

# Self-Guided Tour

## Native American Heritage Month

In celebrating Native American Heritage Month, we acknowledge the multiplicity of Indigenous perspectives, traditions, and visions of contemporary Native American artists. The gallery maps on the last page identify the locations of the artworks.

You can also explore the special exhibition “In Our Hands: Native Photography, 1890 to Now” in the Target Galleries through January 14, 2024 and “Reimagining Native/American Art,” a new installation in galleries 301-304, from November 11, 2023 to May 27, 2024.



GALLERY 259  
Jamie Okuma; shoes designed by Christian Louboutin  
Adaptation II, 2012

*How are both tradition and innovation reflected in this colorful pair of shoes?*

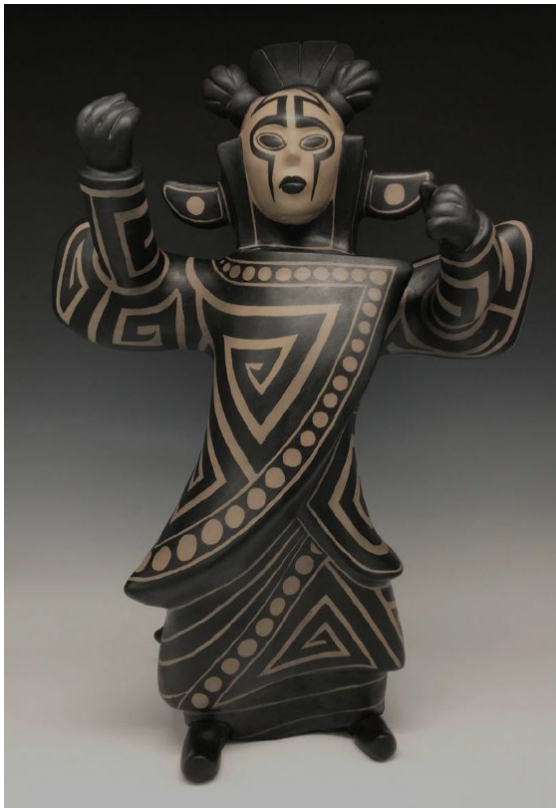
Award-winning artist Jamie Okuma has applied a Native American aesthetic to a pair of Christian Louboutin stilettos. With meticulous bead and quill work, she has transformed them into a contemporary version of highly decorated moccasins.



GALLERY 259  
Avis Charley  
Think Long, Think Wrong, 2021

*Take a close look at this painting. What words might describe this woman?*

Dakota/Dine artist Avis Charley portrays strong, independent Indigenous women in modern settings, celebrating Native people’s resistance to assimilation and colonization. She presents her subjects as contemporary people in a globalized world—accurate representations of Native people living in the contemporary American landscape.



GALLERY 259  
Virgil Ortiz  
Jagg and Gage, 2020-2021 (Gage pictured above.)

*How did the artist make the clay come to life with these figures?*

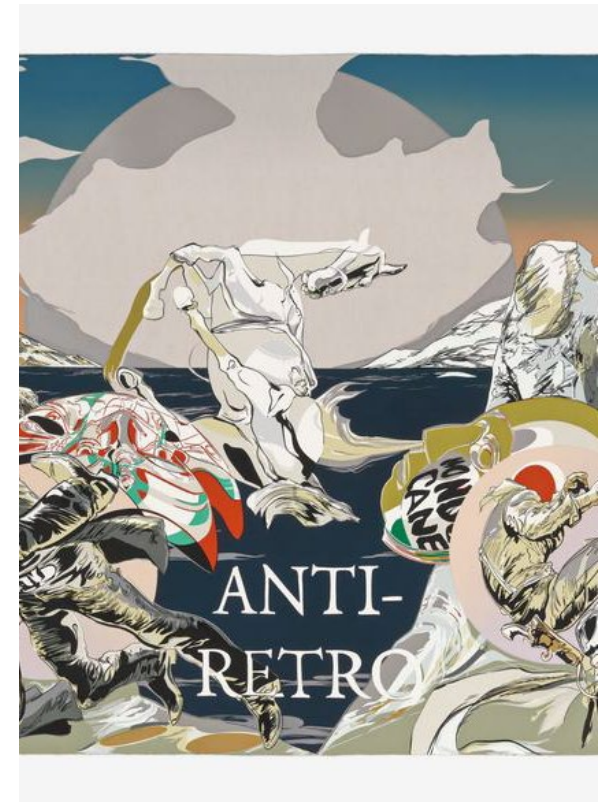
In 1680, Pueblo communities overthrew Spanish rule and remained liberated for 12 years before signing a peace agreement with Spain. Virgil Ortiz draws upon this rich history to create futuristic worlds where Indigenous people persist in their fight against intruders. In Ortiz's vision, Gage and Jagg are hero twins from the year 2180, transported to the earth's realm to aid in the 1680 revolt. Ortiz created Gage and Jagg in the traditional pottery style of Cochiti Pueblo.



GALLERY 259  
Rose B. Simpson  
Groundbeing: Resonance, 2022

*What words first come to mind when you look at this sculpture?*

This large-scale sculpture forms an abstracted figure both worldly and otherworldly. The two chest cavities contain cords of twine that resonate with ground vibrations, like a stringed instrument. The Santa Clara Pueblo water vessel placed atop is filled with earth and clay. Vertical black and cream lines signify thoughts and experiences. Simpson asks the viewer, "How do we listen to the subtle sounds and vibrations of our Mother Earth, and how can we attune ourselves to the resonances in everything around us?"



GALLERY 260  
Andrea Carlson; printer and publisher: Highpoint Editions, Minneapolis  
Anti-Retro, 2018

*Look closely at this print. What images can you identify?*

Andrea Carlson presents this "imagined non-colonial landscape" as a critical reframing of the past. "Anti-Retro" originates from a 1974 interview with Michel Foucault, who theorized that power emerges from control over how knowledge is produced, shaped, and recorded. Here, Carlson introduces familiar images from Western films to reveal the truth behind the oft-romanticized "Old West."



GALLERY 261  
Wendy Red Star  
Walks In the Dark costume/headress, 2015

*What seems futuristic about this outfit?*

Wendy Red Star calls this a “futuristic powwow outfit.” It consists of a woman’s evening gown and a feather hat inspired by the Apsaalooke (Crow) men’s regalia that includes angora sheepskin anklets with bells. Through her witty and subtle commentary, Red Star addresses popular misconceptions and stereotypes of Native people as mystical and otherworldly. “I relate this to the first contact of Europeans to the ‘New World’ and how strange they felt the Native communities were,” she says.



GALLERY 261  
Rabbett Strickland  
Nanabozhoo and Toad Woman, 21st century

*What is going on in this picture? What do you see that makes you say that?*

Rabbett Strickland paints epic stories of Anishinaabeg creation and re-creation, inspired by Greek mythology, Renaissance art, and Baroque art. In this painting, hero and trickster Nanabozhoo meets the healer Toad Woman, who holds knowledge of the entranceway into an important lodge that Nanabozhoo wants to find. Toad Woman provides this knowledge through her rattle, expressed in the magical turtle figures.



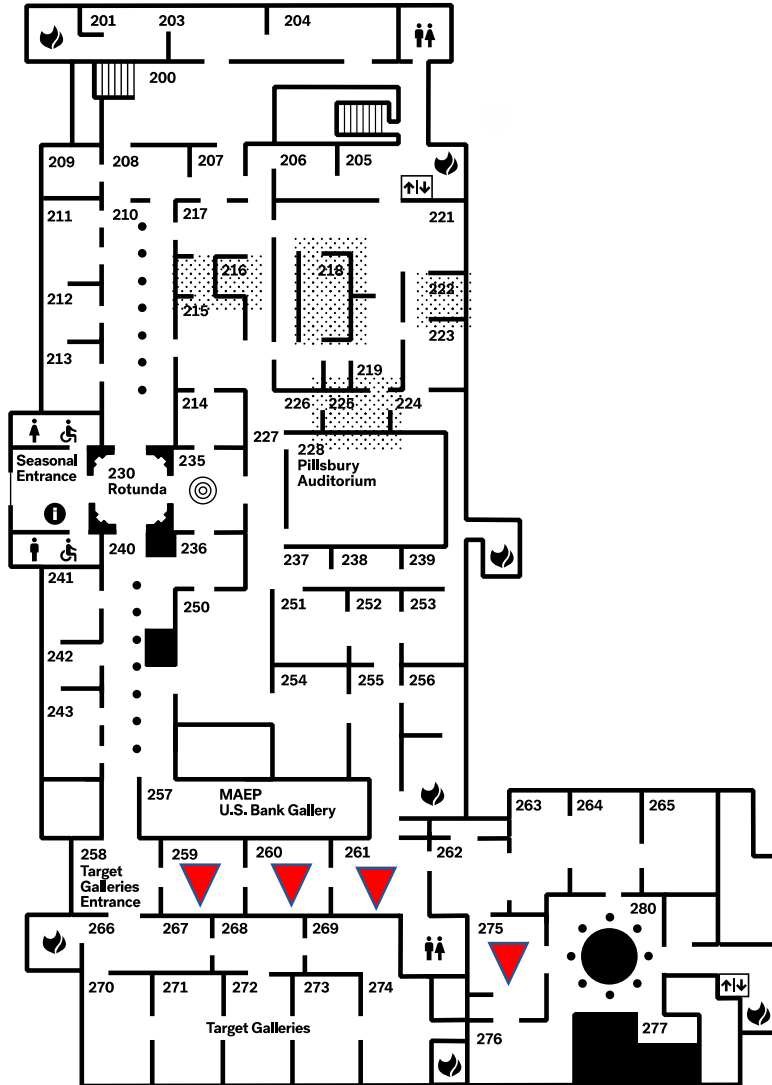
GALLERY 275  
Jim Denomie  
Four Days and Four Nites, Ceremony, 2020.  
Tia Collection, Santa Fe

*How do the colors set the dreamlike mood of this painting?*

Many of Jim Denomie’s works were inspired by dreams and held personal meaning for the artist. Denomie’s last completed monumental painting depicts the journey after death. Here he paints four spirits who turn to face the viewer. The landscape resembles the one that surrounded the artist’s home and studio in Minnesota. Denomie’s understanding of color and form is on full display, creating a dreamlike depiction of the journey.

# Gallery Maps

## Second Floor



## Third Floor

