

BUNDESKUNSTHALLE



ON THE TRAILS OF THE IROQUOIS

22 March – 4 August 2013

Media Conference: 21 March 2013, 11 a.m.

Fearsome warriors and gifted diplomats – the Iroquois, who originally inhabited the present-day state of New York, successfully kept the European colonial armies at bay during the 17th and 18th centuries. The formation of their influential intertribal confederacy inspired European intellectual history in the 18th century. The social status of women in their society gave momentum to the women's movement of the 19th century, in the 20th century their hairstyle became a symbol of Punk culture.

With unique loans from the United States, Canada, as well as numerous European museums, the exhibition for the first times undertakes a comprehensive search for the trails of the Iroquois throughout the centuries. Historical paintings and drawings, precious ethnographic objects, and extraordinary examples of Iroquois contemporary art tell their varied history, characterized by war, trade, Christian missions, loss of land, and isolation on reservations. Likewise addressed, however, is their forceful reassertion of cultural identity in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Curator

Dr. Sylvia Kasprzycki

Exhibition Manager

Henriette Pleiger, Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany

Further advisors

Prof. Dr. Christian Feest, the former Director of the Museum of Ethnology in Vienna, as well as a number of important Iroquois scholars and artists, amongst them Dr. Tom Hill, the former Director of the Woodland Cultural Centre in Brantford, Ontario, Dr. Ryan Rice, Chief Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts, Santa Fe, and Prof. Dr. Jolene Rickard, Director of the American Indian Program and Associate Professor at the Department of History of Art and Visual Studies, Cornell University

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