

HIGHNESS™
Bespoke Business Ambassadors™

THE HIGHNESS INDIGENOUS CREATION LAB

SHOWCASING HIGHNESS GLOBAL'S PORTFOLIO OF INDIGENOUS
CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS

- WINTER 2024 -



THE HIGHNESS INDIGENOUS CREATION LAB

Legacy Making Project

**Adult, Youth and
Community Workshops**

**Innovative Knowledge
Transfer**

**Luxury and High-end
Private Commission**

Brand Collaborations

**Technological Infused Land
Acknowledgements**

Public Art

Guiding our journey as The Lead Indigenous Consultant of The Lab is the esteemed professional artist, Nyle Miigizi Johnston.

The Highness Indigenous Creation Lab transcends the boundaries of Contemporary Art through innovative technologies, mediums, processes, and fabrication methods. We firmly believe that Indigenous Art holds a pivotal position at the forefront of the global Contemporary Art world.

We actively seek the participation of Indigenous artists and allies to co-create cutting-edge masterpieces and revolutionary concepts in the Contemporary Art realm. Through these synergistic partnerships, we aim to build a diverse and inclusive community that nurtures creativity, promotes knowledge sharing, and fosters artistic growth.

Innovation extends beyond the art that is formed to how knowledge is shared. We are dedicated to supporting our artists in their aim of redefining the traditional forms of knowledge exchange in the art world. The productions of The Lab are designed to encompass community engagement and interactive programming elements, enabling artists to connect with and inspire a wider, more diverse audience.

Our Lab places a strong emphasis on mentorship and supporting emerging Indigenous artists. We firmly believe in cultivating talent and offering avenues for growth, ensuring that the upcoming generation of Indigenous creatives can flourish and leave an indelible mark on the art world.

As stewards of the land, a core mission of The Lab is to explore sustainable materials that harmonize with the profound themes woven into the artworks. Committed to safeguarding our planet as responsible stewards, The Lab is dedicated to employing eco-friendly practices into all aspects of artistic creation.



QUINN HOPKINS

PAINTER, MURALIST, DIGITAL, A/R

Quinn Hopkins, an avant-garde Anishinaabe-Métis luminary, brazenly intertwines the threads of tradition and innovation, forging a distinctive artistic identity. An alumnus of OCAD University, his artistic odyssey traces back to an early fascination with the Woodland style, evolving through the influence of luminaries like Andy Warhol and contemporary icons such as KAWS and Olafur Eliasson. The juncture of visual art and technology became his wellspring of inspiration, a metamorphosis catalyzed by the crucible of the COVID-19 pandemic. Navigating a world marked by isolation, he harnessed augmented reality (A/R) to craft immersive art encounters, bridging the chasm of disconnect. His creations transcend mere spatial exploration, offering a fearless critique of the modern, urban Indigenous experience.

A torchbearer for his generation, Hopkins is at the forefront of a renaissance in Indigenous art, wielding premium materials and robust digital platforms to sculpt the very contours of artistic expression's future.

Hopkins ardently endeavors for his art to transcend barriers and become a beacon of accessibility —a reflection of his mixed Anishinaabe, Métis, and European heritage. Despite his emerging status, Hopkins boasts a distinguished portfolio comprising prestigious public and commissioned projects including Seneca College, The ROM, The Hart House, Luminato, and Accenture Canada.

QUINNHOPKINSART.CA | @noodinstudio

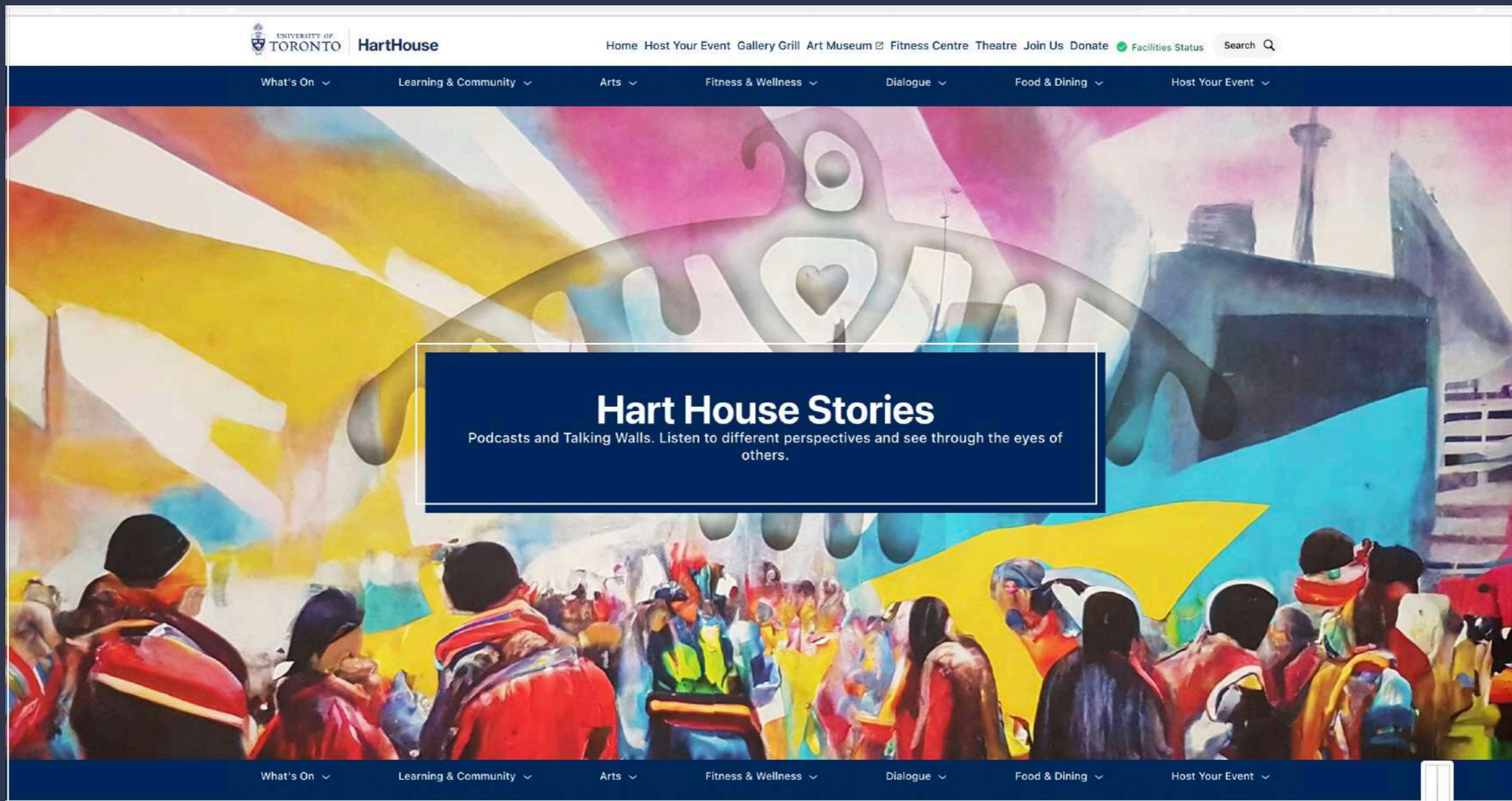
EQUITY SEEKING: EMERGING | INDIGENOUS



Image: Toronto Sun

Waabi-Makwa
2021 - NFT, 3D modeling & computer render





Intertribal, 96" x 120"

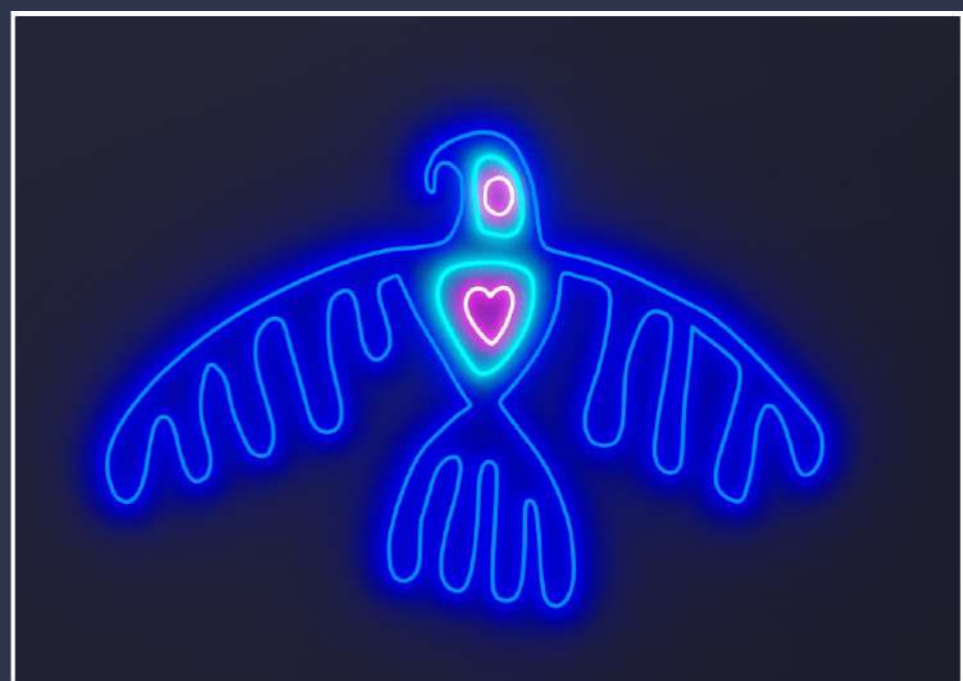
2022

digital painting and AR activation, installed at Hart House, University of Toronto

Migizi

2022

light sculpture commissioned by Hart House, University of Toronto
72" x 48", LED neon lights, acrylic



TORONTO STAR

With U of T's Hart House's history of exclusion, this Anishinaabe artist's mural depicts a new way forward

"They love to see a colonial space Indigenized," muralist Quinn Hopkins says of his work at U of T's Hart House.





Bear Market

2022

48"x 21", digital drawing & neural network printed on aluminum and minted as an NFT

FUTURE ANCESTORS

(2023)

LED EMBEDDED MURAL & AUGMENTED REALITY ACTIVATION

Commissioned by Seneca College for Odeyto on the Newham Campus.

Installation October 2023



FUTURE ANCESTORS
BY QUINN HOPKINS FOR SENECA COLLEGE
MAY 8, 2023





Wiikwaan #1

2022 - 18" circle print on aluminum, digital drawing



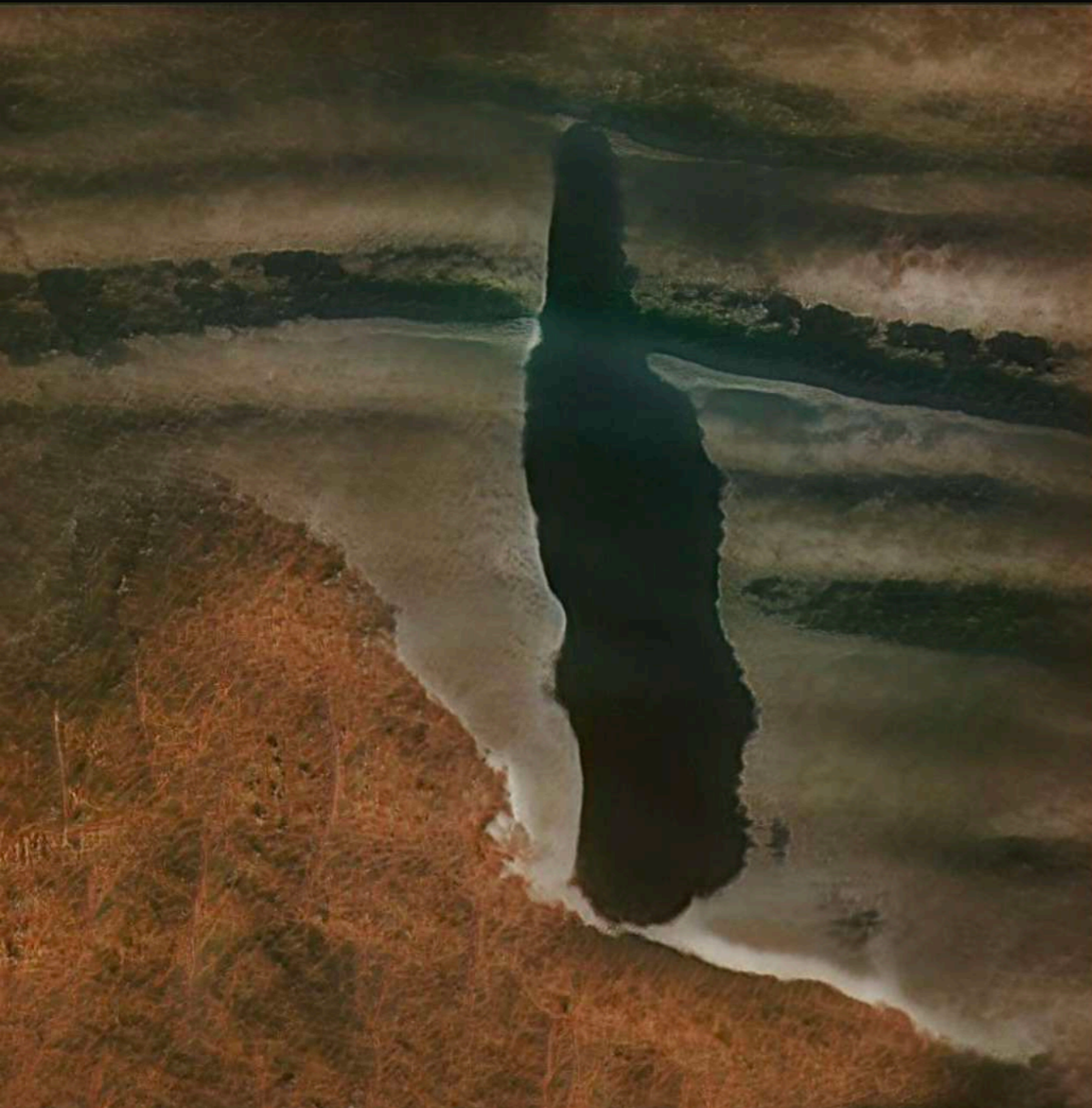
Wiikwaan #2

2022 - 18" circle print on aluminum, digital drawing



Ride like the Wind

2022 - 48" x 21" print on aluminum, digital drawing & neutral network



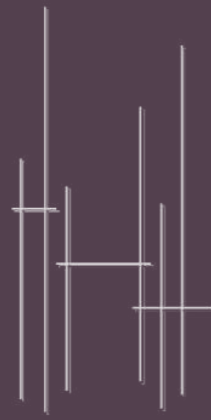
Quinn Hopkins
2022 - Fine Art Works



Do Androids Smudge with Electric Sage?

2021

Still from animation: NFT 3D animation & style GAN



NYLE MIIGIZI JOHNSTON

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY

Nyle Miigizi Johnston, known by the spirit name Wiishkoonseh Miigizi'enh, embodies the essence of the Whistling White Headed Eagle. Raised in the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation, he embarked on an apprenticeship with storytellers during his formative years. His artistic wellspring draws from the rich tapestry of woodland painters, storytellers, and the profound heritage of his Indigenous culture.

Reflecting on this, Johnston emphasizes, "In this era of reconciliation, it becomes imperative for all to acknowledge our presence and embrace the enduring legacy of narratives and wisdom stemming from the Anishinaabe Nation - a legacy deeply interwoven with my own experiences and identity."

Johnston's boasts an impressive public art portfolio, and his works stand as a testament to his cutting-edge legacy within the realm of Contemporary Art.

Spearheading innovation and pushing the boundaries of form, concept, and presentation, he assumes a pivotal role as the lead Indigenous Consultant of The Highness Indigenous Creation Lab that is dedicated to redefining traditional artistic practices and storytelling mediums in groundbreaking ways.

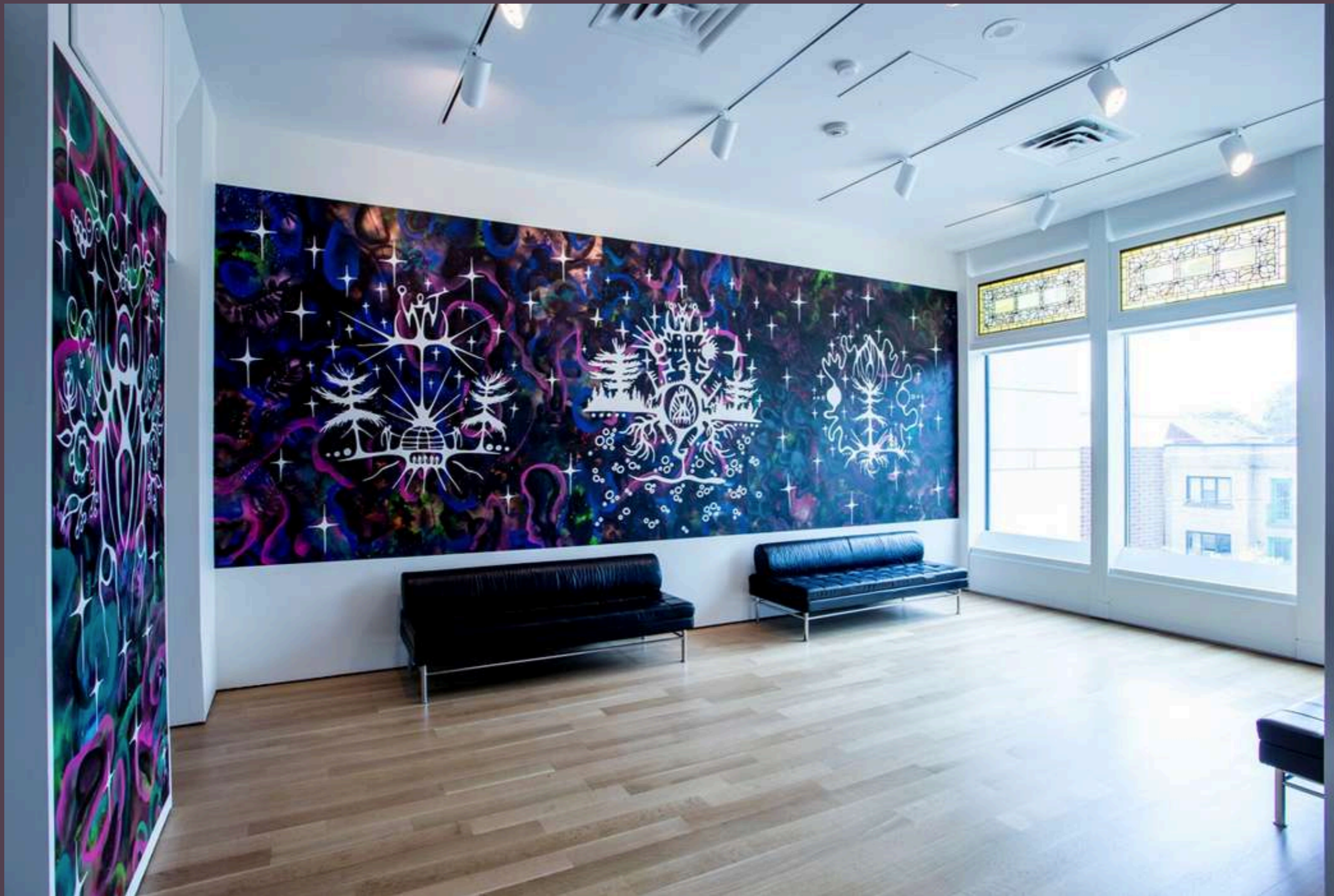
Johnston's professional voyage is intrinsically aligned with his aspiration to be an influential thought leader, a vanguard of innovation, and a catalyst for social change.

MIIGIZI.com | @MIIGIZI

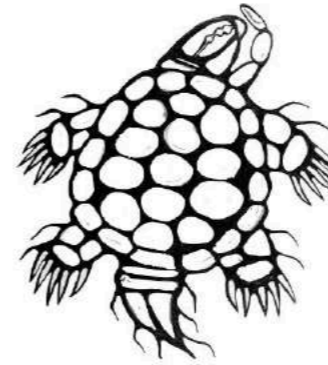
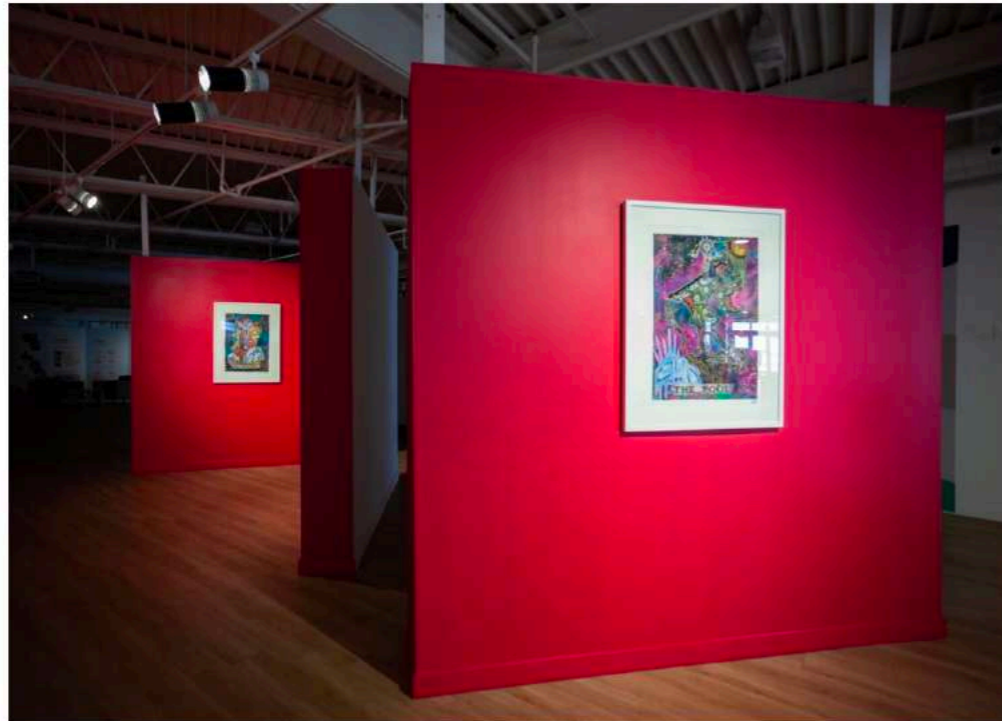
EQUITY SEEKING: INDIGENOUS



Image: ArtsUNITE Leadership Masterclass



Diyah Muh'gaanag - Our First Family
2018 - Permanent Works at The Art Gallery of Ontario
Oil on vinyl, cut vinyl



Guiding principles

Many Indigenous organizations and communities have adopted the Seven Grandfather Teachings as a moral stepping stone and cultural foundation. Communities have adapted the teachings to suit their community values. Despite where the teachings originated, they share the same concepts of abiding by moral respect for all living things. The Seven Grandfather Teachings are among the most widely shared Anishinaabe principles because they are relatable and encompass the kind of morals that humanity can aspire to live by. They offer ways to enrich one's life while existing in peace and harmony with all of creation.

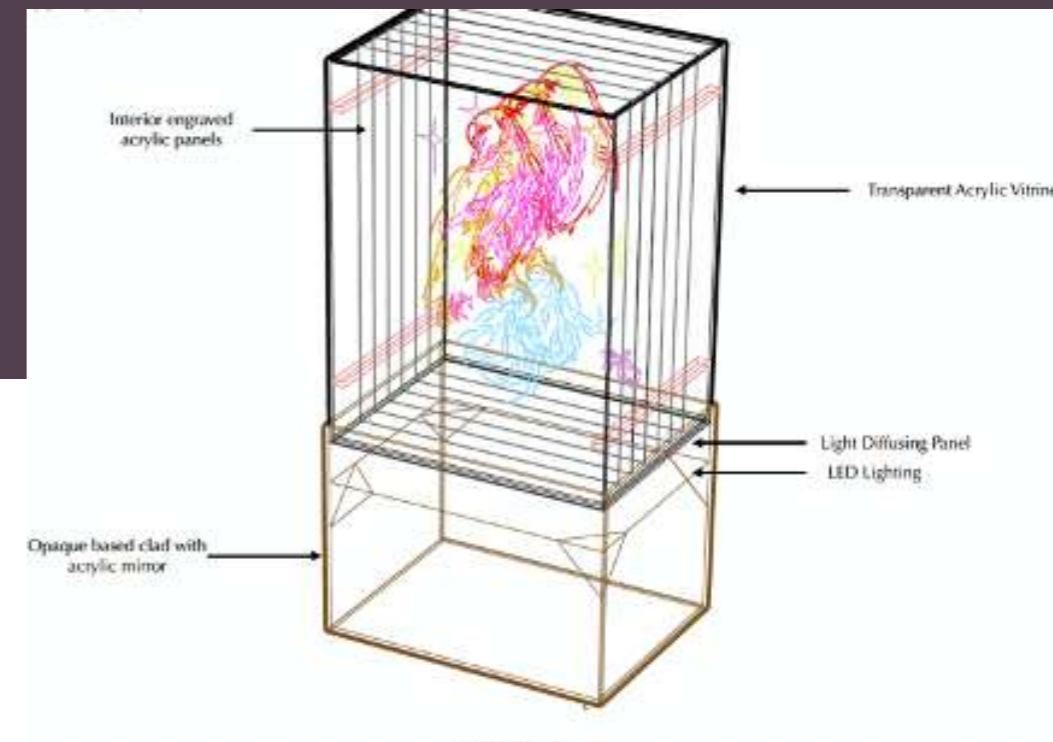
2022 Public Art Projects

Taro Card Series for ArtworxTO Home(LAND) Exhibition - Multi-media paintings (left)

Drain Cover Designs for Public Art, Mulock Park (right)



MIGIZI, AR component, Scotia Tower, Toronto, 2022



MIGIZI | THE EAGLE

(2022)

SCULPTURE BY NYLE JOHNSTON & AUGMENTED REALITY BY QUINN HOPKINS

Winner of Private Artist Call by Accenture Canada as part of Downie Wenjack Fund Legacy Spaces Project



*Butterfly Effect Mural in collaboration with Paula Gonzalez-Oss
2021 - Centre For Social Innovation, Toronto)
Aerosol and latex paint paint, digital print*



*UNTLED Mural in collaboration with Monica Wickeler
2021 - Laneway Project, Toronto
Aerosol and latex paint paint*



This Place, Neyaashiinigiing

2020 - In collaboration with Public Studio

Doris McCarthy Gallery, University of Toronto Scarborough



Rendering of sculpture commissioned for private client currently under fabrication and due to be completed in Fall 2022.



The Travellers is built upon the relationship between two seemingly conflicting characters travelling together in the same direction. The juxtaposition of the travelers themselves (their roles, time periods, costumes, varying physical appearances in the same environment); a canoe that is made for water going into space; the conflicting time periods where they should belong; etc. gives the viewer a lot to ponder. The artwork asks us to question the relationships, direction, purpose, time and storytelling - all in one compelling body of work.

By melding ancient traditions with modern technologies, *The Travellers* seeks to explore a new dynamic and encourage a new dialogue. It invokes the question:

where we can go if both have a place in the discussion as opposed to one taking priority or seeking to eliminate the other.



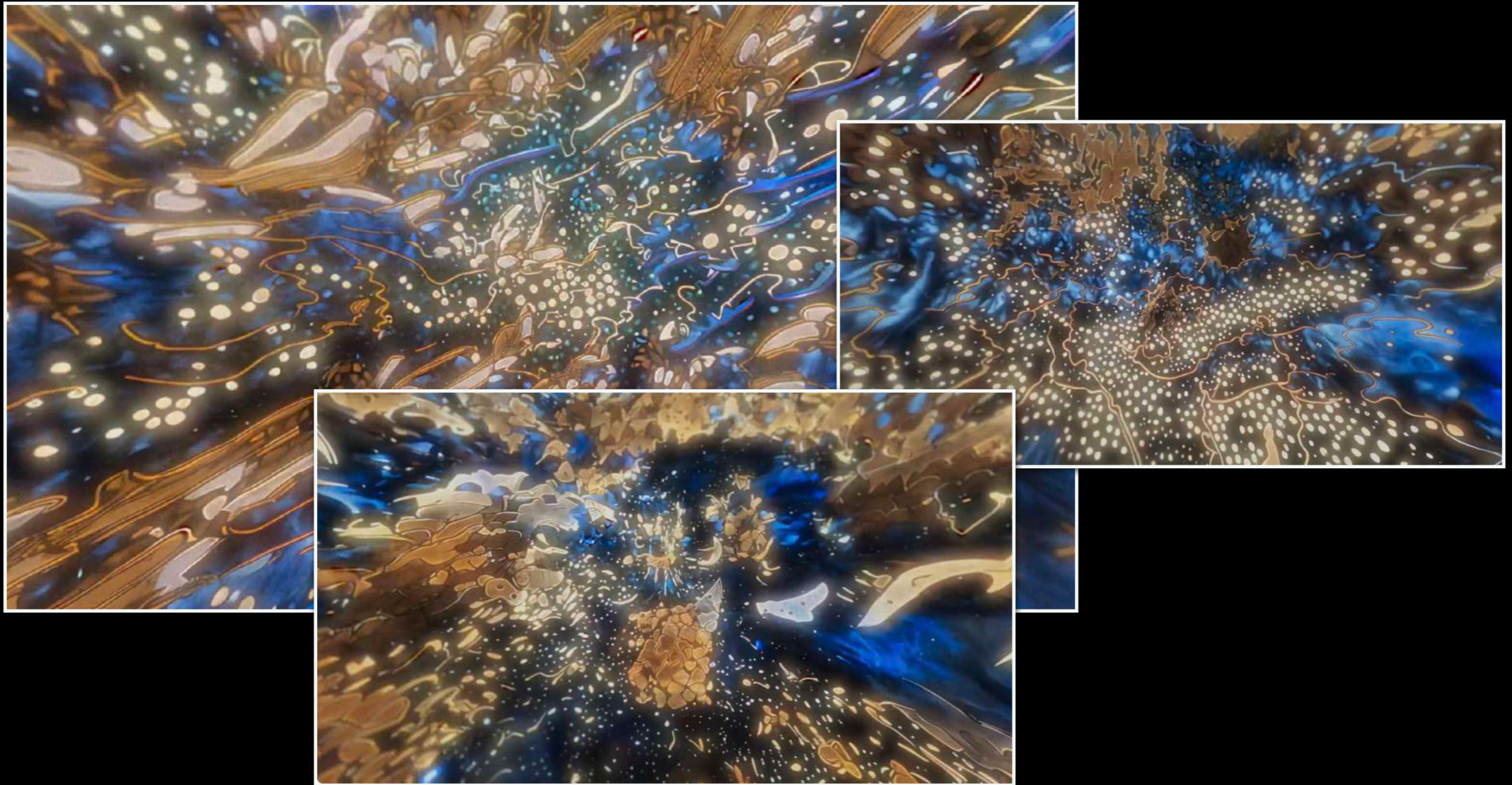
TIME TRAVELLERS
Sculpture in collaboration with Joel Richardson
2022 - Private commission
Mirrored Stainless Steel, Granite

Gift of the Stars

(2023)

Collaboration between Nyle Johnston, Nigel Nolan and Emmanuel Umukoro

Screens from digital activation using Artificial intelligence to generate images into moving animations with Nyle's voice over for storytelling.



WOLF



Painting oil on canvas



Tattoo



Fine Art Prints



HOARDINGS EXHIBITION

LET US NOT FORGET ABOUT THE LITTLE PEOPLE (2022)

This body of work, *Let Us Not Forget About the Little People*, not only references the children of his community who belong to The Chippewas of Nawash First Nations but also makes reference to the youth within the broader Canadian community. The visual narrative is a reminder of our obligation to protect and steward the beautiful territories we call home so that future generations can thrive.



ISAAC MURDOCH

PAINTER | MURALIST | DIGITAL ARTIST | SPEAKER

Isaac Murdoch, whose Ojibway name is Manzinapkinegego'anaabe / Bombgiizhik is from the fish clan and is from Serpent River First Nation. Isaac is well respected as a storyteller and traditional knowledge holder. His works include traditional Ojibway imagery/symbolism, and are influenced by his expertise in harvesting, medicine walks, cultural camps, Anishinaabe oral history, birch bark canoe making, birch bark scrolls, and Youth & Elders workshops.

Murdoch's images, like his stories, reflect his deeply held beliefs in the great spirit of the Earth and reflect the traditional knowledge he was taught by his Elders: "I am an artist, an activist, an advocate for our people, and a defender of the lands and waters... I believe it is no longer enough to just say something. I believe in the great power of art in bringing positive change and my artistic goal is to be a catalyst in building bridges and communities".

ISAACMURDOCH.COM | [@ISAAC_MURDOCH1](https://www.instagram.com/ISAAC_MURDOCH1)

EQUITY SEEKING: INDIGENOUS



PUBLIC ART COMPETITION - COMMISSIONED BY SENECA COLLEGE
2022 to honour Orange Shirt Day



Creation Story
17 x 11", digital print



Watering Hearts
24 x 24", digital print

// WINTERTIME STORIES (wood and acrylic)



WINTERTIME STORIES (wood and acrylic)



WINTERTIME STORIES (canvas prints)

WINTERTIME STORIES

(2023)

RENDERS OF WALL SCULPTURE BY NYLE

JOHNSTON & ISAAC MURDOCH

Winner of Kitchener Public Library Competition

(Installation 2024)



Indian Fish, hand-painted mural, Mississauga, Ontario



Thunderbird Uprising: Collaboration with Christi Belcort, hand-painted mural, Saskatchewan



ART WITH IMPACT - ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Free banners to download and use for all water and land protection actions by grassroots people. Permission is not granted for private companies or profit.



JACQUELINE TRAVERSE

PAINTER | MURALIST | SCULPTOR | MIX MEDIA

Jacqueline Traverse is an accomplished Indigenous Contemporary Artist who has a profound connection to her Anishinabe heritage and the community of her hometown, Winnipeg. Traverse's artistic journey, rooted in her heritage and shaped by her education at the University of Manitoba's School of Fine Arts, has established her as a dynamic and influential creator. With a diverse range of mediums, including painting, sculpture, mixed media, and video art, Traverse's work encapsulates the essence of her identity and experiences. With a professional commitment to social impact and a resounding voice on social justice, Traverse's art offers aesthetic beauty merged with a powerful force for change. She beautifully weaves a compelling visual narrative of resilience, identity, and hope through her work.

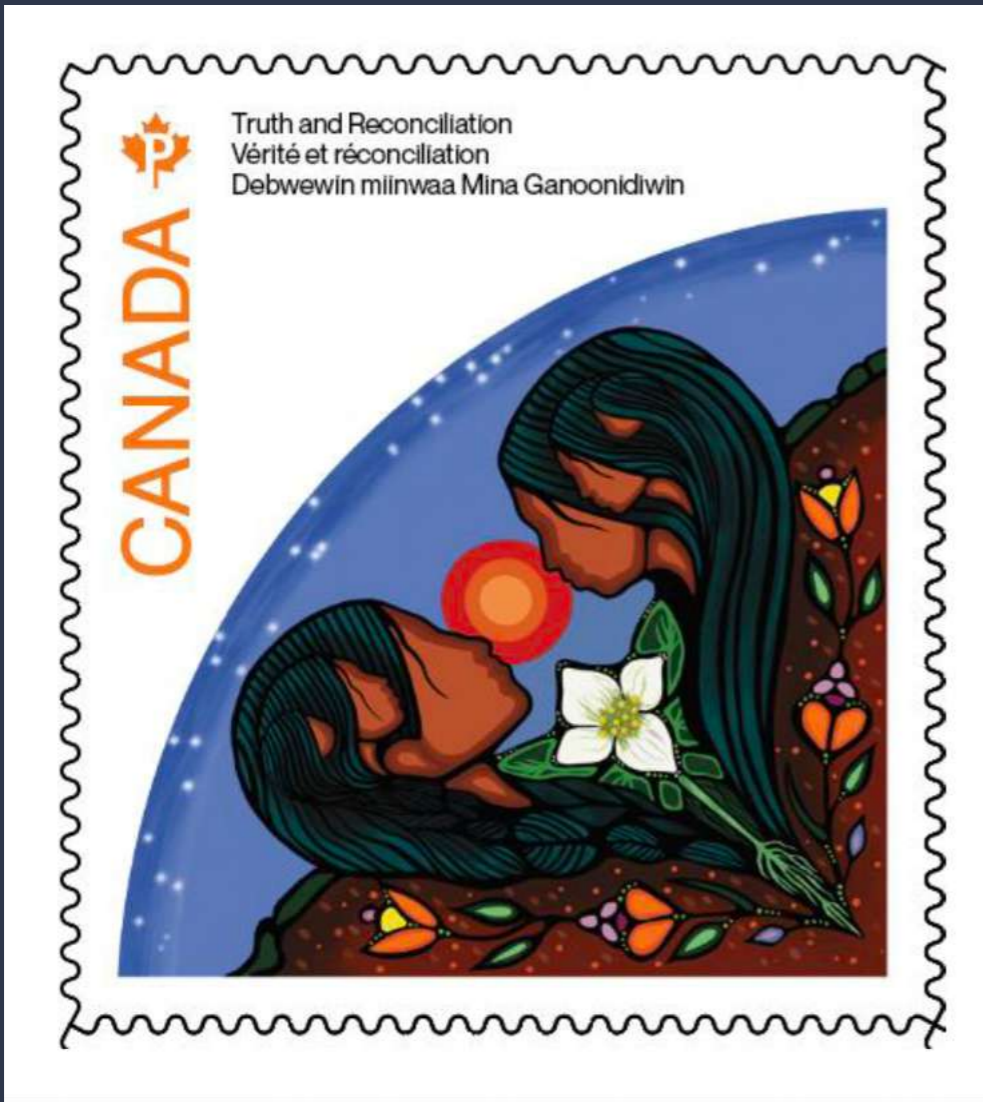
JACKIETRAVERSE.COM | @artbyjackietraverse

EQUITY SEEKING: FEMALE | INDIGENOUS



WE ARE THE LAND
2022 - Acquired by The Makoons Transition Centre





Mother Daughter Water Song
2017

Commissioned by Private Collector
18" x 24" Acrylic on Canvas

Seeds of Change
2022

Stamp design commissioned by Canada Post

PATH OF OUR ANCESTORS

2020

Mural Commissioned Public Art for Red River Community College Innovation Centre

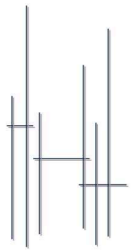




Residential School Rebels

2017

Commissioned By Private Collector



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INDIGENOUS COLLABORATIVE MURALS



These large-scale artworks combine art of a Professional Indigenous Artist with drawings created by the participants following an interactive Indigenous Storytelling / Knowledge Sharing session.

The following pages feature the initiative with Professional Artist, Nyle Miigizi Johnson.

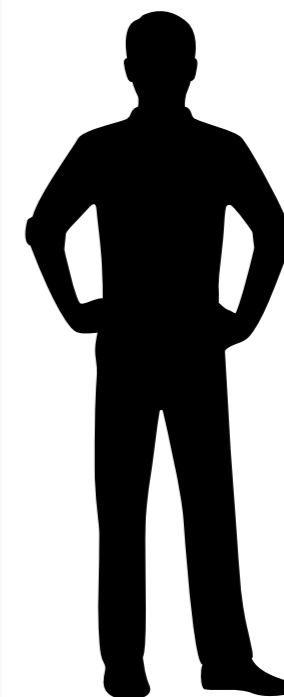
PARTICIPANTS: The project was originally designed for educational institutions and learning groups but has since been adapted for adults and children including health centres (including in-patient/out-patient care), conservation/climate groups, youth sports groups and corporate workshops.

CUSTOMIZATION: The Artists are working to make this a nation-wide initiative using the orange colour overlay to symbolize a unified step towards reconciliation although the works can be customized to incorporate organizational / brand colours.

INSTALLATION: The artwork can be printed on a variety of materials (canvas, vinyl, acrylic) and can be installed indoors or outdoors.

ZOONGIDE'EWIN / COURAGE

Created by Nyle Miigizi Johnston
in collaboration with students
from Peninsula Shores Public School exhibited
at The Tom Thompson Gallery (Fall 2023)



PROCESS: The Artist will conduct a virtual or in-person session for participants (for example, a story telling on The Creation Stories or The Seven Grandfather Teachings). Students will be encouraged to make their own drawings inspired by the storytelling session. The participants' drawings will then be documented and tiled as a background for the mural. A top layer of Artist's artwork will finish the mural.



Virtual or In-Person
Storytelling Session

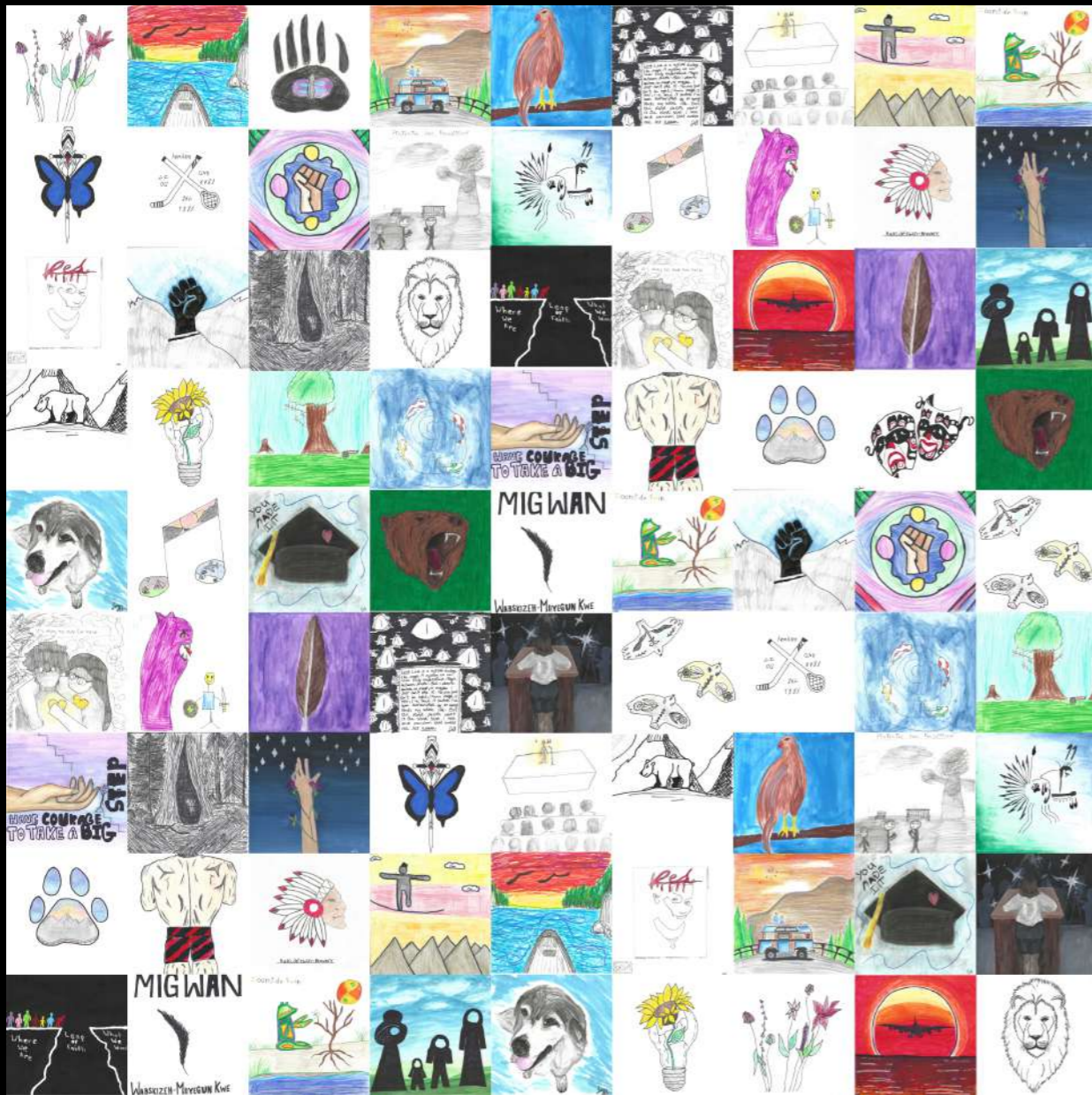


Artworks Made by Students

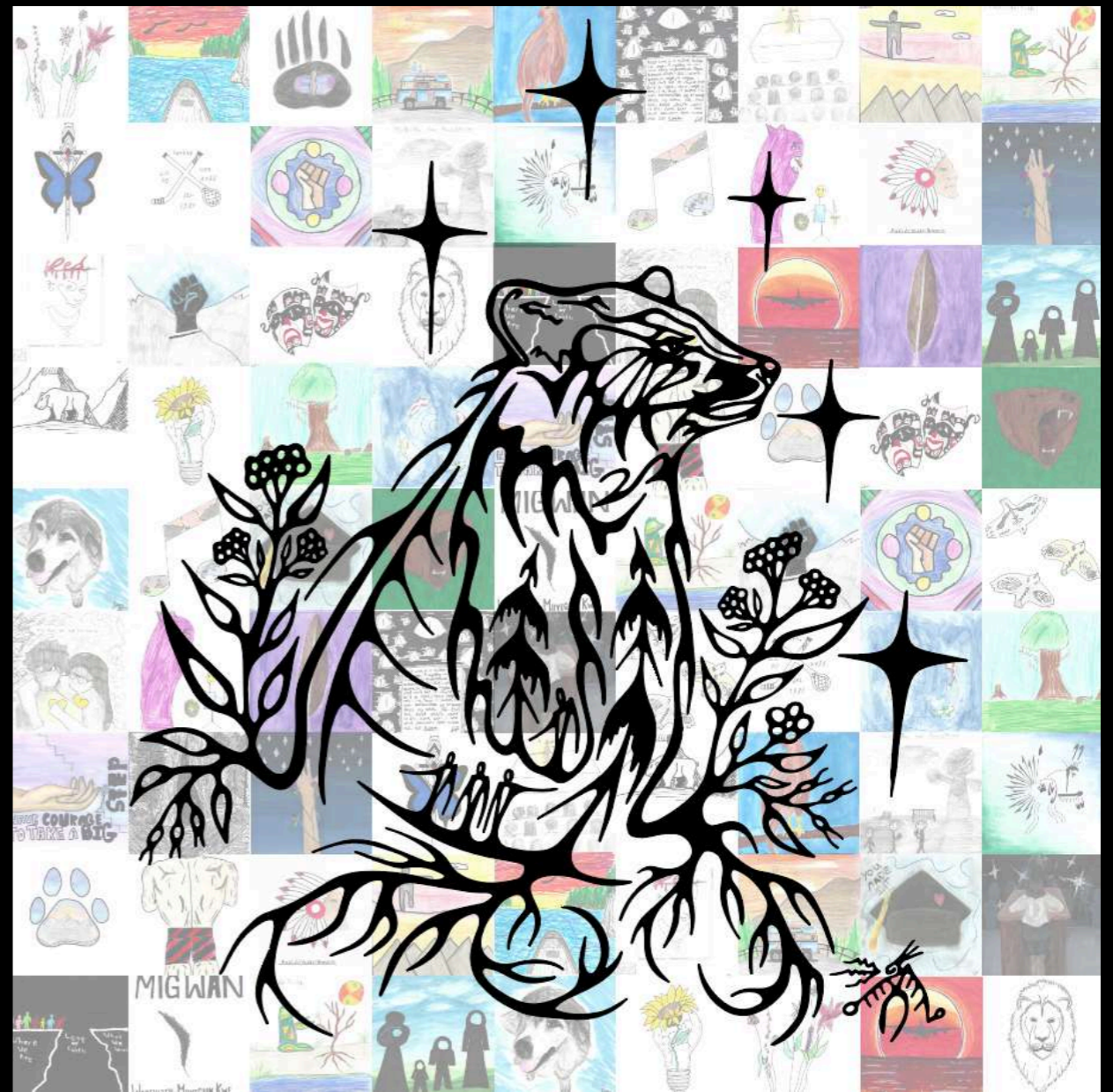


Artworks Documented and Tiled

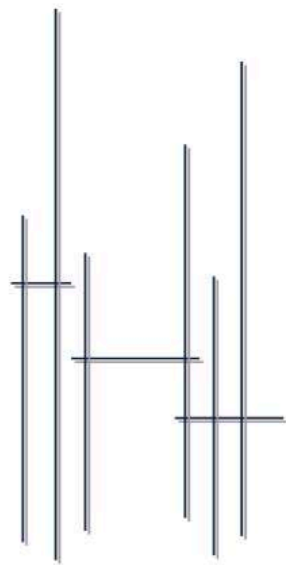
CREATIVE PROCESS



Students' Artworks



Johnston's Artwork Overlaid



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HIGHNESS.ART

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greta Constantine



ARTSCAPE



Creatives in the Highness Embassy have produced work, exhibited and/or collaborated with the above brands and institutions (some of these relationships may have predated Highness).



Highness Global Inc., founded in 2018 by Amana Manori, embarked on a mission to revolutionize the traditional creative-agency model. It was intentionally crafted to continuously broaden the realm of opportunities available to its roster of artists, known as "The Highness Embassy." Simultaneously, it encouraged these artists to venture into new artistic mediums and techniques.

With a strong commitment to social innovation and social impact, Highness Global places a spotlight on the intrinsic value of its creatives and their works. The agency's aim is to support all aspects of the creative process, remove stigma, and reconstruct healthy commercial relationships for their artists.

Adhering to a collaborative prosperity model, Highness Global collaborates with like-minded partners who share their vision. The agency's approach is organic, unencumbered, and flexible, as it recognizes the potential for every interaction to unearth new opportunities.

AMANA MANORI, CEO
HIGHNESS GROUP OF COMPANIES

POC | FEMALE FOUNDED | FEMALE LED | MINORITY OWNED FIRM