



Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art receives Missouri Humanities Council Funding for “Dyani White Hawk: Speaking to Relatives”

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The Missouri Humanities Council (MHC) has awarded a grant of \$2,500 to Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in support of the 2021 exhibition, "Dyani White Hawk: Speaking to Relatives." The MHC is the only statewide agency in Missouri devoted exclusively to humanities education for citizens of all ages. It has served as a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities since 1971.

This major solo exhibition of mixed-media work by Minneapolis-based artist and United States Artist Fellow Dyani White Hawk (Sičáŋǵu Lakota, born 1976) is a ten-year survey of painting, sculpture, photography, video, and installation. White Hawk works across different cultures, histories, and visual traditions to show the significance of a shared history between Native and non-Native groups and encourage conversations that challenge the lack of representation of Native people, arts, and voices in art movements and beyond.

The exhibition examines White Hawk's use of techniques that emerged in the 1950s and became prominent in 20th century American art, foregrounding the expression of abstract mark making, rather than representational imagery, to communicate. Through the works on view, White Hawk offers a new historical perspective, employing these techniques alongside materials and craft derived from Native visual history, an underrepresented focus in American abstraction. This combination acknowledges Indigenous art as American art and inspires viewers to expand accepted notions of history, identity, and cultural value.

For more information about the grants program of the Missouri Humanities Council, call 314/781-9660 or 800/357-0909, or write to the MHC, 415 S 18th Street, Suite 100, St Louis, MO 63103-2269.