

PEACH TREE PROJECT



Photo: Pat Hall and Eileen Braziel, Principals of Peach Tree Project. Showing Navajo Churro fleece “Clarence” chandelier by Be’he’ Design. Be’he’ Design uses Dine’ (Navajo) artists and artisans for all creations.

Beginning of the *Peach Tree Project*

The *Peach Tree Project* began with the Navajo people who care about their culture’s way of life and value how it fits in a contemporary mainstream art world. The Navajo Nation is the largest tribe in the United States with over 200,000 documented citizens who live on the reservation, in addition to thousands of Navajo people (Dine’) who work and create on their tribal land. The *Peach Tree Project* began with the idea of replanting peach trees in Canyon de Chelly. The trees are symbolic of the resilience of the Navajo people after the Navajo War, and the burning of thousands of peach trees in the canyon which

caused their displacement.

The *Peach Tree Project* began in January, 2018, with principals Eileen Braziel and Pat Hall from Santa Fe, and Ron Garnanez (Dine’) who owns 400 head of Navajo Churro sheep. In 2019, Tony Abeyta joined the *Peach Tree Project* as Creative Director to facilitate the planting, and care-taking of the trees in Canyon de Chelly.

Peach Tree Project helps the Navajo people who live on the reservation and their community to bring back peach trees in Canyon de Chelly. Your contribution of 200.00 US dollars will purchase a peach tree, maintain its planting and watering until peaches are picked. At Gallery Fritz, 10% of all sales during the exhibition will be a donation to the *Peach Tree Project* which helps further the planting of the trees.

BARN BURNED DOWN NOW I CAN SEE THE MOON exhibition at galleryFRITZ, Santa Fe, NM opens Friday , August 16, 2019. The title was taken from a Japanese Haiku Poet, Mizuta Masahide (1657-1723).

The work in the exhibition includes Ron Garnanez Be’he Designs and new charcoal sculptures and furniture from burned wood from the reservation, a new Tony Abeyta video.

This exhibition was inspired by Navajo astronomy, and the adaptation of materials found on the reservation. Curated by Hall and Braziel the works chosen in the exhibition reflect commonalities between the Japanese culture and the Dine’ culture.

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