

Stolen Lives: Remembering Carlisle Indian Industrial School

Autry Museum of the American West Lecture, November 4, 2016

A Talk by Artists Emily Arthur and Shan Goshorn

Sponsored by Loren G. Lipson, M.D.



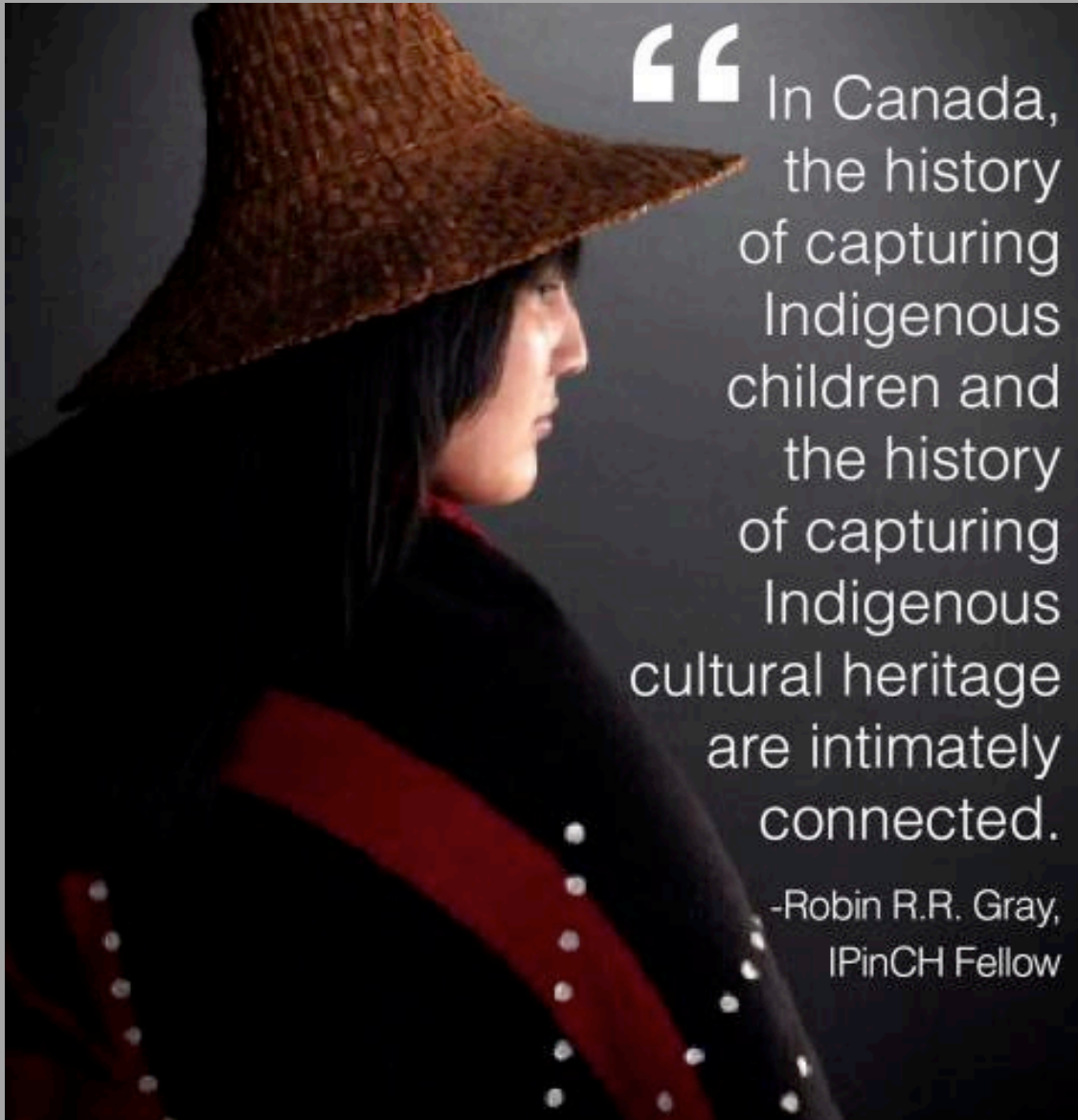
Arthur, *West Coast Botanicals*

Emily W. Arthur's, (Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Cherokee descent) practice is informed by a concern for the environment, displacement, exile and the return home from dislocation and separation.



Goshorn, *Reclaiming Our Power*

Shan Goshorn is an Eastern Band Cherokee artist living in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her multi-media artwork expresses human rights issues, especially those that affect Native American people today.



“ In Canada,
the history
of capturing
Indigenous
children and
the history
of capturing
Indigenous
cultural heritage
are intimately
connected.

-Robin R.R. Gray,
IPinCH Fellow

The current gatekeepers of this cultural heritage, from museum professionals to academics, must take **restorative justice** very seriously and must not ignore their position to enact change, as agents of reconciliation:

“..we need to reexamine the people, processes, social relations, and knowledges that shaped these collections.” (Bruchac 2010:150)

American Indian Education

“The goal of Indian education has not been education. Indian education has been oriented toward performing other peripheral tasks of a political and economic nature”

(Vine Deloria, Jr.)

Stages of Indian Education

- **Assimilation** (off reservation boarding schools, 1880 - present)
- **Pluralism** (1934 “Indian New Deal”)
- **Self-Determination** (1975-present)



*Student body assembled on the Carlisle Indian School Grounds.
Photo courtesy of Carlisle-www.army.mil*

Richard Henry Pratt established Carlisle (Pennsylvania) in 1879. Between 1880 and 1902, 25 **off-reservation** boarding schools were built and 20,000 to 30,000 Native American children went through the system. That was roughly 10 percent of the total Indian population in 1900.



Apache children on arrival at the Carlisle Indian School (Pennsylvania) <http://www.archaeology.org/online/features/phoenix/jpegs/phoenix4.jpeg>



Apache children at the Carlisle School four months later. <http://www.archaeology.org/online/features/phoenix/jpegs/phoenix5.jpeg>

The Contrast Picture – From Primitive to Civilized
Assimilationist desires

Contrast Picture tied to Boarding School Experience