

4^{ème} édition

FESTIVAL GRAND WEST

CINÉMA LE PARADIS QUIBERON 29 OCT AU 2 NOV 2025

LES INDIENS D'HIER,
D'AUJOURD'HUI & DE DEMAIN

Parrainé par François Busnel



QUIBERON
INFAMOUS PRODUCTIONS



Sous le patronage de la Commission
nationale française pour l'UNESCO





Practical information about the Festival

All festival events take place at the Quiberon municipal cinema, Le Paradis, 4 rue du Phare, unless otherwise stated in the program.

The cinema is accessible to people with reduced mobility. It is located in the town center, a stone's throw from the Grande Plage.

Find all the information you need and much more on our website: www.festivalgrandwest.com and on the [festivalgrandwest](#) Instagram account!

Prices and reservations

Each event in the program, whether it is a screening, a meeting, a conference, or a round table discussion, costs a flat rate of €5 per person.

The workshops and storytelling sessions offered by Vent d'Images are free of charge and materials are provided.

Reservations are open from **Wednesday, October 1** as follows:

- by email: leparadisquiberon@gmail.com
- directly at the cinema reception desk (30 minutes before each session)

The pop-up bookstore



During the festival, Alexandre Cavallin from the [Librairie de Port Maria](#) in Quiberon will open a pop-up bookstore in the cinema, offering a selection of books on the festival's themes for readers of all ages, from

IFriday, October 31 in the afternoon to Sunday, November 2.

Book signings are indicated in the program.

The Festival would like to thank

The festival would like to thank the two communities without which it would not exist: the City of Quiberon and AQTA, as well as Sophie Lemoulinier, Deputy Mayor for Culture.

Thank you to the Vent d'Images tribe for their ever-increasing involvement; Carole, Etienne, and, for their impeccable digital and communication services, Marie Thomazic and Pierre-Adrien Roux.

Thank you to this year's hosts: Isabelle and Serge Picard, Nelly Le Meledo, and Dominique and Georges Pelissori; and to the super minibus drivers for all the miles they covered.

Thank you to our invaluable private partners: Le Kasino de Quiberon, Mercure/Ibis Style Hotels (thank you, Rémy Souffleux!), and Catherine Gorsky (and her sailboat Moana).

Thank you to Jean-Paul Le Blaye for his 100% local support, as well as to Pascal Lamour. Thank you to our photographer from Paradise, Baptiste le Port.

Thank you to Brooke Pepion Swaney in Montana for her local assistance.

Thank you to Stéphanie Gillard for lending us the beautiful photos to illustrate this program.

Thank you to UNESCO France for its loyal support, which we are honored to receive.

Thank you to our amazing team of translators, Dominique Chevallier and her funny ladies! Thank you to our wonderful moderators, Maurice Rebeix and Daphné Buiron. Thank you to Hervé Duval, art expert, who is joining us on our crazy adventure by opening up his gallery!

Finally... thank you, thank you to all those... whom we forget to thank and who will recognize themselves!!!!

I am particularly pleased to sponsor the Grand West Festival again this year.

Welcome to the Indians!

They bring with them everything that is missing in our numb times. But please, forget everything you think you know about them, both the golden legend and the black legend, and come and discover a fascinating and little-known reality.

To enter the world of the American Indians is to meet exceptional men and women who, even today, keep traditions alive without rejecting modernity.

For one long weekend, Quiberon will become a base camp for all lovers of the great outdoors, for those who want to live life to the fullest.

Mitakuyé oyasin !



François Busnel,
patron of the
Festival Grand West



FOCUS ON LEDGER ART



John Isaiah Pepion, Sky Raiders (Les raiders du ciel), 2023

This is a traditional art form practiced by Native American artists from the Great Plains since the 19th century. Ledger artists use old discarded ledger books as a medium for their drawings (for example, pages from bank books or account books). They create works directly on old printed matter, with the original writing remaining in the background. Their stylized, pictorial creations are thus imbued with texts that predate the work itself.

Ledger art is above all a narrative and popular art form. It developed mainly between the 1860s and the 1920s. Originally, artists from the Plains traditionally painted on bison hides to tell their stories and preserve their archives, using pigments created from their environment and ingredients such as ash, earth, berries, and plants. The US government's program to eradicate bison in the 19th century made the animal increasingly rare. This is why artists began to use paper as a medium for their narrative creations. In addition, the format of log-books was ideal for their nomadic lifestyle.

Ledger art was initially practiced mainly by men. Faced with massive population displacement, attempts at assimilation, and other genocidal acts perpetrated by the US government, Indigenous communities had to adapt, react, and find ways to perpetuate their traditions and cultural practices. This new medium became widespread among artists on the Plains. They transcribed and perpetuated scenes of battles, equestrian epics, hunting stories, and many important stories that had marked their daily lives. The first ledger artworks, representations of past lives, seduction, and dreams, became a tourist attraction and an atypical art form, purely decorative for Americans but implicitly political and symbolic for First Nations peoples.

Today, many artists continue to pursue this tradition in order to reaffirm and revive relationships with their ancestors, their places of life, and also with each other. Ledger art is now practiced by both men and women, and while the materials and temporality of the works' narratives differ, the scope of the messages addressing recurring and existing problems is just as strong and present.

These works are now sought after by leading collectors and museums.



Miah Chalfant, Harvesting Cedar (La récolte du cèdre), 2023

YOUR APPOINTMENTS WITH LEDGER AND ITS ARTISTS DURING THE FESTIVAL

Round table discussion

Thursday, October 30, 4 p.m. (see page 6)
with Miah Chalfant, John Isaiah Pepion,
and Hervé Duval

Exhibition of a selection of works by
Miah Chalfant and John Isaiah Pepion
at the Galerie Carnets de voyage
17 rue de Port Maria, Quiberon

Workshop for young audiences, led by the Vent d'Images association

Friday, October 31, and Saturday, November 1, 9:45 a.m. (see page 7)

*Tour of the exhibition followed by a
creative workshop using nautical
charts*

DAY-BY-DAY PROGRAM

Screening  Panel  Meeting  Conference 
Young audience:  Screening  Workshop  Storytelling 

The round tables and meetings are moderated by Daphné Buiron and Maurice Rebeux.

Wednesday, October 29

 8:30 pm

Opening night

Presentation of guests and program followed by

Frybread Face and me

Comedy/drama by Billy Luther

2023 - 1 hr 22 min - VOSTFR*



The 1990s. Benny, who grew up in San Diego, is sent to spend the summer with his grandmother and other family members on a Navajo reservation in Arizona. He becomes close to his cousin Dawn, aka Frybread Face, and through her learns not only about his own family history, but also about his Native American culture. The film was produced by New Zealand actor and filmmaker Taika Waititi (Thor: Ragnarok, Jojo Rabbit).

Followed by a discussion with Billy Luther

Thursday, October 30

 1:45 pm

The Powwow: Its Cultural and Religious Role, with:

Darnell and Smokey Rides At The Door, John and Joe Syrette, Tanya Bird, Heather Syrette and Rodney Stanger

When Europeans hear the word "powwow," the only image that often comes to mind is that of Indians in costume dancing. That's true. But it's

* VOSTFR = original version with French subtitles

far from the whole story! Powwows are more numerous than ever at the beginning of the 21st century on Native American reservations. People come from neighboring states to participate. Many Palefaces also flock to them. Why? What do these gatherings symbolize for Native American peoples? What are their roles? Cultural? Religious? How have they evolved over the centuries?

 2 pm

The evolution of the image of Native Americans in French-language comics

Workshop for young audiences led by the Vent d'Images association.

Ages 8-12, 12 places, free, materials provided. Reservations required. Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes.

The image of "the Indian" in French-language comics: changing clichés and perceptions. Through simple explanations, visual examples, and participatory activities, come discover how French-language comics have represented the First Nations of America over time!

 4 pm

Four Souls of Coyote

Animated film by Áron Gauder

2023 - 1 hr 43 mins - French version



Native American activists oppose an oil pipeline project on their ancestral land. In the evening, they gather around their Grandfather's campfire as he tells them the story of Creation. The tale reminds everyone of humanity's place on Earth and its role in the destruction of nature.

DAY-BY-DAY PROGRAM



Screening



Panel



Meeting



Conference

Young audience:



Screening



Workshop



Storytelling



4 pm

Battle between Native American and Breton dancers and musicians, featuring: the Syrette families, Rodney Stanger versus Jean-Paul Le Blaye and his 8 guests, Breton dancers and musicians.



What if Native American traditions and customs were related to Breton traditions when it comes to dancing (in a circle), singing (a cappella), and accompanying themselves with music (drums, bombarde, and binioù)? What if we brought them together in a friendly "battle"? Powwow dancers vs. Celtic circle dancers! Let's go, form a circle!!!



6:15 pm

The art of Ledger, with: Miah Chalfant, John Isaiah Pepion and Hervé Duval



Art as a form of resistance to oppression? That's how Ledger art was born in the late 19th century in the Great Plains. In 2025, Ledger art is still a form of expression and is exhibited in major American museums. A look back at its history and current status. (see page 4)



8:45 pm

Buffalo Kids

Animated film by Juan Jesús García Galocha and Pedro Solís García
2025 - 1 hr 23 mins - French version



This Spanish film tells the story of two Irish orphans, Mary and Tom, who travel across the United States in search of their uncle in the early 20th century. Along the way, they meet a variety of people, some more trustworthy than others. They also make lifelong friends among the Cheyenne tribe.



9 pm

The Last of the Mohicans

Historical drama by Michael Mann
1992 - 1 hr 54 mins - VOSTFR* - restored version



1757. The film follows Nathanael, a European orphan raised among the Mohicans, who is one of the last three representatives of this people, along with his adoptive father and brother. The three of them rescue British Major Duncan and his charges Cora and Alice Munro from an ambush set by the Huron Magua. The girls must rejoin their father, Colonel Munro, commander of Fort William Henry. The group sets off for the fort.

* VOSTFR = original version with French subtitles

Friday, October 31



9:45 am

Ledger & mandalas

Workshop for young audiences led by the Vent d'Images association.

Ages 8-14, 12 places, free, materials provided, reservation required. Duration: 2 hours.
ome discover the art of the Ledger and make your own. The workshop includes a tour of the exhibition followed by the creation of productions inspired by this art form unique to Native Americans.



10:45 am

Ceremony facing the ocean

Hosted by Maurice Rebeix

Talking about Native American nations and their cultures is one thing. Understanding, during a moment of sharing, the bond that unites them with nature is another. This usually private moment will be shared here with those who wish to participate, both Pale Faces and Native Americans.

Meet at the anchor at Pointe du Conguel, Quiberon, at 10:45 am



13 h 45

Beads & mandalas

Workshop for young people hosted by the Vent d'Images association.

Ages 8-14, 12 spots, free, materials provided, reservations required. Duration: 1 hr 30 minutes

Discover Native American patterns, colors, and symbols by making small beaded jewelry (weaving and other techniques) that you can keep or give as gifts!

* VOSTFR = original version with French subtitles



13 h 45

Miss Navajo

Documentary by Billy Luther
2007 - 58 min - VOSTFR*



Crystal Frazier, 21, lives with her family on a farm in New Mexico. She decides to enter the Miss Navajo Nation pageant, without really believing in it. But Crystal quickly realizes that, unlike traditional American beauty pageants, this contest promotes the Navajo nation, with the winner representing the culture and traditions of the Navajo people.

Followed by a discussion with Billy Luther



4 pm

The Return of the Bison, featuring: Darnell and Smokey Rides At The Door

It is a powerful symbol for the indigenous peoples of North America: after nearly becoming extinct, their totem animal, the bison, is gradually repopulating the Great Plains, for their benefit and that of the ecosystem. The history of the Plains Indians has always been closely linked to that of the bison. Their return is an important milestone of the 21st century.



 4:30 pm

Storytelling by Histoires de Mots

Stories inspired by Native American legends, created and told by Martine Mangon of the Histoires de Mots collective, as part of a partnership with Vent d'Images.

Ages 6 and up, free. Duration: 1 hour.

 6 pm

Singing back the buffalo

Documentary by Tasha Hubbard

2024 - 1 h 39 - VOSTFR*



Visionaries, scientists, and Indigenous communities are repatriating bison to the heart of the North American plains they once defined, marking a turning point for Indigenous nations, the ecosystem, and our collective survival. This documentary also seeks to present a comprehensive view of the role of bison for Indigenous peoples. It won the 2025 Best Documentary Award at the Imagine Native Film Festival in Toronto.

 6:15 pm

Frybread Face and me

Comedy/drama by Billy Luther

2023 - 1 h 22 - VOSTFR* (see page 5)

* VOSTFR = original version with French subtitles

 8:30 pm

Four souls of Coyote

Animated film by Áron Gauder

2023 - 1 hr 43 mins - French version (see page 5)

 8:45 pm

Being Native American in 2025, with:

Darnell and Smokey Rides At The Door, John and Joe Syrette, Tanya Bird, Heather Syrette, Miah Chalfant, Shawnee Real Bird, John Isaiah Pepion, Billy Luther, Rodney Stanger



Photo : Stéphanie Gillard

In 2025, many Native Americans still live on "reservations." What is life like for a Native American today? How do Native American youth live? How do their elders view them? What does the future hold? Assimilation or a return to their roots?



Photo : Stéphanie Gillard

samedi 1er novembre

 9 h 45

Ledger et mandalas

Atelier jeune public animé par l'association Vent d'Images.

8-14 ans, 12 places, gratuit, réservation obligatoire. Durée : 2 h. (cf. page 7)

 14 h

L'évolution de l'image des Amérindiens dans la BD francophone

Atelier jeune public animé par l'association Vent d'Images.

12-16 ans, 12 places, gratuit, matériel fourni, réservation obligatoire. Durée : 1 h 30. (cf. page 5)

 14 h

Les guérisseurs indiens, avec :

Darnell et Smokey Rides At The Door et Joe Syrette

Qui sont les guérisseurs amérindiens ? Quel rôle, quelle place ont-ils tenus et tiennent-ils aujourd'hui dans leurs communautés ? Comment et avec quoi soignent-ils ? Quelles évolutions au fil des siècles ?

 16 h

Buffalo Kids

Film d'animation de Juan Jesús García Galocha et Pedro Solís García

2025 - 1 h 23 - VF (cf. page 6)

 16 h

Les Amérindiens :

Premiers habitants, derniers citoyens ? par Monique Roux

Ce n'est qu'en 1924, il y a tout juste un siècle, que les Amérindiens des États-Unis ont obtenu le droit de vote et donc le droit de participer à la vie du pays... dont ils étaient les premiers habitants ! Retour sur une histoire mouvementée et questionnements sur leur place sous la présidence de Donald Trump.



Photo : Jean-Marc Bouzou

 18 h

Guérisseurs traditionnels amérindiens et druides bretons, avec :

Darnell et Smokey Rides At The Door, Joe Syrette, Pascal Lamour

Lien à la nature, aux animaux, organisation de cérémonies culturelles, pratiques transmises de génération en génération, et si les pratiques et croyances des deux côtés de l'océan atlantique avaient finalement des points communs ? Si finalement tous les peuples racontaient la même histoire avec juste des mots différents ?

Séance de dédicaces à l'issue de la rencontre

The entire Festival program at a glance!

For details, kindly refer to the day-to-day program or the Festival website :

www.festivalgrandwest.com



Follow the Festival news on our Instagram account!



Wednesday, October 29

20h30



Frybread
Face and me

1 h 22 VOSTFR

followed by a
discussion with director
Billy Luther

20h45



Buffalo Kids

1 h 23 VF

21h



**The Last of the
Mohicans**

1 h 54 VOSTFR

20h30



**Four souls
of Coyote**

1 h 45 VF

Thursday, October 30

14h



**Native
Americans
in European
comics**

Vent d'Images

13h45



Pow-wows

13h45



**Beads and
mandalas**

Vent d'Images

16h



**Four souls
of Coyote**

1 h 45 VF

16h



**"Battle"
(dance
and music)**

16h30



Storytelling

Histoires de Mots
Vent d'Images

18h15



Ledger art

18h



**Singing back
the buffalo**

1 h 40 VOSTFR

October 31

Saturday, November 1

Sunday, November 2

9h45



**Ledger and
mandalas**

Vent d'Images

10h45



**Celebration
facing the
ocean**

11h



**Workshop
with Kiko**
Vent d'Images

11h



Miss Navajo
58 min VOSTFR

13h45



Miss Navajo
58 min VOSTFR

followed by a
discussion with director
Billy Luther

14h



**Native
Americans
in European
comics**

Vent d'Images

14h



**Native
American
healers**

14h



**Beads and
mandalas**
Vent d'Images

14h



**Native American
cultures:
appeal
and influence**

16h



**Return of the
buffalos**

16h



Buffalo Kids
1 h 23 VOSTFR

16h



**Native
Americans:
first Americans,
last citizens?**

16h



**The Last of the
Mohicans**
1 h 54 VF

16h30



**Indian Relay...
+ Columbia
River...**

50 min VF

introduced by director
Virginie Goubier

18h15



**Frybread
Face and me**
1 h 22 VOSTFR

18h15



**Native
American
healers
& Britton druid**



**Screening
Workshop
Panel
Meeting
Storytelling
Conference
Book signing
after the meeting**

20h45



**Being Native
American
in 2025**

21h15



**Singing back
the buffalo**
1 h 40 VOSTFR

21h



**Conquering
back the West**

52 min VF

followed by a
discussion with director
Virginie Goubier

VOSTFR = original version with French subtitles
VF = French dubbed version
or original version in French



All audience



Young audience

 9 pm

La Reconquête de l'Ouest (How the West is won back)

Documentary by Virginie Goubier
2024 - 52 min - French version



In the American West, the climate emergency is already more than palpable, and Native American communities are at the forefront of the fight. Faced with the Western model's inability to protect natural resources in a sustainable way, the first inhabitants are reclaiming their lands and traditional practices. With them, America is discovering a new vision of man's relationship with nature. This film is a road movie that meets those who are leading this tribal and ecological reconquest. A reconquest of the West in reverse.

Followed by a discussion with Virginie Goubier

 9:15 pm

Singing back the buffalo

Documentary by Tasha Hubbard
2024 - 1 hour 39 - VOSTFR* (see. page 5)

* VOSTFR = original version with French subtitles

Sunday, November 2

 11 am

Creating a Wild West background with Kiko



Workshop for young audiences led by Kiko, illustrator, assisted by the Vent d'Images association.

Ages 8 and up, 12 places, free, materials provided, reservations required. Duration:

 11 am

Miss Navajo

Documentary by Billy Hunter
2007 - 58 min - VOSTFR* (see page 7)

 14 h

Beads & mandalas

Workshop for young audiences led by the Vent d'Images association.

Ages 8-14, 12 places, free, reservation required. Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes. (see page 7)

DAY-BY-DAY PROGRAM



Screening



Panel



Meeting



Conference

Young audience:



Screening



Workshop



Storytelling



2 pm

Attractions and influences of Native American cultures, with:

Virginie Goubier, Maurice Rebeix, Marc Graciano, Kiko

As soon as the first Europeans set foot in America, their curiosity about the indigenous peoples was reflected in novels, essays, photographs, paintings, and later films. This curiosity still exists in 2025. It has taken on other forms and raised other questions, one of which keeps coming back: what can indigenous peoples bring to our civilizations, which often lack reference points? Whether they are filmmakers, photographers, illustrators, or writers, our guests attempt to find answers through their work.



Photo : Jean-Marc Bouzou



4 pm

The Last of the Mohicans

Historical drama by Michael Mann
1992 - 1 h 54 - French version - restored version (see page 7)



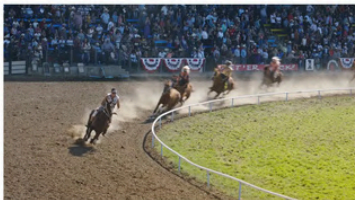
16 h 30

Indian Relay, les galops du renouveau (the gallops of renewal)

Documentary by Virginie Goubier et Alexis Orand

2025 - 22 min - French version

For nearly a century in the United States, Native American tribes from the Great Plains have competed in extreme horse races called Indian Relay. Meet Talliah and Cody, two young Native Americans who are stars in their discipline.



followed by *Aux États-Unis, une rivière à saumon miraculeuse (USA: a miraculous salmon river)*

Documentary of Virginie Goubier

2024 - 14 min - French version

The Salmon Peoples live along the Columbia River. Here, salmon are so abundant that they have made them their totem, the foundation of their entire culture. But the Columbia River is also the epicenter of an industrial saga.

Screening introduced by director Virginie Goubier

THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

at the Cinema: exhibition of bison and totems created by children from the Quiberon and Saint-Pierre-Quiberon Leisure Centers and the Presqu'île Youth Center. These creations were produced on the initiative of the Vent d'Images association and its volunteers (designing workshops, purchasing materials, providing support) as part of the association's Grand West Jeunesse initiatives to promote the Festival among young people in Quiberon and Saint-Pierre.

at the Carnets de Voyage gallery, 17 rue de Port Maria: exhibition of a selection of works by John Isaiah Pepion and Miah Chalfant

FESTIVAL GUESTS

NATIVE AMERICANS



Darnell Davis Rides At The Door, Traditional Historian

Nii Too Kim Mii (Lone Camper), Amp Ska Pii Pikunii (South Peigan, aka Blackfeet), North Star Buffalo Chip Band Respected Elder and Traditional Historian, Darnell has apprenticed to wise Elders who have gone before her continuing the Legacy of a unique rich matriarchal way of life. She continues to balance Tradition with today's progressive lifestyles.

Her life encompasses the knowledge of healers, ancient wise teachings and shared traditions, relating the How and Why of things in the Pikunii World View. She is a fourth generation Herbalist also known Pikunii-Ethnobotanists.

Darnell holds specific transferred honored rites to the OoKaan (Medicine Lodge/Sun Dance) Kist Stuck Kii (Beaver Medicine), Nanampskaan (Thunder Medicine) Ee Koo Kaan Niiks (Painted Lodge Keeper) Ka Nucks Imi Taaks (Brave Dogs) and many core groups specific to Pikunii Ways of Life.

She is an elder consultant to education, culture, traditions, Pikunii herbology and ethnobotany, licensed and certified massage therapist and Reiki master, has degrees in Native/ Blackfeet Studies/History. Most importantly holds the prestigious honor as the Matriarch of her large family. Darnell and her family continue the legacy of generations of proud Pikunii People.



Smokey Rides At The Door, Traditional Historian

Es staa kawn (Dependable, works for the People), Ampskapi Pikunii (South Peigan, aka Blackfeet), Buffalo Back Fat Band Traditional Historian and Respected Elder, Smokey shares the balance of oral traditions of the Pikunii World View and Ways of Knowing. Smokey is an accomplished educator, coach, administrator, business entrepreneur, civic & tribal leader, financial ambassador, traditional caretaker of ancient teachings and bundles of the Blackfeet.

Smokey has served on many firsts as a board member, tribal councilman, minerals chairman, Blackfeet National Bank, Tribal Buffalo herd, the construction of a new Browning high school, influenced or developed & built better relationships at the local, county, state and international levels in education, business and culture components. Smokey holds a Bachelor of Science degrees in Industrial Arts, with minors in History and Business.

Darnell and Smokey have 5 accomplished children, 14 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. They reside near the infamous Kipp's Lake in Montana. Together, they operate RidesAtTheDoor consulting business. Recently they have co-authored in the production of the book "People Before The Park". Together they are Ambassadors of Goodwill to the Blackfeet Nation.



Miah Chalfant, artist

Miah Chalfant — also known by her Cheyenne name, Heóváié'e (Yellow Hair Woman) — is a Northern Cheyenne contemporary artist, storyteller, and rancher whose work bridges the worlds of her ancestors and the modern day. An enrolled member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, her roots run deep in the rolling plains and river valleys of the Southeastern Montana homelands where she was raised.

She studied at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she deepened her knowledge of traditional designs that reach as far back as ancient petroglyphs. Through her work, she carries forward these visual legacies, transforming them with contemporary color palettes and modern ideas to create a living dialogue between past and present. Through each mark she makes, Chalfant honors her ancestors, uplifts her community, and reimagines the possibilities of Indigenous art in the contemporary world. Her work stands as both a testament and an offering — a bridge of color, story, and spirit between generations.



John Isaiah Pepion, artist

John Isaiah Pepion is an acclaimed artist, muralist and educator who hails from the Blackfeet Nation in northern Montana. His plains graphic art combines traditional design and contemporary illustrations to create a signature look that is instantly recognized throughout the country.

John considers his art journey as ceremony because his understanding of his past, family, and culture grows with each piece he creates.

"Through my art," he says, "I find personal healing, cultural preservation and a deeper connection to place." A descendent of Mountain Chief, a Blackfeet leader, John aspires to have a positive impact on his community through his art activities and beyond. When not creating art, John is an active public speaker and educator who has traveled the country speaking at public schools, organizations and with groups of aspiring artists. He holds formal degrees in Art Marketing and Museum Studies from United Tribes Technical College and the Institute of American Indian Arts, respectively. In 2018, John began working with Native-owned Eighth Generation and their Inspired Natives Project with the goal of increasing his business capacity. His goal is to bring his cultural art to market while maintaining control over the stories embedded within it.



Billy Luther, film maker

Billy Luther (Navajo, Hopi and Laguna Pueblo) is the writer/director of the award-winning feature film *Frybread Face and Me*, Executive Produced by Taika Waititi and distributed by Ava DuVernay's Array for Netflix. The film was selected as part of SXSW 2023's Narrative Spotlight and TIFF 2023's Discovery and New Wave Selects. His feature documentary *Miss Navajo*, premiered at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and aired nationally on PBS' *Independent Lens* that same year. His

second documentary feature, *Grab*, premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival and was screened at over 80 film festivals around the world. His short documentary film, *Red Lake*, had its world premiere at the 2016 LA Film Festival and was nominated for Best Documentary Short at the 2016 International Documentary Association Awards. In 2018, he launched his web series *alter-NATIVE* for PBS' *IndieLens StoryCast*. He is currently a writer and director for the AMC series *Dark Winds*.



Shawnee Real Bird, poet, photographer

Shawnee Real Bird (Apsáalooke), Horse Across Way, is an Indigenous poet, photographer, and pilot from the Crow Nation in southern Montana. She is recognized as the first pilot from her Tribe and the first woman from the Northern Plains tribal region to achieve her level of licensure. In flight, she steps into the same sky her ancestors once sought visions from, carrying forward a lineage of dreamers and vision-keepers.

This elevated vantage—part ceremony, part survival—guides her art, where poems and photographs become vessels of kinship, memory, and renewal. Her multimedia practice, shaped by oral tradition and the protocols of her people, translates landscapes into living archives: horses and rivers, ancestors and stars, each rendered as both witness and relative. Real Bird's work speaks to survivance and sovereignty, embodying the truth that Indigenous presence is not past tense, but a horizon always opening, always carrying us home.



Tanya Bird, Traditional Dancer

Tanya Bird - Pihisew Iskewew is a Nakoda/Sioux- Cree woman from Paul First Nation, Treaty Six Territory, Alberta, Canada. As a professional, she is a Legal Anokiiwin working for an Indigenous Child Welfare Agency in Batchewana First Nation, Ontario Canada. As an Indigenous woman, she takes pride in the Indigenous way of life such as traditional practices, knowledge, language, ceremonies.

She is a dedicated custodian of the land focusing on utilizing the land for cultural, spiritual and food sovereignty. All of these teachings were passed down inter generationally by her ancestors of the Nakoda/Sioux - Cree tribes.



Heather Syrette, Traditional Dancer

Heather Syrette is from two different Native American Nations, Little Traverse Bay Band Odawa of Harbor Springs, Michigan, and Oneida First Nation of Ontario, Canada. She spent time living in both urban and a Native American reservation. She is currently living in a Mount Pleasant, Michigan, with her two daughters, Maya and Selese and her husband Joe. She works with the local tribe, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe as a clinical therapist. In 2016, she graduated with her bachelor's

degree in social work at Central Michigan University. In 2023, she graduated with her master's degree in social work. Her education has provided her the ability to help others in the tribal community. Since she was young, her family and she have attended ceremonies and powwows. This is where she learned so much of who she was. Ceremonies and powwows have become her way of life to this day.



John Syrette, traditional singer and musician

John Syrette, Anishnaabe Ojibwe is a notable pow wow singer and drum maker from Batchewana First Nation in Ontario Canada. He is a proud world class singer and drummer who continues to dedicate his life promoting healing through singing and drumming.

His drum group, Grammy nominated Bear Creek (Makwa Ziibiins) was established in the summer of 1998. Since that time, Bear Creek has travelled extensively throughout North America hosting and competing at many powwows and gatherings. For over 25 years of experience of drumming and singing, John's passion for the Ojibwe teachings have guided him throughout his singing career to share his cultural knowledge and traditional songs throughout North America. One of his strong moral beliefs as lead pow wow singer and drummer is acknowledging how the life and balance of singing brings everyone together connecting with the spirit of the drum. Today, he continues sharing his gift as world class pow wow singer and drummer for people of all ages.



Joe Syrette, Traditional healer and musician

Joseph "Joe" Syrette is an Anishinaabe Ojibwe from the Batchewana First Nation, located in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Growing up as a traditional shkaabewi "helper," Joe learned to balance his spiritual and personal life. He spent his youth and adolescence in Ontario learning to live in the duality between the modern world and the traditional Anishinaabe world through fasting and participating in ceremonies. He currently helps communities and other traditional

peoples. Having dedicated his life to listening and learning about himself as an Anishinaabe, this has allowed him to appreciate and respect all physical and spiritual beings.



Rodney Stanger, Traditional singer

Rodney Stanger is Algonquin from Timiskaming First Nation, in the province of Quebec. He is from the Eagle Clan, and his spirit name is Ogimaa Ginew (Chief Golden Eagle). He has been a drum maker/carrier, song maker since he was a young teenager. He is a product of the Canadian residential school/day school systems, but he now has the honour of teaching in the public school system about his native culture, and language.

THE LOCALS



Daphné Buiron, glaciologist, photographer

Passionate about nature and the harsh environments of the polar regions, islands, and mountains, Daphné studied geosciences and earned a doctorate in climatology and glaciology.

In 2012, she spent a year wintering at the Dumont d'Urville base in Adélie Land as a chemist-glaciologist. In 2016, her discovery of the Arctic sparked a new passion for Inuit culture and life in the Far North.

For 14 years, she has been exploring the high latitudes, working as an

expedition guide and lecturer on ships, coordinating scientific campaigns, reporting, and conducting educational and artistic immersions.



Dominique Chevallier, passionate interpreter

Dominique Chevallier taught English for 30 years, including 18 years in preparatory literature classes. Passionate about English-language literature and translation, she has been an interpreter at literary festivals for over 20 years, including the Festival Etonnants Voyageurs in Saint-Malo and the Festival America in Vincennes, where she is in charge of a team of 55 to 60 interpreters.



Hervé Duval, gallery owner and art expert

Originally from Brittany, Hervé Duval developed a passion for the painters of the Pont-Aven group at a very young age. After training at the École du Louvre, he opened two galleries in Quiberon. From 2011 to 2020, he was an exhibition curator. Since 2012, Hervé Duval has also been a lecturer on the themes of aesthetic creation movements, groups of artists based in Brittany, and the careers of painters who have stayed or lived there.



Virginie Goubier, director

Virginie Goubier was first a photojournalist in Paris before moving to San Francisco. For 10 years, she was a correspondent for French and European media outlets and began working on magazine and documentary productions.

In 2021, Virginie began writing and filming her first documentary on the traces of Native American communities. The project began with crowdfunding before being supported and produced by Catherine Rouault, who

runs the production company Une Prod à Soi. The film will be broadcast in 2024 on Ushuaïa TV. Today, Virginie lives in Rennes, where she continues her work as a journalist and director for television, notably Arte and France Télévision.



Marc Graciano, writer

Marc Graciano occupies a unique place in contemporary French literature. In just a few years, he has built up a body of novels and poetry that is already considered exceptional by many critics, authors, and booksellers.

His latest work, *Celle-qui-sait-les-herbes* (She-who-knows-herbs), imbued with both gentleness and sacredness, is an initiatory tale, an awakening to the world.



Kiko, illustrator

Kiko is an illustrator for children's magazines and books. He contributes to Astrapi magazine and has produced numerous documentaries and fiction books. A fan of westerns, he found inspiration for his latest album in the darkened theaters. *Un conte de l'Ouest* (A tale from the West) is an initiatory tale with sumptuous images that leaves plenty of room for reflection and imagination, a unique book with images of rare delicacy (for ages 6 and up).



Pascal Lamour, author, musician, druid

Doctor of Pharmacy, druid, author, and composer, Pascal Lamour has traveled many paths. He is passionate about tradition, esotericism, and spirituality, as well as modernism and technology. In the music world, he is known to the public as Electro-shaman. As a druid, his initiatory name is Liamm En Hengoun, which means "link to tradition" in Breton. Since childhood, he has tirelessly accumulated knowledge, cross-referencing, cross-checking, analyzing, and merging the traditional sciences of Druids and Alchemists, Thinkers and Philosophers, Apothecaries and Botanists, constantly comparing them with contemporary approaches to the same disciplines. This dual requirement is in his nature, in his music as well as in his research and writings. A musician from a very young age, the son of several generations of peasant animal healers, he speaks Breton. It is in this language that he has inherited the traditions, songs, myths, and tales passed down through his family for generations.



Jean-Paul Le Blaye, traditional dancer

Jean-Paul Le Blaye began Breton dancing in 1994 with the Loisirs et Culture association in Saint-Pierre-Quiberon. He then joined the Locoal-Mendon dance circle, where he developed his perfectionism and desire to stay as close as possible to the authenticity of these Breton traditions in order to perfectly wear the Breton costume, parade and dance in front of the public. His daughter, Louise, has joined him in this passion and they often dance together.



Maurice Rebeix, photographer, writer

Writer, photographer, and adventurer, Maurice Rebeix has been traveling the world since his youth, loving above all else to meet indigenous peoples and cultures. For nearly thirty years, he has immersed himself in the world of Native Americans, particularly the Lakota Sioux, whose reservations he visits regularly.

He is the author of *L'esprit ensauvagé* (The Wild Spirit), published by Albin Michel, an essay on another way of being in the world inspired by indigenous peoples.



Monique Roux, historian, lecturer

An associate professor of history and geography, Monique Roux taught in Burgundy. She has also led numerous heritage classes in France and Europe. Today, she is a lecturer on subjects that fascinate her.

Guests's photo credits:

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