

**News Release**  
*For Immediate Distribution*  
May 13, 2009

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MUSEUM OF  
CONTEMPORARY  
NATIVE ARTS

**Santa Fe Art Institute**



***BADLAND: A Discussion***  
***Featuring Contemporary Native Artists, Rebecca Belmore,***  
***Lori Blondeau, Bonnie Devine and Erica Lord***



*Fringe by Rebecca Belmore, 2008. Image courtesy of the artist and Franco Soffiantino Arte*

Santa Fe, NM – The Museum of Contemporary Native Arts and the Santa Fe Art Institute will co-host a special discussion by internationally renowned visual artists Rebecca Belmore, Lori Blondeau, Bonnie Devine and Erica Lord Thursday, June 25, 2009 at 6 p.m. at Tipton Hall on the College of Santa Fe campus, 1600 St. Michael's Drive. Moderated by Santa Fe Art Institute Director Diane Karp, and sponsored in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the discussion will focus on the upcoming exhibition *BADLAND* which opens to the public on June 26 at the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts. General admission is \$5 while students/seniors and SFAI members may attend for \$2.50.

The exhibit *BADLAND* will explore the ever-changing nature of land and bring attention to issues of sovereignty, destruction and culture as they relate to the land and its inhabitants. The artists will focus their discussion on their adopted definition of “bad land” which they borrowed from the

*Dakota Diary* by Jean Day, “The Lakota Indians called it *Makbosica*, literally bad land, and the French trappers called it ‘les mauvaises terres à traverser’ – ‘the bad lands to cross.’”

Belmore, Blondeau, Devine, and Lord will also discuss how they’ve been inspired by the life and work of legendary Canadian artist Daphne Odjig whose retrospective exhibition (curated by Bonnie Devine) will also be on display at the Museum beginning June 26.

For more information, please call Joseph Sanchez at 505.983.8900 or email [jsanchez@iaia.edu](mailto:jsanchez@iaia.edu). For more information about the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts please visit [www.iaiamuseum.org](http://www.iaiamuseum.org)

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#### **About the Museum**

Located in downtown Santa Fe, the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts is dedicated to advancing the discourse, knowledge and understanding of contemporary Native arts. Founded in 1971, the Museum’s exhibitions, publications and educational programs challenge pre-conceived notions of contemporary art. The Museum of Contemporary Native Arts is home to the largest collection of contemporary Native art in the world. A premier shopping destination, the Museum’s store offers the finest selection of contemporary Native arts and gifts from both emerging and established artists.

Museum hours are Monday – Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday: noon to 5 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays from November through May as well as major holidays. Adult admission is \$5; senior citizens (62 and over), students with valid IDs and residents of NM: \$2.50. Admission is free for Native people, Museum members, youth under the age of 16, and NM residents visiting on Sunday.

#### **IAIA’s Mission:**

To empower creativity and leadership in Native arts and cultures through higher education, lifelong learning and outreach

#### **Santa Fe Art Institute’s Mission:**

The Santa Fe Art Institute’s mission is the exploration of the interconnections of contemporary art and society through artist and writer residencies, public lectures and workshops, exhibitions, and educational outreach. Using the arts as a vehicle to open discourse, expand possibilities and enhance society, we develop programs to nurture and support artists at all levels of their careers.