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FotoFocus Announces Artist and Filmmaker Sky Hopinka as 2023 Spring Lecture

Thursday, March 2 at 7pm
Cincinnati Art Museum



Courtesy of Sky Hopinka

(CINCINNATI, OH — FEBRUARY 9, 2023) — [FotoFocus](#), the nonprofit arts organization championing photography and lens-based art, is pleased to announce filmmaker, video artist, and photographer **Sky Hopinka** as the next speaker in its **Lecture and Visiting Artist Series**. Hopinka will present a lecture about his creative practice at the Cincinnati Art Museum on **March 2, 2023, at 7pm**.

As a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation and Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, Hopinka's work inventively captures the authentic histories of Indigenous peoples through a cinematic approach that combines abstract imagery and documentary film. Hopinka's achievements have been duly recognized over the years, with various fellowships and prestigious prizes cementing his status as one of the century's most significant artists. He has been named a 2022 MacArthur Fellow, has received Guggenheim, Sundance Art of Nonfiction, and Forge Project fellowships, and awarded the 2022 Infinity Award in Art from the International Center of Photography, the Alpert

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Award for Film/Video, among others. *The New York Times* named *Centers of Somewhere*, a survey of his work at Bard College, one of “the most important moments in art in 2020,” and *The New Yorker* considered his film, *Lore*, to be amongst the best of that year. Also in 2020, Hopinka became Assistant Professor of Film at Bard College.

“Sky Hopinka pushes the boundaries of cinematic and multidisciplinary artforms through his melding of visual experimentation, sound, and language, weaving together personal and profound narratives. FotoFocus is honored to host him for the return of our signature Lecture and Visiting Artist Series,” said **FotoFocus Executive Director Katherine Ryckman Siegwarth**.



Sky Hopinka, *Mnemonics of Shape and Reason*, 2021. HD video (color, stereo), 4 min 13 sec. Courtesy of the artist

The event is **free and open to the public**, and will take place **Thursday, March 2 at 7pm** at the Cincinnati Art Museum. For more information, please visit [fotofocus.org](https://www.fotofocus.org).

FotoFocus brings photography and lens-based art programming to Cincinnati year-round. Previous speakers in the FotoFocus Lecture and Visiting Artist Series have included **Doug Aitken, Thomas Demand, Philip-Lorca diCorcia, Roe Ethridge, Larry Fink, Zoe Leonard, Laurie Simmons, Alec Soth, and William Wegman**.

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ABOUT SKY HOPINKA

Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians) is a filmmaker, video artist, and photographer. Currently based in New York, he was born and raised in Ferndale, WA. His work centers around personal positions of Indigenous homeland and landscape—designs of language as containers of culture expressed through personal and non-fictional forms of media. He is fluent in Chinuk Wawa, a language indigenous to the Lower Columbia River Basin. Hopinka is an Assistant Professor of Film at Bard College. He received the 2022 Infinity Award in Art from the International Center of Photography, and is a 2022 MacArthur Fellow.

His work has played at festivals including Sundance, Toronto International Film Festival, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Courtisane Festival, Punto de Vista, and the New York Film Festival. Hopinka was part of the 2017 Whitney Biennial, the 2018 FRONT Triennial, and Prospect.5 in 2021. He was a guest curator at the 2019 Whitney Biennial and participated in Cosmopolis #2 at the Centre Pompidou, and has had solo exhibitions at the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College in 2020 and at LUMA in Arles, France in 2022. Hopinka was a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, a Sundance Art of Nonfiction Fellow, an Art Matters Fellow, a recipient of an Alpert Award for Film/Video, a Guggenheim Fellow, and was a Forge Project Fellow. He received a BA from Portland State University and an MFA from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

ABOUT FOTOFOCUS

FotoFocus is a Cincinnati-based nonprofit arts organization that champions photography and lens-based art through exhibitions and public programming. Since 2010, the organization has engaged art and educational institutions throughout the region to support and expand the cultural dialogue around the medium that has come to define our time. With an emphasis on intellectually and academically rigorous programs, the organization provides uniquely enriching access to lens-based art, film, and practices inspired by photography. FotoFocus has collaborated with organizations, curators, academics, and more than 2600 artists and participants, to present over 750 exhibitions and programs.

FotoFocus has awarded close to 700 grants to support partners presenting projects and educational programs that are accessible and engaging to the public. In April 2020, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, FotoFocus pledged part of its 2020 Biennial budget to financially support more than 100 Participating Venues and Partners in the region's art community through FotoFocus Emergency Art Grants.

Signature FotoFocus programming includes the **FotoFocus Biennial**, which took place October 2022 with the theme, *World Record*. Past editions have presented work across the Cincinnati region by historic and contemporary artists, including Berenice Abbott, Eugène Atget, Roe Ethridge, Zanele Muholi, Karl Blossfeldt, Francis Bruguière, Thomas Ruff, and Akram Zaatari. Other landmark events include the **FotoFocus Symposium**, which has contributed significant dialogue and insight to culturally relevant topics including the controversial Mapplethorpe

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exhibition, and the **FotoFocus Lecture and Visiting Artist Series**, which has brought globally renowned artists such as Zoe Leonard and William Wegman to Cincinnati.



Sky Hopinka, *Cowboy Mouth 3 (Siniwagúreginagere)*, 2022. Unique inkjet with hand scratched text and uv laminate, framed 40 x 40 inches. Courtesy of the artist

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