

# EXHIBITION PROGRAMS

## The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky

March 9–May 10, 2015



*Shield*, ca. 1850, Arikara artist, North Dakota, buffalo rawhide, native-tanned leather, pigment. The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri, Purchase: the Donald D. Jones Fund for American Indian Art (2004.35)

This exhibition unites Plains Indian masterworks found in European and North American collections, from pre-contact to contemporary, ranging from a two-thousand-year-old human effigy pipe made of stone to contemporary paintings, photographs, and a video-installation piece. Works of art collected centuries ago by French traders and travelers can be seen together with those acquired by Lewis and Clark on their famous expedition of 1804–06, along with objects from the early reservation period and recent works created in dialogue with traditional forms and ideas.

The distinct Plains aesthetic—singular, ephemeral, and materially rich—is revealed through an array of forms and media: painting and drawing; sculptural works in stone, wood, antler, and shell; porcupine-quill and glass-bead embroidery; feather work; painted robes depicting figures and geometric shapes; richly ornamented clothing; composite works; and ceremonial objects. Many nations, including Osage, Quapaw, Omaha, Crow, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Lakota, Blackfeet, Pawnee, Kiowa, Comanche, and Meskwaki are represented.

## SUNDAY AT THE MET

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### **The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky** *Sunday, March 15, 3:00* *The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium*

Discover how contemporary artists are redefining Plains Indians' artistic traditions and explore issues related to Native American life in the twenty-first century. Speakers are: Mario Caro, Dana Claxton, Jodi Gillette, Edgar Heap of Birds, and Judith Ostrowitz.



Assistive listening devices are available for this program.

## FILM PROGRAM

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### **Friday Focus Films**

*Friday, April 17, 4:00*  
*Bonnie J. Sacerdote Lecture Hall,*  
*Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education*

### ***Rising Voices* / HÓTHAÑIDŪPI (2015)**

Film by Lawrence Hott and Diane Garey, a production of Florentine Films/Hott Productions, Inc. in association with The Language Conservancy (60 min.).

Examines efforts to save the Lakota language. Selected shorts produced by The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art will also be screened.



Assistive listening devices are available for this program.

## GALLERY PROGRAMS

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### **Conversation with a Conservator Cheyenne or Arapaho Maffet Ledger**

*Thursday, March 5, 11:00*  
Angela Campbell, Assistant Conservator,  
Department of Paper Conservation,  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Experience a lively dialogue with a Museum conservator about an object that especially intrigues her. *Meet in Gallery 534, Vélez Blanco Patio.*

### **Artists on Artworks—Brad Kahlhamer**

*Friday, March 13, 6:30*

See the Met's collection through the eyes of artist Brad Kahlhamer, whose work is on view in the exhibition. His work explores what he refers to as the "third place"—where two opposing personal histories intersect.

*Limited to 45 people; stickers are distributed 20 minutes prior to the talk in Gallery 534, Vélez Blanco Patio.*

### **Exhibition Tours**

Discover the beauty of Plains Indian art in a variety of materials and forms that show the distinct Plains aesthetic over a period of two thousand years. *Meet in Gallery 999, Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Exhibition Hall.*

*Saturday, March 14, 10:30*

Gaylord Torrence, Fred and Virginia Merrill Senior Curator of American Indian Art,  
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

*Friday, March 27, 10:30*

*Monday, April 13, 10:30*

*Friday, April 24, 10:30*

Judith Ostrowitz, Research Associate,  
Department of Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas, The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Assistive listening devices are available for all gallery programs.

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

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### **How Did They Do That? (for all ages) Ornament and Dress**

*Saturday, March 14, 1:00–4:00*

*Sunday, March 15, 1:00–4:00*

*Gallery 999, Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Exhibition Hall*

Peek at technique and learn—through handling tools and materials—how works of art were created.

## STUDIO PROGRAMS

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### **Sunday Studio (for all ages) Stone, Glass, and Fiber: Plains Indians**

*Sunday, March 8, 1:00–4:00*

*Sunday, March 29, 1:00–4:00*

*Gallery 356, Art of Native North America,  
The Michael C. Rockefeller Wing*

Try your hand at creating works of art in the galleries. Focus on a different art form each session with family-friendly activities led by an artist. Drop in; art supplies provided.

Start or continue your art-making experience with a family tour in nearby galleries. Tours leave at 2:00 from the Sunday Studio welcome cart. Space is limited; first come, first served.

*This program takes place in the permanent collection galleries.*

### **Artist Demonstration An Afternoon with Edgar Heap of Birds: Live Over Loss**

*Saturday, March 14, 1:00–4:00*

*Gallery 999, Iris and B. Gerald Cantor  
Exhibition Hall, and Ruth and Harold D. Uris  
Center for Education*

Join contemporary artist Edgar Heap of Birds for a drop-in activity near his work in the exhibition and a related printmaking workshop in the Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR VISITORS WITH DISABILITIES

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### **Seeing Through Drawing—The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky**

*Saturday, March 14, 11:00–1:00*

*Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education*

For adults who are blind or partially sighted. Be inspired by the Museum's collection and exhibitions and learn innovative drawing techniques in this workshop that includes experimentation with materials, verbal description, and creative response to works of art. Afterward, join Edgar Heap of Birds for an artist demonstration (listed above).

[www.metmuseum.org/events](http://www.metmuseum.org/events)



### **Picture This!—The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky**

*Thursday, April 16, 2:00–3:30*

*Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for  
Education*

For adults who are blind or partially sighted. Enjoy works of art through detailed descriptions, touch, and other activities.

The Access programs on this page are free, but registration is required. Please call (212) 650-2010 or email [access@metmuseum.org](mailto:access@metmuseum.org).



### **Large-Print Labels**

Large-print label booklets are available at the entrance to the exhibition.



### **Audio Guide**

The Audio Guide is free for visitors who are hard of hearing, Deaf, blind, or partially sighted. Audio Guide players have volume controls and headsets. Neck loops for hearing aids with T-switches are available upon request. Regular and large-print Audio Guide scripts are also available upon request.

### **Other Services**

The Museum is committed to serving all audiences. Please call (212) 650-2010 or email [access@metmuseum.org](mailto:access@metmuseum.org) about programs and services, including Sign Language–interpreted programs, Verbal Imaging Tours, the Touch Collection, and other programs.

## AUDIO GUIDE

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Plains Indian artists are not only makers of objects that sustain ancient traditions but also bearers of individual creative expression and innovation. The exhibition curators and several contemporary Native artists discuss the rich artistic traditions of Plains culture as seen through a variety of forms and media, such as painting, drawing, embroidery, and sculpture.

The Audio Guide is available for daily rental at the Museum: \$7.00 for the general public; \$6.00 for Museum Members; \$6.00 for groups of 14 or fewer; \$5.00 for children under 12; \$4.00 for groups of 15 or more. Sales tax included.

Supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

## PUBLICATION

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*The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky*  
Edited by Gaylord Torrence

This comprehensive survey of the magnificent artistic traditions of the Plains Indians celebrates the extraordinary beauty, power, and spiritual resonance of Plains Indian art throughout time. Richly illustrated, this volume includes a wealth of masterworks. With newly researched texts by leading scholars, this book charts the continuum of centuries of artistic tradition and reflects the significant place that Plains Indian culture holds in European history and in the heritage of North America.

320 pages, full-color illustrations throughout. Hardcover: (80-024911). Available from The Metropolitan Museum of Art Store and online at [store.metmuseum.org](http://store.metmuseum.org).

## NOLEN LIBRARY IN THE RUTH AND HAROLD D. URIS CENTER FOR EDUCATION

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Nolen Library has information about the Museum's collection and special exhibitions, and a Teacher Resource Center with a circulating collection for educators. The Children's Reading Room in the library is designed for families and young readers. For hours and further information please call (212) 570-3788 or visit [www.metmuseum.org/nolen](http://www.metmuseum.org/nolen).



*The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky* is on view at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Exhibition Hall, Gallery 999, from March 9 through May 10, 2015.

The exhibition is made possible by the Enterprise Holdings Endowment, an Anonymous Foundation, and the Diane W. and James E. Burke Fund.

It was organized by the Musée du quai Branly, Paris, in collaboration with The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and in partnership with The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City.

### **We are grateful to the following for their support of educational programs:**

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Access Programs at the Museum are made possible by MetLife Foundation. Generous support also provided by the Filomen M. D'Agostino Foundation. Also made possible by Estate of Doris Alperdt, Renate, Hans & Maria Hofmann Trust, Charles Bloom Foundation, Allene Reuss Memorial Trust, The Ceil & Michael E. Pulitzer Foundation, The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc., Jane B. Wachsler, The J.M. Foundation, The Gordon and Llura Gund Foundation, The Merrill G. and Erita E. Hastings Foundation, The Murray G. and Beatrice H. Sherman Charitable Trust, and gifts in memory of Jay Budin.

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