadan in attendance!*

On June 10th, 1800, a bitter dispute between rival factions within the Mohawk Village on the Bay of Quinte escalated into violence and the bloody murder of a father and his son, with others critically wounded. Six Strings is the compelling, revealing and true account of how the Mohawk people conducted their own system of justice long before the Indian Act. This event represents a moment in time before Indigenous people were obliged to abide by the British colonial court system.

The Bawaadan Collective formed in 2019, they self-produce their own Indigenous content. They are comprised of like-minded Indigenous artisans and accomplices who are interested in continually developing their collaborative approaches to modern artistic storytelling and film production processes.

We Are Not Speaking the Same Language



Danika St-Laurent • 8m • 2021 • Canada

Thinking back to her one phone call with her maternal grandmother, Danika explains her connection to her identity Indigenous (and her grandmother) through beading.

Danika St-Laurent is an Ojibwe-Cree (Saulteaux) from Muskowekwan First Nation in Saskatchewan and was born in Sherbrooke, Quebec. She was raised and currently lives in Montreal, Quebec.

In January 2020, Danika started beading again and launched her small beaded earring business called Neebageesis Beadwork.

Nimeshkanaminan



Ma's House



Laura Fontaine, Yasmine Fontaine • 5m • 2021 • Canada

Two young Innu women take up the portage routes of yesteryear to revive the identity of their Nation; a tribute to the elders, the territory and the Innu people.

Laura Fontaine is Innu from Mani-Utenam and a student at the Kiuna Institute. She grew up between her community and the nutshimit, which allowed her to live in the territory for several months with her parents. Her interest is directed towards Innu aitun mak Innu aimun.

Yasmine Fontaine is Innu from the Mani-Utenam community and Egyptian. She has a bachelor's degree in anthropology from Université Laval and is in the process of cultural reappropriation through her involvement. Since 2018, Yasmine has been participating in expeditions in the territory in order to reconnect with her Innu identity.

Jem's Dream Home



Louise-Marie Le Doussal • 30m • 2021 • Canada

Thanks Jem is living their last days in their house in Vancouver.

The pandemic already made it difficult for the drag queen performer to stay afloat and now, what they have called their home for the last nine years has been sold and they are asked to leave. The only way they know to cope with this degree of stress and anxiety is to channel it through their art. Leaving ok, but in one big shinding!

Louise-Marie Le Doussal was born and raised in France, studied photography and cinema in Brussels and Paris, and moved to Vancouver where they directed their first documentary film.

13 Eggs



TJ Cuthand • 14m • 2022 • Canada

Jeremy Dennis • 8m • 2021 • United States

Ma's House was once the heart of a community. As Ma's grandson, artist and photographer Jeremy Dennis is on a quest to restore the family home to its central role as a community gathering place for a new generation of diverse artists. Through personal mementos, intimate narratives, and a touch of celebrity gossip, Dennis and his family reveal generations of history and hope contained within the walls of their home.

Jeremy Dennis is a contemporary fine art photographer and a tribal member of the Shinnecock Indian Nation in Southampton, NY. In his work, he explores Indigenous identity, culture, and assimilation.

Piita Aapasskaan



Brock Davis Mitchell (Director) & Kyle Young Pine (Producer) • 16:30 • 2021 • Canada

Kyle Young Pine grew up skateboarding in Calgary Alberta. He was never taught in the Blackfoot ways, his urban upbringing was far from the Blood Tribe lands, which challenged Kyle to find his true identity. When skateboarding wasn't enough, Kyle turned to other means of coping, until he was introduced to Fancy Feather Dancing at a local powwow. Now Kyle uses the art form to express himself and educate others on the power of Blackfoot traditions.

Brock Davis Mitchell 2014 Alberta Film and Television Award winner for 'Best Director', Brock Davis Mitchell made his directorial debut through narrative music video work across Western Canada. Completing his first feature film "A Gentleman" in 2018.

SYRON



Jenny Fraser • 10m • 2021 • Australia

13 eggs is the number of eggs that were retrieved when I froze them. Over four years I collected footage to talk about my experience trying to make a baby. I stopped halfway through because I failed and had to figure out how to make a film about failing in this commonly shared life goal. Grieving people who never were is harder than it seems.

TJ Cuthand (b. 1978 Regina SK) makes short experimental videos and films about sexuality, madness, Queer identity, love, and Indigeneity, He is Plains Cree/Scots, a member of Little Pine First Nation, and resides in Toronto, Canada.

Gordon Syron is the God Father of Contemporary Aboriginal Art in Australia, and turned 80 in December 2021.

Jenny Fraser works within a fluid screen-based creative practice. Her old people hail from Yugambeh Country in the Gold Coast Hinterland, the Northern Bundjalung. She is a celebrated screen artist, being awarded the 2016 Mana Wairoa Grand Award for Advancement of Indigenous Rights from the Wairoa Film Festival in Aotearoa New Zealand for her documentary Solid Sisters, and an honourable mention at the 2007 imagineNATIVE Film Festival, Toronto, Canada for 'name that movie'.

