

Kite & Natani Notah: In the Realm of Miracles**On view: August 5 through September 25, 2022****Contact:**

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Tulsa, OK - Since 2013, 108 | Contemporary has provided exhibition space in the Tulsa Arts District for the most innovative contemporary craft from Oklahoma and around the world, exposing Oklahomans to the world of fine craft and raising the visibility of Oklahoma artists. The non-profit gallery is excited to present the exhibition *Kite & Natani Notah: In the Realm of Miracles* (August 5 through September 25, 2022).

In the Realm of Miracles brings together two Tulsa Artist Fellows, Kite and Natani Notah. The works of both indigenous artists embrace and expand beyond the link of cultural heritage. Kite and Notah stretch the understanding of mixed media while exploring the intersections of the human and the natural worlds. Each of their artworks can be viewed through a lens of duality or a juxtaposition of thought and theory. What answers about life can be found by investigating our connection to our universe and our shared or contrasting philosophies?

Kite aka Suzanne Kite is an Oglala Lakota performance artist, visual artist, and composer raised in Southern California, with an MFA from Bard College's Milton Avery Graduate School, and is a PhD candidate at Concordia University, Research Assistant for the Initiative for Indigenous Futures, and a 2019 Trudeau Scholar. Her research is concerned with contemporary Lakota ontologies through research-creation, computational media, and performance practice. Recently, Kite has been developing a body interface for movement performances, carbon fiber sculptures, immersive video & sound installations. Currently, she is a 2019 Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholar and 2020-2021 Tulsa Artist Fellow.

In this exhibition, Kite's body of artwork focuses on settlers' desire for Indigeneity through disturbed relationships to hunting nonhumans. How are relationships to the land formed without understandings of ancient cosmologiescapes? What is the connection between sickness of the land and sickness of the soul? Kite's found sculpture, *lyátakunipi kte šni* (*they will come to nothing*), a poorly made taxidermy reveals the mundane horror of human relationships to deer. *Ĥuŋwínj áyapi* is a hide sculpture with beaded forms of rot and decay. Finally, *Deerfucker* is a video created with various machine learning techniques examining text and images where settler desire for deer veers into horror.

There will be a featured performance by Kite on August 25, 2022 at Tulsa Artist Fellowship's Flagship space located at 112 N Boston Ave, Tulsa, Ok 74103. The experimental lecture titled "In the Realm of Miracles," will begin at 5:30pm and will explore settler desire for Indigeneity and perverted hunting kinships. To learn more about Kite's artistic practice, join us for an artist talk and walkthrough on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 5:30pm located in the 108 | Contemporary gallery space.

Natani Notah is an interdisciplinary artist. She is a proud member of the Navajo Nation and her current art practice explores contemporary Native American identity through the lens of Diné womanhood. Notah has exhibited her work at institutions, such as apexart, New York City; NXTHVN, New Haven; Tucson Desert Art Museum, Tucson; Gas Gallery, Los Angeles; The Holland Project, Reno; Mana Contemporary, Chicago; Axis Gallery, Sacramento; SOMArts Cultural Center, San Francisco, and elsewhere. Notah has received awards from Art Matters, International Sculpture Center, and the San Francisco Foundation. Her work has been featured in Art in America, Hyperallergic, Forbes, and Sculpture Magazine and she has had artist residencies at the Vermont Studio Center, Grounds for Sculpture, Headlands Center for the Arts, This Will Take Time, Oakland, and Kala Art Institute. Notah holds a BFA with a minor in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from Cornell University and an MFA from Stanford University.

Natani Notah's new works explore connections between bodies, objects, and landforms. Central to the work is the concept of harmony and important questions surrounding contemporary existence and legality. How do we find beauty or balance in a chaotic and often violent world? What kinds of attacks are being waged and how do we survive them? Notah's series of mixed media drawings collage fragments together to provide space for alternative bodies and thoughts to exist simultaneously. Familiar and unfamiliar figures float, reach, and walk toward someone or something else. In a similar vein, her sculptures reference abstract limbs that are both human and nonhuman. Each piece is adorned with brightly beaded patches that look like freckles and tumors, while tufts of artificial fur allude to mammals or new life forms. In all, Notah's practice highlights where history, politics, land, and human rights converge.

To learn more about Natani Notah's work in this exhibition, join us for an exhibition walkthrough with the artist on Thursday, September 15, 2022 at 5:30pm in the 108|Contemporary gallery space.

Join us for the following exhibition programming:

- Opening Reception | August 5, 2022 from 6:00-9:00 pm CST at 108|Contemporary, 108 E Reconciliation Way, Tulsa, Ok 74103
- Performance by Kite | August 25, 2022 at 5:30 pm CST at TAF Flagship space, 112 N Boston Ave, Tulsa, Ok 74103
- Artist Talk with Kite | Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 5:30 pm CST at 108|Contemporary, 108 E Reconciliation Way, Tulsa, Ok 74103
- Artist Talk with Natani Notah | Thursday, September 15 at 5:30 pm CST at 108|Contemporary, 108 E Reconciliation Way, Tulsa, Ok 74103

This exhibition is made possible by support from Robin Ballenger and the Tulsa Artist Fellowship

108|Contemporary is a non-profit community arts organization that supports Oklahoma's contemporary fine craft artists by connecting them to audiences and opportunities through education, recognition, and exhibition programs. We envision a community where world-class craft and design exhibitions inspire and educate audiences of all ages.

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