



VENICE SYMPOSIUM

## Vision, Space, Desire: Global Perspectives and Cultural Hybridity

December 13, 2005

Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti  
Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti  
Campo Santo Stefano  
Venice, Italy

On December 13, 2005, the National Museum of the American Indian will convene an international contemporary art symposium to mark the participation of several Native artists at this year's Venice Biennale. The symposium, *Vision, Space, Desire: Global Perspectives and Cultural Hybridity*, will explore indigenous artistic and curatorial practices in relation to the ever-changing realities of the contemporary art world. The symposium will promote an international dialogue and exchange of ideas among Native and non-Native curators, directors, artists, critics, and scholars and open new possibilities in contemporary art practice and engagement.

*Vision, Space, Desire* will be an occasion for lively discussion and the sharing of new ideas in theory and research. In particular, the symposium core questions will address Native contemporary artistic and curatorial issues in relation to other (Western and Eastern European, African, and Latin American) theoretical discussions and experiences. Topics will include: institutional and alternative spaces of practice; the politics of curatorial practice; globalization, diaspora and indigeneity; and the relevance of postmodern and postcolonial theories in reading Native contemporary art.

### SCHEDULE

9:30–10:00	Arrivals and Coffee
10:00–10:30	Opening and Keynote Address
10:30–12:30	Session I: <i>New Contact Zones</i>
12:30–3:00	Lunch Break
3:00–5:00	Session II: <i>Performing Cultural Hybridity</i>
5:00–5:30	Closing

### REGISTRATION

*Vision, Space, Desire* is free and open to the public. Advance registration is preferred. Contact [NMAI-SSP@si.edu](mailto:NMAI-SSP@si.edu) or visit online at [www.AmericanIndian.si.edu](http://www.AmericanIndian.si.edu).

The National Museum of the American Indian would like to thank the Ford Foundation, the George Gustav Heye Foundation, and other friends of the museum for their generous support of this symposium.

*Vision, Space, Desire* will follow the Biennale International Symposium *Where Art Worlds Meet: Multiple Modernities and the Global Salon* to be held December 9–12. Information available at [www.labiennale.org](http://www.labiennale.org).



Building overhang, National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C. Photo by R. A. Whiteside.

### SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

**Gerald McMaster, Ph.D.** (Symposium Chair), Curator of Canadian Art, Art Gallery of Ontario

**Brenda L. Croft**, Senior Curator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, National Gallery of Australia

**Jean Fisher, Ph.D.**, Professor of Art and Transcultural Studies, Middlesex University, London

**Sylvie Fortin**, Editor-in-Chief, *Art Papers*

**Salah Hassan, Ph.D.**, Chair, Department of History of Art, Cornell University Editor, *NKA: Journal of Contemporary African Art*

**Paulo Herkenhoff**, Director, Museu Nacional de Belas Artes, Rio de Janeiro

**Robert Houle**, Artist, Toronto

**Vasif Kortun**, Director, Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center, Istanbul

**James Luna**, Artist, California

**Lee-Ann Martin**, Curator of Contemporary Canadian Aboriginal Art, Canadian Museum of Civilization

**Cuahtëmoc Medina**, Associate Curator, Latin American Art, Tate Collection, London

**Ivo Mesquita**, Curator, Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, Brazil Visiting Professor, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College

**Nancy Marie Mithlo, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Smith College

**Jolene Rickard, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Departments of Art and Art History, State University of New York at Buffalo

**Paul Chaat Smith**, Associate Curator, National Museum of the American Indian

**Megan Tamati-Quennell**, Curator, Te Papa, the National Museum of New Zealand