

strong hearts native american visions and voices

Strong Hearts Native American Visions and Voices: Embracing Tradition and Empowerment

strong hearts native american visions and voices represent a powerful movement and cultural expression deeply rooted in the resilience, creativity, and spiritual heritage of Indigenous peoples across North America. This phrase captures the essence of Native American communities' efforts to preserve their traditions, share their stories, and foster a collective identity that honors both the past and the future. Understanding the significance of strong hearts native american visions and voices allows us to appreciate the rich tapestry of Indigenous art, activism, and storytelling that continues to inspire and educate generations.

The Meaning Behind Strong Hearts Native American Visions and Voices

At its core, "strong hearts" reflects the courage and enduring spirit of Native peoples who have faced centuries of colonization, displacement, and cultural erasure. Their visions are the dreams and aspirations that fuel cultural renewal, social justice, and environmental stewardship. Voices refer to the oral traditions, contemporary narratives, and artistic expressions that keep Indigenous languages and histories alive.

Spiritual and Cultural Foundations

The concept of visions in Native American culture often relates to spiritual experiences, such as vision quests, which are rites of passage involving solitary meditation and communion with the natural and spirit worlds. These visions guide individuals and communities toward wisdom, healing, and purpose. Strong hearts signify not only bravery but also compassion and the determination to protect sacred lands, honor ancestors, and uplift future generations.

The Role of Storytelling and Oral Traditions

Storytelling is a vital component of strong hearts native american visions and voices. For many tribes, oral traditions are the primary means of passing down knowledge, history, and values. These stories are more than entertainment; they are educational tools and spiritual teachings.

Preserving Language Through Voices

Language preservation is a key aspect of maintaining strong native identities. Many Indigenous languages face the threat of extinction, making the voices of elders and fluent speakers essential to cultural survival. Initiatives such as language immersion schools, storytelling festivals, and digital archives help amplify Native voices and ensure that the visions embedded in these languages endure.

Artistic Expressions: A Window into Native Visions

Art plays a pivotal role in expressing strong hearts native american visions and voices. From traditional beadwork and pottery to modern painting, sculpture, and multimedia, Native artists use their talents to communicate complex histories and contemporary issues.

Contemporary Native Art Movements

Contemporary Native artists often blend traditional symbolism with modern themes, addressing topics such as identity, colonialism, environmental justice, and resilience. Their work serves as a bridge between ancestors' visions and today's realities, inviting broader audiences to engage with Indigenous perspectives.

- **Visual Arts:** Paintings, murals, and digital art that highlight Native stories and struggles.
- **Music and Performance:** Powwows, drumming circles, and modern Native musicians who incorporate traditional sounds.
- **Literature:** Native authors and poets whose voices articulate the complexities of Indigenous life.

Strong Hearts Native American Activism and Empowerment

The phrase also symbolizes the social and political movements led by Native communities to assert their rights, protect their lands, and foster cultural pride. Activism has been a cornerstone of Native survival, with strong hearts

propelling efforts from the American Indian Movement in the 20th century to today's youth-led initiatives.

Environmental Stewardship and Land Protection

Many Native activists embody strong hearts through environmental advocacy, defending sacred sites and natural resources against exploitation and pollution. Their visions often emphasize the interconnectedness of people and nature, urging sustainable practices rooted in Indigenous knowledge.

Youth Leadership and Community Building

Empowering Native youth is crucial for sustaining strong hearts native american visions and voices. Educational programs, mentorship, and cultural workshops nurture young leaders who carry forward traditions while innovating for the future. These efforts reinforce identity, resilience, and community cohesion.

How to Engage with Strong Hearts Native American Visions and Voices

Engaging respectfully with Indigenous cultures requires openness, humility, and a willingness to learn. Here are some ways to connect meaningfully:

1. **Support Native Artists and Authors:** Purchase works directly from Native creators or through Indigenous-owned businesses.
2. **Attend Cultural Events:** Participate in powwows, storytelling sessions, or exhibitions to experience authentic Native expressions.
3. **Educate Yourself:** Explore books, documentaries, and courses about Native histories, languages, and contemporary issues.
4. **Advocate for Indigenous Rights:** Support policies and organizations that protect Native sovereignty and environmental justice.

Understanding strong hearts native american visions and voices enriches our appreciation for the profound wisdom and resilience of Indigenous peoples. Their stories and struggles remind us of the enduring power of culture and community in shaping a more just and compassionate world.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices'?

'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices' is a multimedia project that showcases the stories, art, and cultural expressions of Native American communities, aiming to highlight their resilience, heritage, and contemporary perspectives.

Who are the creators behind 'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices'?

The project is created by a collaboration of Native American artists, storytellers, and cultural organizations dedicated to preserving and promoting Indigenous narratives and artistic expression.

What themes are explored in 'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices'?

The project explores themes such as cultural identity, historical trauma, resilience, spirituality, community, and the ongoing struggles and achievements of Native American peoples.

How can audiences access 'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices'?

Audiences can access the project through its official website, social media platforms, virtual exhibitions, and sometimes through partnerships with museums or cultural festivals.

Why is 'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices' important for Native American representation?

'Strong Hearts' provides a platform for Indigenous voices to be heard directly, countering stereotypes and promoting a more accurate and diverse understanding of Native American cultures and experiences.

Are there educational resources associated with 'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices'?

Yes, the project often includes educational materials such as lesson plans, discussion guides, and workshops designed for schools and community groups to foster awareness and understanding of Native American histories and cultures.

Has 'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices' received any notable recognition or awards?

While specific awards may vary, the project has been recognized for its impactful storytelling and contribution to Indigenous arts and cultural preservation by various Native American organizations and cultural institutions.

How does 'Strong Hearts: Native American Visions and Voices' support Native American artists?

The project supports Native American artists by providing them a platform to showcase their work, offering opportunities for collaboration, and promoting their art to wider audiences, thereby helping sustain Indigenous artistic traditions.

Additional Resources

Strong Hearts Native American Visions and Voices: Preserving Culture Through Storytelling and Advocacy

strong hearts native american visions and voices represents a compelling initiative that seeks to amplify Indigenous narratives by highlighting the resilience, creativity, and cultural depth of Native American communities. This movement, deeply rooted in storytelling and advocacy, provides a platform for Native voices to share their experiences, wisdom, and visions for the future amid ongoing social and historical challenges. Exploring the multifaceted dimensions of strong hearts native american visions and voices reveals not only the richness of Indigenous heritage but also the strategic efforts being made to preserve and promote Native identity in contemporary society.

Understanding Strong Hearts: Origins and Purpose

The phrase “strong hearts native american visions and voices” encapsulates a broader cultural and social mission. Historically, Native American communities have faced systemic marginalization that threatened the survival of their languages, traditions, and unique worldviews. Strong Hearts initiatives arise as a response to this cultural erosion, aiming to reclaim Indigenous space in public discourse and media.

One prominent example is StrongHearts Native Helpline, an organization dedicated to supporting Native American survivors of domestic violence and abuse. While this specific initiative focuses on advocacy and healing, the broader concept of strong hearts aligns with empowering Native people to

articulate their stories and visions without distortion or external interference. This dual focus on healing and storytelling underscores the intrinsic connection between cultural preservation and social justice.

The Role of Storytelling in Native American Culture

Storytelling holds a sacred place in Native American traditions. It is the primary means through which knowledge, history, and moral values are transmitted across generations. Strong hearts native american visions and voices emphasize storytelling as both a cultural practice and a form of activism.

Through oral histories, literature, film, and art, Indigenous creators bring forward narratives that challenge stereotypes and provide authentic representations of Native life. This resurgence of Indigenous storytelling is crucial for dismantling centuries of misrepresentation and invisibility in mainstream media.

Voices Amplified: Platforms Promoting Native American Perspectives

In recent years, multiple platforms have emerged to amplify strong hearts native american visions and voices. These platforms range from grassroots organizations to digital media outlets and academic forums.

Media and Digital Storytelling

Digital media has revolutionized how Native American stories are told and shared. Websites, podcasts, and social media channels dedicated to Native content have created unprecedented access to Indigenous perspectives. For instance:

- **Native News Online:** A news service that covers Indigenous issues across North America, offering unfiltered viewpoints.
- **Indian Country Today:** A leading source for Native news, culture, and opinion pieces.
- **Podcasts like “All My Relations” and “Toasted Sister”:** These focus on Native culture, history, and contemporary issues through personal and communal narratives.

These platforms embody the essence of strong hearts native american visions and voices by fostering community engagement and educating broader audiences about Indigenous realities.

Art, Literature, and Film as Vehicles of Expression

Artistic expression is another critical avenue through which Native American visions and voices are articulated. Contemporary Native artists and writers blend traditional motifs with modern themes, creating works that resonate both within and beyond their communities.

Authors like Louise Erdrich and Sherman Alexie have garnered international recognition by weaving strong hearts native american visions and voices into their novels and poetry. Similarly, filmmakers such as Sterlin Harjo and Taika Waititi (of Native descent) use cinema to explore identity, history, and resilience.

These creative outputs not only preserve cultural heritage but also invite dialogue about Indigenous experiences in a globalized world.

Challenges Facing Strong Hearts Initiatives

Despite significant progress, the movement to promote strong hearts native american visions and voices encounters various obstacles. These challenges stem from historical legacies and current socio-political dynamics.

Systemic Barriers and Cultural Appropriation

One major challenge is the ongoing impact of colonialism, which manifests in systemic inequalities related to education, healthcare, and legal rights. Such disparities limit opportunities for Native individuals to fully express and sustain their cultural identities.

Moreover, cultural appropriation remains a contentious issue. The misrepresentation or commodification of Native symbols and stories by non-Indigenous entities can dilute the authenticity of strong hearts native american visions and voices. This exploitation often leads to misunderstandings and perpetuates harmful stereotypes.

Access to Resources and Funding

Many organizations dedicated to preserving Native voices operate under constrained budgets. Limited funding restricts their capacity to expand

programs, produce content, or reach wider audiences. This financial challenge is exacerbated by the uneven distribution of grants and philanthropic support, which frequently favors mainstream initiatives over Indigenous-led projects.

Strategies for Strengthening Native Voices and Visions

Addressing these challenges requires multifaceted approaches that empower Native communities and foster cross-cultural understanding.

Community-Led Education and Language Revitalization

Language is a cornerstone of cultural identity. Strong hearts native american visions and voices are intricately tied to efforts aimed at revitalizing endangered Indigenous languages. Educational programs that prioritize Native languages and histories help cultivate pride and continuity among younger generations.

Community-based workshops, immersion schools, and digital language apps are examples of tools being deployed to sustain linguistic heritage. These initiatives ensure that storytelling and oral traditions remain vibrant and accessible.

Collaborative Media Projects and Ethical Storytelling

Collaboration between Indigenous creators and mainstream media can amplify strong hearts native american visions and voices while maintaining cultural integrity. Ethical storytelling practices emphasize consent, accurate representation, and equitable partnerships.

Support from funding bodies and media institutions that respect Native sovereignty is crucial for producing authentic content. Such collaborations can also educate non-Native audiences, fostering empathy and awareness.

Policy Advocacy and Legal Protections

Protecting Indigenous intellectual property and cultural expressions through legislation is another vital strategy. Advocacy for stronger legal frameworks helps prevent cultural exploitation and supports Native communities' rights to control their heritage.

Organizations engaged in strong hearts native american visions and voices often work alongside policymakers to promote laws that recognize and safeguard Indigenous cultural and artistic contributions.

The Broader Impact of Strong Hearts Native American Visions and Voices

The resurgence and celebration of Native American voices have profound implications beyond cultural preservation. They contribute to social healing, political empowerment, and intercultural dialogue.

By foregrounding Indigenous perspectives, strong hearts native american visions and voices challenge dominant narratives and inspire new paradigms of coexistence and respect. This dynamic fosters resilience among Native communities and enriches the cultural fabric of society at large.

The continued effort to elevate these voices is essential in forging a future where Native Americans are not only remembered for their past but recognized as active agents shaping the present and future.

[Strong Hearts Native American Visions And Voices](#)

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strong hearts native american visions and voices: *Strong Hearts* , 1995 Photographs, essays and poetry by Native Americans.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: Native American Performance and Representation S. E. Wilmer, 2011-11-01 Native performance is a multifaceted and changing art form as well as a swiftly growing field of research. Native American Performance and Representation provides a wider and more comprehensive study of Native performance, not only its past but also its present and future. Contributors use multiple perspectives to look at the varying nature of Native performance strategies. They consider the combination and balance of the traditional and modern techniques of performers in a multicultural world. This collection presents diverse viewpoints from both scholars and performers in this field, both Natives and non-Natives. Important and well-respected researchers and performers such as Bruce McConachie, Jorge Huerta, and Daystar/Rosalie Jones offer much-needed insight into this quickly expanding field of study. This volume examines Native performance using a variety of lenses, such as feminism, literary and film theory, and postcolonial discourse. Through the many unique voices of the contributors, major themes are explored, such as indigenous self-representations in performance, representations by nonindigenous people, cultural authenticity in performance and representation, and cross-fertilization between cultures. Authors introduce important, though sometimes controversial,

issues as they consider the effects of miscegenation on traditional customs, racial discrimination, Native women's position in a multicultural society, and the relationship between authenticity and hybridity in Native performance. An important addition to the new and growing field of Native performance, Wilmer's book cuts across disciplines and areas of study in a way no other book in the field does. It will appeal not only to those interested in Native American studies but also to those concerned with women's and gender studies, literary and film studies, and cultural studies.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: Native American Voices Susan Lobo, Steve Talbot, Traci Morris Carlston, 2016-02-19 This unique reader presents a broad approach to the study of American Indians through the voices and viewpoints of the Native Peoples themselves. Multi-disciplinary and hemispheric in approach, it draws on ethnography, biography, journalism, art, and poetry to familiarize students with the historical and present day experiences of native peoples and nations throughout North and South America—all with a focus on themes and issues that are crucial within Indian Country today. For courses in Introduction to American Indians in departments of Native American Studies/American Indian Studies, Anthropology, American Studies, Sociology, History, Women's Studies.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: An Introduction to Visual Culture Nicholas Mirzoeff, 2023-07-19 In the fully rewritten third edition of this classic text, Nicholas Mirzoeff introduces visual culture as visual activism, or activating the visible. In this view, visual culture is a practice: a way of doing, making, and seeing. The 12 new chapters begin with five foundational concepts, including Indigenous ways of seeing, visual activism in the wake of slavery, and unfixing the gaze. The second section outlines three currently successful tactics of visual activism: removal of statues and monuments; restitution of cultural property; and practices of repair and reparations. The final section addresses catastrophe and trauma, from Palestine's Nakba to the climate disaster and the intersections of plague and war. Each section also includes new, in-depth case studies called Visualizations, ranging from oil painting to Kongo power figures and the mediated practice of taking a knee. Engaging with questions of racializing, colonialism, and undoing gender throughout, this edition maps the activist turn in the field since 2014 and sets directions for its future expansion. This is a key text in visual culture studies and an essential resource for research and teaching in the field.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: Seizing the Light Robert Hirsch, 2024-02-08 The definitive history of photography book, *Seizing the Light: A Social & Aesthetic History of Photography* delivers the fascinating story of how photography as an art form came into being, and its continued development, maturity, and transformation. Covering major events, practitioners, works, and social effects of photographic practice, author Robert Hirsch provides a concise and discerning chronological account of photography, drawing on examples from across the world. This fundamental starting place shows the diversity of makers, inventors, issues, and applications, exploring the artistic, critical, and social aspects of the creative thinking process. This new edition has been fully revised and updated to include the latest advances in technology and digital photography, as well as information on contemporary photographers such as Granville Carroll, Meryl McMaster, Cindy Sherman, Penelope Umbrico, and Yang Yongliang. New topics include the rise of mobile photography and surveillance cameras, drone photography, image manipulation, protest and social justice photography, plus the roles of artificial intelligence and social media in photography. Highly illustrated with over 250 full-color images and contributions from hundreds of artists around the world, *Seizing the Light* serves as a gateway to the history of photography. Written in an accessible style, it is perfect for those newly engaging with the practice of photography and for experienced photographers wanting to contextualize their own work.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: The Routledge Companion to Art and Activism in the Twenty-First Century Lesley Shipley, Mey-Yen Moriuchi, 2022-12-30 The *Routledge Companion to Art and Activism in the Twenty-First Century* brings together a wide range of geographical, cultural, historical, and conceptual perspectives in a single volume of new essays that facilitate a deeper understanding of the field of art activism as it stands today and as it looks

towards the future. The book is a resource for multiple fields, including art activism, socially engaged art, and contemporary art, that represent the depth and breadth of contemporary activist art worldwide. Contributors highlight predominant lines of inquiry, uncover challenges faced by scholars and practitioners of activist art, and facilitate dialogue that might lead to new directions for research and practice. The editors hope that the volume will incite further conversation and collaboration among the various participants, practitioners, and researchers concerned with the relationship between art and activism. The audience includes scholars and professors of modern and contemporary art, students in both graduate and upper-level undergraduate programs, as well as artists, curators, and museum professionals. Each chapter can stand on its own, making the companion a flexible resource for students and educators working in art history, museum studies, community practice/socially engaged art, political science, sociology, and ethnic and cultural studies. Chapter 17 of this book is freely available as a downloadable Open Access PDF under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives 4.0 license available at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com>

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strong hearts native american visions and voices: *A Planetary Lens* Audrey Goodman, 2021-10 Thomas J. Lyon Book Award from the Western Literature Association *A Planetary Lens* delves into the history of the photo-book, the materiality of the photographic image on the page, and the cultural significance of landscape to reassess the value of print, to locate the sites where stories resonate, and to listen to western women's voices. From foundational California photographers Anne Brigman and Alma Lavenson to contemporary Native poets and writers Leslie Marmon Silko and Joy Harjo, women artists have used photographs to generate stories and to map routes across time and place. *A Planetary Lens* illuminates the richness and theoretical sophistication of such composite texts. Looking beyond the ideologies of wilderness, migration, and progress that have shaped settler and popular conceptions of the region, *A Planetary Lens* shows how many artists gather and assemble images and texts to reimagine landscape, identity, and history in the U.S. West. Based on extensive research into the production, publication, and circulation of women's photo-texts, *A Planetary Lens* offers a fresh perspective on the entangled and gendered histories of western American photography and literature and new models for envisioning regional relations.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: *Alternative Historiographies of the Digital Humanities* Dorothy Kim, Adeline Koh, 2021 *Alternative Historiographies of the Digital Humanities* examines the process of history in the narrative of the digital humanities and deconstructs its history as a straight line from the beginnings of humanities computing. By discussing alternative histories of the digital humanities that address queer gaming, feminist game studies praxis, Cold War military-industrial complex computation, the creation of the environmental humanities, monolingual discontent in DH, the hidden history of DH in English studies, radical media praxis, cultural studies and DH, indigenous futurities, Pacific Rim post-colonial DH, the issue of scale and DH, the radical, indigenous, feminist histories of the digital database, and the possibilities for an antifascist DH, this collection hopes to re-set discussions of the DH straight, white origin myths. Thus, this collection hopes to reexamine the silences in such a straight and white masculinist history and how power comes into play to shape this straight, white DH narrative.--Page 4 of cover

strong hearts native american visions and voices: Aesthetics of Repair Eugenia Kisin, 2024-07-05 *Aesthetics of Repair* analyses how the belongings called “art” are mobilized by Indigenous artists and cultural activists in British Columbia, Canada. Drawing on contemporary imaginaries of repair, the book asks how diverse forms of collective reckoning with settler-colonial harm resonate with urgent conversations about aesthetics of care in art. The discussion moves across urban and remote spaces of display for Northwest Coast-style Indigenous art, including galleries and museums, pipeline protests, digital exhibitions, an Indigenous-run art school, and a totem pole repatriation site. The book focuses on the practices around art and artworks as forms of critical Indigenous philosophy, arguing that art’s efficacies in this moment draw on Indigenous protocols for enacting justice between persons, things, and territories. Featuring examples of belongings that embody these social relations – a bentwood box made to house material memories, a totem pole whose return replenishes fish stocks, and a copper broken on the steps of the federal capital – each chapter shows how art is made to matter. Ultimately, *Aesthetics of Repair* illuminates the collision of contemporary art with extractive economies and contested practices of “resetting” settler-Indigenous relations.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: *Made to Be Seen* Marcus Banks, Jay Ruby, 2012-08-01 *Made to be Seen* brings together leading scholars of visual anthropology to examine the historical development of this multifaceted and growing field. Expanding the definition of visual anthropology beyond more limited notions, the contributors to *Made to be Seen* reflect on the role of the visual in all areas of life. Different essays critically examine a range of topics: art, dress and body adornment, photography, the built environment, digital forms of visual anthropology, indigenous media, the body as a cultural phenomenon, the relationship between experimental and ethnographic film, and more. The first attempt to present a comprehensive overview of the many aspects of an anthropological approach to the study of visual and pictorial culture, *Made to be Seen* will be the standard reference on the subject for years to come. Students and scholars in anthropology, sociology, visual studies, and cultural studies will greatly benefit from this pioneering look at the way the visual is inextricably threaded through most, if not all, areas of human activity.

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strong hearts native american visions and voices: *Trading Gazes* Susan Bernardin, 2003 The story of westering Americans in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries has been told most notably through photographs of American Indians. Unlike this vast archive, produced primarily by male photographers, which depicted American Indians as either vanishing or domesticated, the lesser-known images by the women featured in *Trading Gazes* provide new ways of seeing the intersecting histories of colonial expansion and indigenous resistance. Four unconventional women-Jane Gay, who documented land allotment to the Nez Percés; Kate Cory, an artist who lived for years in a Hopi community; Grace Nicholson, who purchased cultural items from the Karuk and other northern California tribes; and Mary Schaffer, who traveled among the Stoney and Métis of Alberta, Canada-used cameras to document their cross-cultural encounters. *Trading Gazes* reconstructs the rich biographical and historical contexts explaining these women's presence in different Native communities of the North American West. Their photographs not only record the unprecedented opportunities available for Euro-American women eager to shed gender restrictions,

but also reveal how women's newfound mobility depended on the increasing restrictions placed on Native Americans in this era. By tracing the complex, often unexpected relationships forged between these women, their cameras, and the Native subjects of their photographs, *Trading Gazes* offers a new focus for recovering women's histories in the West while bringing attention to the complicated legacies of these images for Native and non-Native viewers.

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strong hearts native american visions and voices: Photo Archives and the Idea of Nation Costanza Caraffa, Tiziana Serena, 2014-12-16 Das lange 19. Jahrhundert der Nationalstaatenbildung ist auch das Jahrhundert der Erfindung der Fotografie wie auch der Geburt der modernen Archivwissenschaften. Die Fotografie wurde bald von den Nationalstaaten in ihrem Bedürfnis nach bildlicher Visualisierung in den Dienst genommen. Nach dem II. Weltkrieg, dem Zerfall der kolonialistischen Systeme und schließlich dem Fall der Berliner Mauer erlangten nationale Fragen erneut Aktualität - nun in einem globalen Rahmen. Die Beiträge in diesem Band untersuchen den Zusammenhang zwischen Fotografie/Fotoarchiven und der Idee der Nation, wobei das Objektiv sich nicht auf einzelne Ikonen, sondern auf die weitreichende Dimension des Archivs richtet.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: Native Americans on Film M. Elise Marubbio, Eric L. Buffalohead, 2013-01-01 Looks at the movies of Native American filmmakers and explores how they have used their works to leave behind the stereotypical Native American characters of old.

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each author, but demonstrate how their narratives are grounded in ancestral memory and land. These autobiographies recall settler-colonialism, deterritorialization, and genocide as the writers and activist-scholars reclaim their voices across cultural, national, and digital boundaries. Portillo provides close readings of memoirs, life stories, oral histories, blogs, social media sites, and experimental multigenre narratives including those by Delfina Cuero, Ruby Modesto, Leslie Marmon Silko, Pretty-Shield, Zitkala-Sa, and Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins.

strong hearts native american visions and voices: Strong Hearts Paul Chaat Smith, Robert Davis, Theresa Harlan, Linda Hogan, James Luna, Leslie Marmon Silko, Jolene Rickard, N. Scott Momaday, Luci Tapahonso, James Welch, Robert Jr Willard, 1993

strong hearts native american visions and voices: *Through a Native Lens* Nicole Strathman, 2020-03-19 What is American Indian photography? At the turn of the twentieth century, Edward Curtis began creating romantic images of American Indians, and his works—along with pictures by other non-Native photographers—came to define the field. Yet beginning in the second half of the nineteenth century, American Indians themselves started using cameras to record their daily activities and to memorialize tribal members. *Through a Native Lens* offers a refreshing, new perspective by highlighting the active contributions of North American Indians, both as patrons who commissioned portraits and as photographers who created collections. In this richly illustrated volume, Nicole Dawn Strathman explores how indigenous peoples throughout the United States and Canada appropriated the art of photography and integrated it into their lifeways. The photographs she analyzes date to the first one hundred years of the medium, between 1840 and 1940. To account for Native activity both in front of and behind the camera, the author divides her survey into two parts. Part I focuses on Native participants, including such public figures as Sarah Winnemucca and Red Cloud, who fashioned themselves in deliberate ways for their portraits. Part II examines Native professional, semiprofessional, and amateur photographers. Drawing from tribal and state archives, libraries, museums, and individual collections, *Through a Native Lens* features photographs—including some never before published—that range from formal portraits to casual snapshots. The images represent multiple tribal communities across Native North America, including the Inland Tlingit, Northern Paiute, and Kiowa. Moving beyond studies of Native Americans as photographic subjects, this groundbreaking book demonstrates how indigenous peoples took control of their own images and distinguished themselves as pioneers of photography.

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