

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Artistry Joins Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover with the Exhibition
Sinew: Female Native Artists of the Twin Cities

(Bloomington, MN) Artistry is pleased to present *Sinew: Female Native Artists of the Twin Cities*, a multidisciplinary group exhibition curated by Dyani White Hawk Polk. *Sinew* runs in the Inez Greenberg Gallery of the Bloomington Center for the Arts from February 12 through April 1, 2016, and features works by Carolyn Anderson, Julie Buffalohead, Andrea Carlson, Maggie Thompson, and the creative team of Heid Erdrich, Louise Erdrich, and Elizabeth Day.

Sinew will open with a reception from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Friday, February 12. A panel discussion with participating artists will be held on Tuesday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bloomington Center for the Arts. The exhibition and all related activities are free of charge.

This exhibition is presented in conjunction with the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover, a multi-week event held January through March that will engage more than 20 regional arts and cultural organizations in illuminating gender and racial inequalities, taking on stereotypes and hypocrisies, and promoting artistic expression by the often-overlooked and underrepresented.

As a participating organization, Artistry has welcomed the Takeover as a chance to consider which artists are underrepresented in the organization's programming. According to Director of Visual Arts Rachel Daly, "We are proud that women are well-represented among the artists whose work we have exhibited, but we have a great opportunity going forward to seek and show more work by artists of color. We are delighted that celebrated artist and curator Dyani White Hawk Polk agreed to curate this exhibition."

In the words of White Hawk Polk, this exhibition focuses on "increasing the visibility and recognition of the strength, vigor, power, and resilience of Native American women and their important contribution to the arts, our communities, our families, and our world." White Hawk Polk's curatorial statement is enclosed and available at artistrymn.org/visual_arts/sinew.

About the Curator: Dyani White Hawk Polk resides in Shakopee, Minnesota. She is Sicangu Lakota, an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. White Hawk Polk earned an MFA in studio arts in 2011 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a BFA in 2-Dimensional studio arts in 2008 from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

From 2011-2015 she served as the Gallery Director and Curator of the All My Relations Gallery in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In March 2015, she transitioned into a full-time studio practice.

White Hawk Polk is a recipient of the 2015 Native Arts and Cultures Regional Fellowship, 2014 Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant, 2013/14 McKnight Visual Artist Fellowship, and 2012 Southwestern Association of Indian Arts Discovery Fellowship. She has participated in cultural arts residency exchanges in South Africa, Botswana and Australia. She is an award-winning artist earning Best of Division and first place prizes at the 2013 and 2012 Santa Fe Indian Art Market and Best of Classification at the Santa Fe Indian Art Market in 2011.

White Hawk Polk's works have been acquisitioned into the collections of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Tweed Museum of Art, Akta Lakota Museum, the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Wisconsin Union Art Collection and the Robert Penn Collection of Contemporary Northern Plains Indian Art of the University of South Dakota as well as many organizational and private collections. She is represented by Shiprock Santa Fe www.shiprocksantafe.com and the Bockley Gallery in Minneapolis, www.bockleygallery.com.

Gallery Location and Hours: The Inez Greenberg Gallery is located in the Bloomington Center for the Arts at 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road in Bloomington, MN. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. There is no admission fee.

Exhibition website: https://www.artistrymn.org/visual_arts/sinew

About Artistry: Artistry is a regional arts nonprofit serving more than 80,000 people annually through theater, visual arts, arts education, and creative placemaking programs. Artistry is one of seven nonprofit organizations based in the Bloomington Center for the Arts. For more information, visit www.artistrymn.org or call 952-563-8575.

About the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover: *Sinew* is organized as part of the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover. From January to March 2016, the Takeover will include over 20 arts and cultural organizations in Minneapolis/St. Paul and surrounding cities. From small non-profit art centers to major cultural institutions in the region, these partners will be highlighting gender and racial inequalities, taking on stereotypes and hypocrisies, and promoting artistic expression by the often overlooked and underrepresented. Join the collective roar for change at www.ggtakeover.com.

Image Captions:

"My Life...Adjusted," mixed media, Julie Buffalohead

Disillusion, mixed media, Carolyn Anderson

Video with Objects (video still), digital video, Andrea Carlson