

Bockley Gallery

Frank Big Bear

b. 1953

Fellowships and Awards

- 2015 USA Knight Fellow, United States Artists, Chicago
- 2013 Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grant
- 2008 Bush Foundation, Enduring Vision Award, St Paul
- 1998 Bush Foundation Fellowship, St Paul
- 1992 McKnight Foundation Fellowship, Minneapolis
- 1986 Bush Foundation Fellowship, St Paul
- 1982 Jerome Foundation Fellowship, Minneapolis

Special Projects

- 2016-17 *The Walker Collage, Multiverse #10*, Walker Art Center commission for the Target Project Space
- 2003 *Detritus of the Light People*, mural created in collaboration with Star Wallowing Bull for the Plains Art Museum, Fargo MN
- 1994-98 *Dream Catcher Love Song*, Mayda Cortiella School, Brooklyn, The New York City Percent for Art Program

Solo Exhibitions

- 2016 *Frank Big Bear: Nativia*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis (Nov 11 - Dec 31)
- 2014 *Frank Big Bear: Homage*, Bockley Gallery (May 15 - June 14)
- 2012 *Skull Paintings: an Homage to Fritz Scholder*, Bockley Gallery (Feb 18 - March 17)
- 2011 *Frank Big Bear Paintings: From the Rez to the Hood to the Lake*, curated by Heid Erdrich, All My Relations Gallery, Minneapolis (Jan 21 - Feb 28)
- 2009 *Denizens of the Witch Tree*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis
- 2008-11 *Drawings by Frank Big Bear*, Organized by the Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota, Duluth, traveling exhibition, color catalogue
- 2006 *Portraits*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis
- 2000 *Time Zones*, Giddens Learning Center Gallery, Hamline University, St. Paul MN
- 1998 *Dream Catcher Love Song*, (Mayda Cortiella School mural), Weinstein Gallery, Minneapolis
- 1997 *Time Zones*, Carleton College Art Gallery, Northfield MN
The Jacobson Foundation, Norman OK
- 1996 Johnson Heritage Post Art Gallery, Grand Marais MN
- 1994 *Out of the North: Frank Big Bear*, Institute of American Indian Arts Museum, Santa Fe
Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis
- 1992 *Works on Paper 1984-1991*, Two Rivers Gallery, Minneapolis American Indian Center

- 1991 Rochester Art Center, Rochester MN
- 1989 Bethel College and Seminary, St. Paul MN
- 1988 Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis
- 1987 North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks
Plains Art Museum, Fargo MN
Bockley Gallery, New York
- 1986 Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis
Bockley Gallery, New York
- 1985 Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis
Bockley Gallery, New York
- 1984 Brems Gallery, St. Paul MN

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2015-17 *Arriving at Fresh Water: Contemporary Native Artists from Our Great Lakes*, curated by Jill Ahlberg Yohe, Minneapolis Institute of Arts (May 9, 2015 - February 21, 2016); Plains Art Museum, Fargo ND (Oct 1, 2016 - Jan 7, 2017)
- 2014-16 *Art at the Center: 75 Years of Walker Collections*, curated by Olga Viso and Joan Rothfuss, Walker Art Center (Oct 16, 2014 – Dec 31, 2016)
- 2013-14 *Before and after the Horizon: Anishinaabe Artists of the Great Lakes*, curated by David Penney and Gerald McMaster, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, George Gustav Heye Center (August 3 - June 15, 2014); Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto (July 26, 2014 - Dec 7, 2014)
- 2010 *Until Now: Collecting the New*, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis curated by Elizabeth Armstrong, (April 16 – August 1)
- 2007 *New Dreaming: Frank Big Bear, Andrea Carlson, Star Wallowing Bull*, October Gallery, London, England
- 2003 *Paper Warriors: the Drawings of Frank Big Bear and Star Wallowing Bull*, Carl Gorman Museum, University of California, Davis (Sept 28 - Dec 5, 2003)
- 2001 *Shared Passion: The Richard E. & Dorothy Rawlings Nelson Collection of American Indian Art*, Tweed Museum of Art, Duluth MN
- 2000 *Listening with the Heart: The Work of George Morrison, Frank Big Bear, and Norval Morrisseau*, Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
Six Worldviews: Contemporary Native Artists of Minnesota: Frank Big Bear, Julie Buffalohead, Jim Denomie, Carl Gawboy, Carrie Ortiz, Iowa State University, Ames
The Shape of the Story, Two Rivers Gallery, Minneapolis American Indian Center
- 1999 *The Red Millennium*, American Indian Contemporary Arts, San Francisco
- 1998-99 *Seasons of the Woodland's People*, American Indian Contemporary Arts, San Francisco Institute of American Indian Arts Museum, Santa Fe
- 1993-94 *Six McKnight Artists*, MCAD Gallery, Minneapolis College of Art and Design
- 1992-94 *Enduring Strength*, Ernest Whiteman, Jeffrey Chapman, Frank Big Bear, Jane Ash Poitras, Gerald McMaster, Rebecca Belmore, Collen Cutschall, Truman Lowe, Camille Lacapa, David Bradley, Two Rivers Gallery and Intermedia Arts, Minneapolis, South Dakota Art Museum, Brookings, Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Thunder Bay, Ontario
- 1992 *Centered Margins: Contemporary Art of the Americas Toward A Post-Colonial Culture*, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green OH

- 1991-92 *Paper Dreams on Fire*, Bruce Anderson, David Baker, Frank Big Bear, Minnesota Artists Exhibition Program, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis
- 1990-92 *Metaphorical Fish*, University Art Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
- 1990 *Endangered: Visual Art by Men of Color*, Frank Big Bear, Sherman Fleming, Armando Gutierrez, George Longfish, Seitu Jones, Peter Williams, Edgar Heap of Birds, Intermedia Arts, Minneapolis
- Artists Conceptions: How We See Our Past*, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul
- 1990 *Frank Big Bear*, George Morrison, Daniel Soderlind, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis
- 1989 *Heard Biennial*, Heard Museum, Phoenix
- 1988 *Traditions and Innovations- Seven American Artists*, Plains Art Museum, Moorhead MN, Two Rivers Gallery, American Indian Center, Minneapolis, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth MN
- 1987 Bockley Gallery, New York NY
- 1986 Bockley Gallery, New York NY
- 1985 *Homecomings: Native American Artists*, North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks
- Jewels of the Desert*, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia
- 1983 Gallery 10, New York
MoMA PS1, Long Island City NY

Selected Bibliography

- Fischer, Jean. "Frank Bigbear, Jr at Bockley Gallery, New York", *Artforum*, May 1987
- Wooley, David. "Tradition and Innovation", exhibition catalogue, Plains Art Museum, 1988
- Lippard, Lucy. "Mixed Blessings: New Art in Multicultural America (New York: Pantheon), 1990
- Shackelford, Laura. "Maps and Legends" *CityPages*. September 7, 1994
- Hanson, Doug. "Dimensions of the Artist" exhibition catalogue, Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota, Duluth, 2008
- Silberman, Robert. "Complexity and Contradiction in Native American Surrealism." *Journal of Surrealism and the America* 7:1 (2013), 108-130. 2014

Selected Public Collections

- Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Washington DC
- The British Museum, London
- Walker Art Center
- Minneapolis Institute of Art
- Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, Kansas
- Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
- Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota, Duluth
- Plains Art Museum, Fargo ND
- North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks
- Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul
- Minnesota History Center, St. Paul