

## **JEFF THOMAS**

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Represented by Stephen Bulger Gallery

I am an urban Iroquois, born in the city of Buffalo, New York in 1956. My parents and grandparents were born at the Six Nations reserve, near Brantford, Ontario and left the reserve to find work in the city. You won't find a definition for the 'urban Iroquois' in any dictionary or anthropological publication -- it is this absence that informs my work as a photo-based artist, researcher, independent curator, cultural analyst and public speaker. My study of Indian-ness seeks to create an image bank of my urban Iroquois experience, as well as re-contextualize historical images of First Nations people for a contemporary audience. Ultimately, I want to dismantle long entrenched stereotypes and inappropriate caricatures of Indigenous people.

### **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

2018

- *Bird Man Rising*, Edwardsville Art Centre, Edwardsville, Illinois
- *Indians on Tour: Exploring Indigenous Experiences Through Jeff Thomas' Lens*, Sheridan Campus Galleries, Mississauga, Ontario

2017

- *A Necessary Fiction: My Conversation with Edward S. Curtis & George Hunter*, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, Ontario

2016

- *The Dancing Grounds*, Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- *Metamorphosis*, Paved Arts Billboard Space, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

2015

- *A Necessary Fiction: My Conversation with Nicholas de Grandmaison*, University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta

2012

- *Mapping Iroquoia: Cold City Frieze*, McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, Ontario
- *Resistance Is NOT Futile*, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- *Father's Day*, Urban Shaman, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- *The First Spike*, The Aboriginal Centre of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- *The Bear Portraits*, Studio 393, Portage Place Mall, Winnipeg, Manitoba

2011

- *Resistance Is [Not] Futile*, Paved Arts, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

2010

- *My Conversation with Edward S. Curtis*, Festival America, "The Holy Chapel" in Vincennes, France

2009

- *Departure Points*, Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta
- *VERSO*, Robert Langen Art Gallery, Waterloo, Ontario

2008

- *Whose Your Daddy Now?*, Karsh-Masson Gallery, Ottawa
- *Com-mem-o-ra-tion*, MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, Ontario
- *Don't Mess with the Pediment*, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- *Drive By: A Road Trip with Jeff Thomas*, University of Toronto Art Centre, Toronto, Ontario (offsite location, the Wellesley Subway Station)

2007

- *Jeff Thomas: Traces of Iroquois Medicine*, Ontario Museum of Archaeology, London, Ontario

2005

- *Portraits from the Dancing Grounds*, McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Ontario

2004-06

- *Jeff Thomas: A Study of Indian-ness*, Gallery 44, Toronto, Ontario; Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina, Saskatchewan; Urban Shaman, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, Brandon, Manitoba; Grunt Gallery, Vancouver, British Columbia; Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta

2004

- *Scouting for Indians*, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, Ontario

2002

- *inter/SECTION*, Indian Art Centre, Hull, Québec; Art Gallery of Sudbury, Ontario; Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford, Ontario; Museum of Ethnography, Budapest, Hungary; Canadian Embassy, Vienna, Austria

2001

- *Lurking in the Shadows*, Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland
- *Scouting for Indians*, Artspace, Peterborough, Ontario
- *Geronimo Was in Here*, The Buffalo Arts Studio, Buffalo, New York

2000

- *Ghost Dancing on the Urban Frontier*, The Photographers Gallery, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- *SCOUTING/For Indians*, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

1996

- *Portraits from the Dancing Grounds*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

1985

- *Powwow Images: An Exhibition of Photography by Jeffrey Thomas*, Thunder Bay National Exhibition Centre, Thunder Bay, Ontario; The Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford, Ontario; Museum of Archaeology, London, Ontario

1982

- *Triptych Peripheral Vision*, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto, Ontario

1980

- *In Search of Visions - Metro Bus Show*, CEPA Gallery, Buffalo, New York

## TWO-ARTIST EXHIBITIONS\*

2016

- *Urban Spaces*, Billboard Display (with Tanya Harnett), Ociciwan Contemporary Art Collective, Edmonton, Alberta (<http://www.ociciwan.ca/projects/#/project-4/>)

2010

- *Mapping Iroquoia: Shelley Niro & Jeff Thomas*, McIntosh Gallery, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario

2007

- *Shelley Niro and Jeff Thomas: Contemporary Voices*, Canada House, London, England

2001

- *Scouting for Indians*, American Community House, New York City

1999

- *Kenb tsi Yobwentsyate On This Land (Jeff Thomas & David Maracle)*, York Quay Gallery, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, Ontario

1992

- *Greg Staats & Jeffrey Thomas: Perspectives from Iroquoia*, Gallery 44, Toronto, Ontario

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2020

- *Portraits from the MacLaren's Permanent Collection*, MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, Ontario
- *Signal*, 2019 Additions to the City of Ottawa Art Collection, Ottawa, Ontario
- *On Location: Artists Explore a Sense of Place*, Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta
- *Close to Home*, Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, Oakville, Ontario
- *Governor General's Awards in the Visual and Digital Arts*, National Gallery of Canada

2018

- *The 80s Image*, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- *Photography in Canada 1960-2000*, The Rooms Provincial Art Gallery, St. John's, Newfoundland
- *Native/ Inuit/ Photographic Association, 1985 – 1992*, McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, Ontario
- *150 Acts: Art, Activism, Impact*, Art Gallery of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario
- *Àdisòkàmagan / We'll all Become Stories*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Sovereign Acts II. Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery*, Concordia University, Montréal, Québec
- *Messages / Visual Platform*, Burchfield Penney Art Center, West End Gallery, Buffalo, New York
- *Morph*, Vancouver Public Library, Vancouver, British Columbia
- *150 Years | 150 Works: Canadian Art as Historical Act*, Galerie de l'UQAM, Montréal, Québec (virtual)
- *Through the Memory Atlas: 40 Years of Collection*, Kamloops Art Gallery, Kamloops, British Columbia
- *J.S. Mclean Centre of Indigenous Canadian Art*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario

2017

- *150 Years/150 Artworks: Art in Canada as a Historical Act (virtual exhibition)*, Galerie de l'UQAM, Montréal, Québec

- *The Imposition of Order*, LUMINATO, St. Lawrence Centre for Performing Arts, Toronto, Ontario
- *Unapologetic: Acts of Survivance*, McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, Ontario
- *The Family Camera*, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario
- *Visitor Information*, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario
- *Photography in Canada 1960-2000*, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Every. Now. Then: Reframing Nationhood*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario

2016

- *Love letters to Arts Court*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Canada? Over 150 years*, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
- *PRÉSENCES, DAÏMÔN*, Gatineau, Québec
- *Toronto: Tributes + Tributaries, 1971-1989*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario
- *Form Follows Fiction: Art and Artists in Toronto*, Art Museum at the University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario
- *Portraits, self and others (it's complicated)*, McIntosh Gallery, Western University London, Ontario
- *PRÉSENCES, DAÏMÔN*, Hull, Québec
- *Road Trip*, MacLaren Gallery, Barrie, Ontario
- *First Person: Contemporary Indigenous Portraiture*, Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta
- *Contemporary Perspectives on the Battle of the Little Big Horn*, Cantor Arts Centre, University of California Stanford, Stanford, California

2015

- *We Are On Treaty Land*, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- *Gazing Back, Looking Forward*, Aboriginal Pavilion, Fort York, Toronto, Ontario
- *Sign, sign, everywhere a sign*, University of Toronto Art Centre, Toronto, Ontario
- *Home Away from Home*, Ottawa, Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

2014

- *Modern Visions: The Medal Art Gallery 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

2013

- *Land/ Slide: Possible Futures*, Markham, Ontario
- *Indigenous and Urban*, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, Québec
- *inVisibility: Indigenous in the City*, Aird Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- *Sakahàn*, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Create this Revolution*, Gallery 101, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Heart of the Moment: Selections from the Permanent Collection*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ontario

2012

- *Collection on View: Photography Collection*, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- *Place Markers – Mapping Locations and Probing Boundaries*, Dalhousie Art Gallery, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- *Sovereign Acts*, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Toronto, Ontario

2011

- *Place and Circumstance: Recent Additions to the City of Ottawa's Fine Art Collection*, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Acting Up! Performing the Indian*, Platform Centre For Photographic + Digital Arts, Winnipeg, Manitoba

2010

- *Crossing Paths: The 'Four Indian Kings' and the work of Shelley Niro and Jeff Thomas*, Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford, Ontario
- *Construction Sites: Identity and Place*, Kamloops Art Gallery, Kamloops, British Columbia
- *Many Guises: Contemporary Self-Portraits*, Bytown Museum, Ottawa, Ontario

2009

- *Crossing Lines, Building Bridges*, Glenhurst, Brantford, Ontario
- *UNMASKING: Arthur Renwick, Adrian Stimson, Jeff Thomas*, Canadian Cultural Centre, Paris, France
- *Photo Quai*, The Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France
- *Art + People = X*, University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta

2008

- *Steeling the Gaze: Portraits by Aboriginal Artists*, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Evidence: The Ottawa City Project*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Zacharie Vincent and his Friends*, Espace 400, Québec City, Québec
- *Face the Nation*, Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

2007

- *Orientalism & Ephemera*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Oh So Iroquois*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Intersections: Photographs of the City*, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Cultural Contrasts: Contemporary Iroquois Commentaries*, Iroquois Indian Museum, Howes Cave, New York

2006

- *Borrowing*, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Heterotopia: Works from the Contemporary Collection*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Addressing Oakville*, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, Ontario

2005

- *American West*, Compton Verney, Warwickshire, England
- *About Face: Native American Self-Portraits*, Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2004

- *Dezhan ejan: Aboriginal Works from the Collection of the Canada Council Art Bank*, Canadian Embassy, Washington, D.C.
- *Encounters*, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon
- *Possible Futures: Utopia / Dystopia*, Case Studies, Harbourfront, Toronto, Ontario
- *Active Ground/ /Parallel Tracks*, City of Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

2003

- *The Master Prints of Edward S. Curtis*, Mashantucket Pequot Museum, Mashantucket, Connecticut
- *The Bigger Picture: Portraits from Ottawa*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Life Worlds – Artscape Contemporary Iroquois Art*, Museum der Weltkulturen, Frankfurt, Germany
- *Buffalo Creek Revisited*, Karpeles Museum, Buffalo, New York
- *The Political is Personal: A First Nations Perspective*, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario

- *Everyday Lights: Family Photographs Selected by Contemporary First Nations Artists*, The Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Thunder Bay, Ontario
  - *First Peoples Hall*, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Québec
  - *Artists from Ontario: The Canada Council Art Bank Collection*, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario
- 2002
- *Americas Remixed*, Milan, Italy
  - *Collections in Context*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
  - *Mediating Violence*, Tribe, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
  - *Indian Art/Facts*, George Eastman House, Rochester, New York
- 2001
- *The Pan-American Exposition Centennial: Images of the American Indian*, Burchfield-Penny Art Center, Buffalo, New York
  - *Spirit Capture*, National Museum of the American Indian, New York City, New York
- 2000
- *The Powwow: An Art History*, The Mackenzie Art Gallery, Regina, Saskatchewan
- 2000
- *Ottawa on Display*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1999
- *A Category in Question: Native Art from the Permanent Collection*, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
  - *Crossing Borders: Beadwork in Iroquois Life*, McCord Museum, Montréal, Québec; Canadian Museum of Civilization, Québec City, Québec; Museum of the American Indian, New York City, New York; Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario
- 1998
- *IroquoisART*, America Haus, Frankfurt, Germany
- 1997
- *Sprawl*, Mercer Union, Toronto, Ontario
  - *Six Artists Six Nations*, American Indian Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, California
- 1996
- *Red River Crossings: Contemporary Native American Artists Respond to Peter Rindisbacher (1806-1834)*, The Swiss Institute, New York City, New York
  - *Strong Hearts: Native Visions and Voices*, The Smithsonian Institution International Gallery, Ripley Center, Washington, D.C. (Aperture publication, travelling)
  - *Discernment - The Building of a Public Contemporary Art Collection*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1995
- *Alter/Native*, McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Ontario; Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography, Ottawa, Ontario (catalogue)
  - *Positive Negative*, Street Level Gallery, Glasgow, Scotland (travelling exhibition)
- 1994
- *From Icebergs to Iced Tea*, Thunder Bay National Exhibition Center, Thunder Bay, Ontario (travelling exhibition)
  - *In the Shadow of the Eagle*, Castellani Art Museum, Niagara University, Lewiston, New York

- *Keepers of the Western Door*, CEPA Gallery, Buffalo, New York
- 1993
- *The Art of Memory and Transformation*, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Québec
- 1992
- *We, the Human Beings*, 27 Contemporary Native American Artists, The College of Wooster Art Museum, Wooster, Ohio (travelling exhibition)
- 1991
- *Our Land/Ourselves: American Indian Contemporary Artists*, The University Art Gallery, University at Albany, State University of New York (travelling exhibition), Albany, New York
- *The Photographs of Jeff Thomas*, En Foco Gallery, Bronx, New York
- 1986
- *Beyond Blue Mountains*, Works of Traditional and Contemporary Native Artists, Olympia, Washington
- 1985
- *Photography and the American Indian*, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey
- 1984
- *The American Indian Photographers Show*, Southern Plains Indian Museum, Anadarko, Oklahoma
- 1983
- *Traditional Powwow Dancer – Jeff Thomas*, CEPA Gallery, Buffalo, New York
- In Western New York Exhibition, Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York
- *Indian Art '83*, Woodland Cultural Museum, Brantford, Ontario
- *Six Nations Seven*, Joe and Emily Lowe Art Gallery, Syracuse, New York
- 1982
- *Contemporary Iroquois Art*, The Queens Museum, Flushing, New York
- 1982
- *38th Western New York Exhibition*, Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York
- 1981
- *Indian Art in the '80s*, Native American Centre for the Living Arts, Niagara Falls, New York
- 1980
- *Hallwall's Summer Space Show*, Buffalo, New York
- *CEPA Gallery Members Show*, Buffalo, New York

## **CURATORIAL PROJECTS**

- 2020
- Upcoming: *GardenShip and State*, Museum London, London, Ontario
- 2009
- *Home/land & Security*, Render, University of Waterloo, Ontario
- 2008
- *We Were So Far Away: The Inuit Experience of Residential Schools* (advisor)
- 2003
- *Exploring the Aboriginal Past: Archives of Ontario*, Toronto, Ontario
- 2002

- *Where Are the Children? Healing the Legacy of the Residential Schools National Archives of Canada*, Ottawa, Ontario (touring, 2002 – )
- *The Architecture of Indian-ness*, George Eastman House, Rochester, New York
- 2001
  - *On the Field of Battle: Aboriginal Veterans throughout History Department of National Defense*, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1998
  - *Emergence from the Shadows*, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, Québec
- 1996
  - *Aboriginal Portraits from the National Archives of Canada*, Ottawa, Ontario

### **CURATORIAL / ARTIST & INTERVENTION PROJECTS**

- 2013
  - *Wearing Our Identity - The First Peoples Collections*, McCord Museum, Montréal, Québec
- 2011
  - *Contrary Projects in Venice: An Aboriginal Art Intervention at the Venice Biennale*, Venice, Italy. Curated by David Garneau
- 2010
  - *Mapping Iroquoia: Shelley Niro & Jeff Thomas*, McIntosh Gallery, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
- 2009
  - *Departure Points*, Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta
- 2007
  - *Sigmund Samuel Gallery of Canada*, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario
- 2002
  - *Where are the Children: Healing the Legacy of Residential Schools*  
<http://wherearethechildren.ca/exhibition/>
  - *Indian Arti/Facts*, George Eastman House, Rochester, New York
- 2003
  - *Exploring the Aboriginal Past: Archives of Ontario*, Toronto, Ontario
- 2002
  - *The Architecture of Indian-ness*, George Eastman House, Rochester, New York
  - *No Escapin' This: Confronting Images of Aboriginal Leadership*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario

### **WEBSITE & VIDEO PROJECTS**

- 2015
  - [www.anecessaryfiction.com](http://www.anecessaryfiction.com) for *A Necessary Fiction: My Conversation with Nicholas de Grandmaison*, University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta
- 2014
  - [www.jeff-thomas.ca](http://www.jeff-thomas.ca) Portfolio archive
  - *Opening Borders/Opening Objects*, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
- 2009
  - [www.wherearethechildren.ca/exhibition](http://www.wherearethechildren.ca/exhibition) *Where are the Children*, Legacy of Hope Foundation, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2006



- [www.scoutingforindians.com](http://www.scoutingforindians.com)
- 2005
- *Art Star 2 Video Biennial*, Remix 2005 North of 60. SAW Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Aboriginal Healing Foundation
- 2004
- *A Documentation of the Journey of Iroquois/Onondaga Photographer Jeff Thomas*, Artist in residence, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, Ontario  
[www.oakvillegalleries.com/sitescope/jeffthomas/WEB/about.html](http://www.oakvillegalleries.com/sitescope/jeffthomas/WEB/about.html)
- 2003
- *Artist Jeff Thomas*, Centre for Contemporary Canadian Art, The Canadian Art Database, [www.ccca.ca](http://www.ccca.ca)

## GRANTS

- Ontario Arts Council: Curatorial Projects: Indigenous and Culturally Diverse
- Ontario Arts Council: Project Grants: 1984, 1986, 1995, 1997  
A Grants: 2001, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2013, 2015
- Ontario Arts Council: Chalmers Fellowship 2005, 2009
- Ontario Arts Council: Exhibition Assistance 1985, 1996, 2004
- Ontario Arts Council: Aboriginal Arts Projects, 2008, 2016
- Canada Council for the Arts: Project Grants: “B” Grant: 1989, 1992, 1998 “A” Grant: 2002, 2007, 2015
- Canada Council for the Arts: Critics & Curators grant: 2004, 2007
- Canada Council for the Arts: Long-Term Grant, 2011-2012
- Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton Project Grants: “B” 1997, “A” Grant: 2001, 2005, 2007
- Manitoba Arts Council Project Grants: 1990, 1991

## AWARDS

- 2020 Indigenous Curator Residency, Ontario Arts Council
- 2019 Governor General’s Award In Visual And Media Arts
- Scotiabank Photography Award (long list)
- 2017 REVEAL Indigenous Art Award
- 2008 Karsh Award, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2003 Royal Canadian Academy of Art
- 1998 The Duke & Duchess of York Prize in Photography, Canada Council for the Arts

## VIDEO WORK

- Carleton University, Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundles, Knowledge Keeper Interview
- University of Ottawa video work “A Study of Indianness” 2010
- l’Université du Québec en Outaouais (UQO), video work “A Study of Indianness” 2009

## COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, Ontario  
Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario  
Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, Brandon, Manitoba  
Bank of Montréal, Toronto, Ontario  
Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton, Nova Scotia  
Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography, Ottawa, Ontario  
Canadian Museum of History, Gatineau, Québec  
Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario  
Federation of Newfoundland Indians  
Glenbow Museum (pending)  
Indigenous Art Centre, Ottawa, Ontario  
Kamloops Art Gallery, Kamloops, British Columbia  
Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario  
McIntosh Gallery, London, Ontario  
MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, Ontario  
McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, Ontario  
Art Gallery of Saskatchewan (formerly Mendel Art Gallery), Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C.  
M & T Bank Collection, Buffalo, New York  
Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland  
Museum der Weltkulturen, Frankfurt, Germany  
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario  
Oakville Galleries, Oakville, Ontario  
Ottawa-Carleton Regional Art Collection, Ottawa, Ontario  
Odawa Native Friendship Centre, Ottawa, Ontario  
Portrait Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario  
Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey  
The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario  
Sheridan Campus Galleries, Mississauga, Ontario  
Southern Plains Indian Museum, Anadarko, Oklahoma  
The British Museum, London, England  
The Canada Council Art Bank, Ottawa, Ontario  
The Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario  
The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario  
Union of Ontario Indians, Toronto, Ontario  
University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta  
University of Toronto Art Centre Gallery, Toronto, Ontario  
Washington State Arts Council, Washington State  
Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut  
Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford, Ontario  
Private collections

#### **ARTIST RESIDENCIES**

- 2006 Visiting Scholar, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario
- 2004 Site Scope Residency #2, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, Ontario

- 2003 George Eastman House, Rochester, New York
- 2003 DAÏMÔN, Hull, Québec

### **COMMISSIONED PHOTOGRAPHIC PROJECTS**

- 2013 Ground Zero, Carleton University History Department, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2013 Seize the Space: Champlain's 400th, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2006 Ontario Association of Art Gallery Awards "The Delegate," Ottawa, Ontario
- 2004 The Mi'kmaq People of Newfoundland: A Celebration. Corner Brook Museum and Archives, Newfoundland
- 1991 Aboriginal Justice Inquiry, Winnipeg, Manitoba

### **DOCUMENTARIES ABOUT THE ARTIST**

- 2006 Not Just Beads and Moccasins. The Sharing Circle
- 2004 Scouting for Indians, five minute video, Jeff Thomas and Bear Thomas, Collaboration
- 2003 CBC ARTSPOTS
- 1997 Shooting Indians: A Journey with Jeffrey Thomas, colour, 54 minutes, directed by Ali Kazimi

### **ESSAYS BY THE ARTIST**

- Strangers Guide The US National Parks Issue, 2019
- Wisdom, Wit and Other Tidbits, October/November 2019 V.44, No. 6 PhotoLife
- Cybercartography in a Reconciliation Community, Engaging Intersecting Perspectives, Stephanie Pyne, D.R. Fraser Taylor, Elsevier Inc., 2019
- Hamilton Arts & Letters Magazine, Issue 12.1 & Issue 12.2, 2019
- Peripheral Vision(s) Perspectives on the "Indian" Image by 19th Century Northern Plains Warrior-artists and 20th Century American Artists Leonard Baskin & Fritz Scholder, McMaster Museum of Art, 2019
- We Are Still Here, BlackFlash, 35.3/, Fall Winter 2018
- Ground Zero: The Bear Portraits. Photography and Culture, Volume 10-Issue 2, July 2017. Published online – Taylor & Francis Group
- A Conversation with Tanya Harnett and Jeff Thomas. Auto/Biographical Studies Publication. Taylor & Francis, July 4, 2016
- Father's Day: The Missing Conversation, West Coast Liner 74, vol. 46, Summer 2012
- Mapping Iroquoia, Lake A Journal of Arts and Environment, Issue 7 2012
- Seize the Space: Buffalo Boy, Black Flash, Fall 2011
- "Emergence from the Shadow: First Peoples' Photographic Perspectives," Payne, Carol and Kunard, Andrea. The Cultural Work of Photography in Canada McGill-Queen's/Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation Studies in Art History #4, 2011
- Resistance is Futile. Orientalism & Ephemera, guest editor Jamelie Hassan, West Coast Line 64, volume 43, no 4. Spring/Summer 2010. page 18
- What's the Point? Public Art in Canada: Critical Perspectives, Edited by Annie Gérin and James S. McLean, 2009
- Indian Corn to Indian Corn, Trans/mission: Ble d'Inde, Ron Benner. AXENE07, 2008

- Making the Scene: Edward Curtis in Context. BlackFlash, SCENE25.3, 2008
- decentre Concerning artists-run culture YYZ Books, 2008
- My Indian Companion, Drive By: A Road Trip with Jeff Thomas. University of Toronto Art Centre Gallery, Toronto
- “Our” Artist, Boreal Baroque Mary Anne Barkhouse, 2007 The Robert McLaughlin Gallery ABC Art Books Canada
- Aboriginal Art in the Canada Council Art Bank Collection, Art at Work, edited by Victoria Henry, Goose Lane Editions, 2007
- Scouting for Indians. Public Number 29 Localities (2004)
- Jeff Thomas: A Study of Indian-ness. Gallery 44 (2004)
- Where Are the Children: Healing the Legacy of Residential Schools, (cat.) Aboriginal Healing Foundation, Ottawa (2003)
- Articulating the Vanishing Indian. FUSE Magazine 25, no. 4 (2002).
- Making the Invisible Visible. MIX 28, no. 1 (Summer 2002).
- Luminance – Aboriginal Photographic Portraits. Archivist, no.112 (1996)

### **BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

- 2012 Gallery 101, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2003 Art Gallery of Ontario: Canadian Curatorial Committee
- 2002 Gallery 101, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2002-08 Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1994 Visual Arts Ontario, Toronto, Ontario

### **ARTS JURY PARTICIPATION**

- School of the Photographic Arts: Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, 2020
- Canada Council for the Arts: 1992, 2002, 2005, 2009
- Canada Council Art Bank: 2004
- Ontario Arts Council: 2002, 2004, 2006; Access and Career Development, 2006, Visual Artists: Established 2010, Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance Jury, 1985, 1996
- City of Ottawa Arts Program: 1993, 1999, 2000, 2003
- City of Ottawa Direct Purchase Program, 2008
- Ottawa School of Art: 2003
- Manitoba Arts Council Visual Arts peer assessment: 2002, 2004
- Karsh Award, 2010, 2016

### **CONSULTANCY PARTICIPATION**

- Legacy of Hope Foundation, ([website](#)), Ottawa, 2009 –
- Portrait Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, 2004
- Art Gallery of Ontario, Aboriginal Consultancy Group “Meeting Ground”, 2002
- Canada Council Aboriginal Curatorial Program Advisory Panel, 1999
- National Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, 1998

**ARTICLES & REVIEWS**

- Baele, Nancy. Strong images of a far-from-vanishing people. *The Ottawa Citizen*, June 28, 1996.
- Bell, Lynn. Ghost Dancing on the Urban Frontier. *Black Flash*, Vol. 18 (March 2001).
- Beyer, David and Tobias-Keeshig, Lenore. Powwow Dancer. *Sweetgrass* (July/August 1984).
- CBC Radio One ‘q’ show, ‘Urban Iroquois photographer Jeff Thomas,’ March, 18, 2019
- Cembalest, Robin. Native American Art: Pride and Prejudice. *Art News* (February 1992).
- Close, Susan. Aboriginal Portraits from The National Archives of Canada. *Archivaria* 42 (Fall 1996).
- Cochrane, Leyden Steven. Sideshows Play to Winnipeg Art Gallery Strengths. *Winnipeg Free Press*, 11/19/15
- Dales, Jennifer. Artists steal photography scene. *Rabble.ca*, February 6, 2009
- Dault, Gary Michael. Jeff Thomas At the Stephen Bulger Gallery. *The Globe and Mail*, May 24, 2008
- Durand, Guy Sioui. Point de vue: Erres. *CV Photo* 50 (Spring 2000). 5-6.
- Duran, Guy Sioui. Stealing the Gaze: Portraits by Aboriginal Artists. *CV* 82, June-Sept 2009
- Eason, Mandy. “inter/SECTION: A look at urban Aboriginals and stereotypical images of
- Everett-Green, Robert. Works embody Markham’s past and future, *The Globe and Mail*, Friday, October 11, 2013
- Garneau, David. Boy Boyer and Jeff Thomas. *Border Crossing* vol. 24 number 2, May 2005 Natives.” *Tekawennake Six Nations & New Credit News*, February 17, 1999.
- Francis, Margot. Reading the Autoethnographic Perspective of Indians ‘Shooting Indians.
- TOPIA, no. 7 (Spring 2002). 5-26.
- Francis, Margot. Jeff Thomas: A Study of Indian-ness. *FUSE Magazine*, vol. 27, no. 3, 2004
- Fraser, Graham. Portraits of a People. *The Globe and Mail*, November 30, 1999.
- Gaudet, Elaine. Les deux passions de Jeffrey Thomas. *Ledroit*, Ottawa-Hull, August 8, 1996.
- Gessell, Paul. The Aboriginal Eye. *Ottawa Citizen*, Nov. 13, 2008
- Gessell, Paul. Kings of the road. *Ottawa Citizen*, February 15, 2007
- Gessell, Paul. The art that escaped the city’s knife. *Ottawa Citizen*, March 18, 2004
- Gessell, Paul. Native school photographs not pretty. *Ottawa Citizen*, June 15, 2002.
- Gessell, Paul. Scouting for Indian stereotypes: lusty braves, fierce warriors. *The Ottawa Citizen* May 10, 2000.
- Gilmore, Alison. A Meditation on Missing Role Models, *Winnipeg Free Press*, May 30, 2012
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## **CATALOGUES & PUBLICATIONS**

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- Francis, Margot Creative Subversions Whiteness, Indigeneity, and the National Imaginary, UBC Press, 2011
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- Indigenous Art Centre. The Indigenous Art Collection Selected works 1967-2017, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) 2017

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- King, Laurie, ed. Hear My Voice: A Multicultural Anthology of Literature from the United States, 1993.
- McMaster Museum of Art, 2012, Jeff Thomas: Mapping Iroquoia: Cold City Frieze
- Payne, Carol and Kunard, Andrea. The Cultural Work of Photography in Canada McGill-Queen's/Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation Studies in Art History #4, 2011
- Phillips, Ruth, B. Settler Monuments, Indigenous memory: Dis-membering and Re-membering Canadian Art History. Monuments and Memory, made And Unmade. Edited by Robert S. Nelson and Olin, Margaret. The University of Chicago Press. 2003
- Martin, Lee-Anne and Boyer, Bob. The Powwow: An Art History. Regina: Mackenzie Art Gallery, 2000.
- McMaster, Gerald. Portraits from the Dancing Grounds. Ottawa: The Ottawa Art Gallery, 1997.
- Mitra, Srimoyee. Learning Through Crossing Lines: An Intercultural Dialogue, Cultivating Canada: Reconciliation through the Lens of Cultural Diversity. 2011
- Tompkins, Edward. Ktaqmkukewaq Mi'kmaq: Wlqatmuti The Mi'kmaq People of Newfoundland: A Celebration. Federation of Newfoundland Indians, 2004.
- University of Toronto Art Centre, Drive By: A Road Trip with Jeff Thomas, 2008
- Wheelwright Museum of The American Indian, About Face: Self-Portraits by Native American, First Nations, and Inuit Artists, 1997

## CONFERENCES & PANELS

2019

- The future of commemorative art practices Culture Montréal, through its public art commission, is organizing and funding the event, which will take place at the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Montréal
- Longing and Belonging, DOXA Film Festival, Vancouver, British Columbia

2017

- Reframing Family Photography, Royal Ontario Museum
- Project Naming, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario

2016

- What does Heritage Change? panel for the Critical Heritage Studies Conference, Montréal, Québec

2015

- University Art Association of Canada, Halifax, Canada, (Keynote address)

2014

- Stronger Than Stone: (Re)Inventing the Indigenous Monument, Calgary/Saskatoon

2013

- Champlain on the Anishinabe Aki: Histories and Memories on an Encounter, Carleton University Colloquium, Ottawa, Ontario
- inVisibility: Indigenous in the City, Aird Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- Pictures of By Indians: Decolonization and the Lens, Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario



2012

- Immortal Body symposium, Ryerson, Toronto, Ontario

2011

- Native American Art Studies Association Eighteenth Biennial Conference, Ottawa, Ontario
- The Association for Canadian Studies and the Canadian Ethnic Studies Association 2nd Annual Joint Conference Revisiting 40 Years of Multiculturalism Policy in Canada
- National Victims of Crime Awareness Week, Symposium, Department of Justice, Ottawa

2009

- Healing Through Exhibitions, Aboriginal Curatorial Collective Conference, Ottawa, Ontario
- Home/land & Security, exhibition circle gathering, University of Waterloo, RENDER, Waterloo, Ontario

2008

- Whose History? Re-visioning the Colonial Monument Four Hundred Years After Samuel de Champlain's Habitation at Québec, University of Toronto Art Centre Gallery, Toronto, Ontario

2007

- Transporters, University of Victoria, British Columbia

2006

- Ontario Museum Association Conference, Owen Sound, Ontario
- ReVisions: Canadian Voices, University of Toronto, Ontario
- The Indigenous City, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia

2005

- Define Indian. University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon
- Curators in Context: Thinking Through Curating, Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta
- Aboriginal Curatorial Collective. Ottawa, Ontario
- Post...A Gathering and Community Discussion. (Moderator) Gallery 101, Ottawa, Ontario

2004

- Canadian Embassy, Washington D.C
- Shooting Indians: Perspectives on Urban Indian-ness. (Moderator) Gallery 44, Toronto, Ontario

2003

- Powwow Performance and Nationhood in Native North America, Ethnography Conference. The British Museum, London, England
- Power to the People, Contemporary Art Forum, Kitchener, Ontario

2002

- Convergence Strategies & Influences. ARRCO Conference, Ottawa, Ontario
- Empowerment in the Museum: The Artist as Curator. Contemporary Art Forum, Kitchener, Ontario
- Healing Through the Arts in the Aboriginal Community. First Annual New Sun Symposium, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario

2000

- Urban Myths. (moderator) Karsh Masson Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Writing Canada's Art Histories, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Canadian Society of Landscape Architects' Congress 2000, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1999
- CEPA Gallery, Buffalo, New York (panel)
  - Aboriginal Representation in the Art Gallery, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario
- 1998
- Forum on First Peoples Visual Arts, The Canada Council, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Preservation or Appropriation? A Discussion of The Relations Between Aboriginal culture(s) and Canadian Museums, McGill University, Canadian Ethnic Studies, Montréal, Québec
  - Emergence from The Shadow: First Peoples' Photographic Perspectives. Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Québec
- 1997
- Hybrids, Half-Breeds and the Myth of Whiteness, Gallery 101, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1996
- Enlarging Curatorial Perception: Racial Identity and Visual Prototypes, Ontario Association of Art Galleries, Toronto, Ontario
  - Artists as Social Critics, SAW Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1995
- Native American Art Studies Association, Tenth Biennial, Tulsa, Oklahoma

### **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS: Artistic Practice**

- 2017
- Family Camera Roundtable, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario
- 2016
- Ontario College of Art and Design University (OCAD U), Toronto, Ontario
  - Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
  - College Art Galleries, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- 2015
- Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois
  - University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta
- 2013
- Carleton University History Department, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Carleton University Art History Department, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Carleton University Art Gallery, Jamelie Hassan in Conversation with Jeff Thomas, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2012
- McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, Ontario
  - McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinberg, Ontario
  - McCord Museum, Montréal, Québec
- 2011
- The Dalhousie Art Gallery, Halifax, Nova Scotia
  - York University, Rebel's With A Cause Film Festival, Toronto, Ontario

- York University, Art History Department, Toronto, Ontario
- 2010
- Concordia University, Montréal, Québec
  - Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
  - Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, Brandon, Manitoba
- 2009
- Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario
  - The Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France
  - Commemoration, MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, Ontario
  - National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2008
- Karsh-Masson Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
  - University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2006
- University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba
  - Dept. of Creative Studies Univ. of B.C. Okanagan, Kelowna, British Columbia
  - McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinberg, Ontario
  - Camera Frontera, North Bay, Ontario
  - Visiting Scholar, Department of Art, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario
  - Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston, Ontario
  - York University, Jeff Thomas & Reesa Greenberg, Toronto, Ontario
  - Modern Fuel Gallery, Kingston, Ontario
- 2005
- University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
  - York University, Toronto, Ontario
  - Urban Shaman & Platform Galleries, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 2004
- Carleton University, Art History Department, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Oakville Galleries, Oakville, Ontario
  - Gallery 44, Toronto, Ontario (panel)
  - University of New Brunswick, St. John, New Brunswick
- 2003
- Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Québec
  - George Eastman House, Rochester, New York
  - Pequot Museum, Mashantucket, Connecticut
  - The British Museum, London, England (conference)
- 2002
- Museum of the American Indian, New York City, New York
  - American Indian Community House Gallery, New York City, New York
  - Artspace Gallery, Peterborough, Ontario
  - Carleton University, Art History Department, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Mackenzie Art Gallery of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan
  - University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta

- University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- University of Toronto at Scarborough Division of Social Sciences, Scarborough, Ontario
- Scott Collegiate High School, Regina, Saskatchewan
- 2001
  - McCord Museum, Montréal, Québec
  - York University, Toronto, Ontario
  - University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
  - Carleton University, Art History Department, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2000
  - The Photographers Gallery, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- 1999
  - Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford, Ontario
  - Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Québec
- 1996
  - Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1991
  - Aboriginal Journalism Program, Red River Community College, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 1985
  - Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford, Ontario
- 1984
  - Confederated Indian College, Regina, Saskatchewan

**SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS: Curatorial Practice**

- 2011
  - Dalhousie Law School, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- 2010
  - McIntosh Gallery, London, Ontario
- 2009
  - Home/land & Security, REDNER, University of Waterloo, Ontario (round table)
- 2007
  - Lethbridge Public Library, Lethbridge, Alberta
- 2006
  - Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford, Ontario
  - Red Lake Cultural Heritage Centre, Red Lake, Ontario
- 2005
  - Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 2004
  - National Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
  - St. John Museum, Saint John, New Brunswick
- 2003
  - U.B.C. Museum of Anthropology, Vancouver, British Columbia
  - Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Québec
  - George Eastman House, Rochester, New York
- 2002
  - Lecture, Louis-Philippe Herbert, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario

- Lecture, Carl Beam, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario
- 2001
- Edward S. Curtis, Musée de L' Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 1999
- Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Québec
- 1998
- Andres Serrano: The Native American Portfolio. Art Core Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- 1997
- National Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario

**WORKSHOPS (Instructor)**

- 2017 The Radical Imagery Institute, Trinity Square Video, Toronto, Ontario
- 2011 Paved Arts, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- 2006 Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta
- 2004 Oakville Galleries, Oakville, Ontario
- 1985 Ojibwa and Cree Cultural Centre, Northern Ontario