

## *Rationale*

### **A Symposium and Performance Event: “Unpacking the Indigenous Female Body”**

by Dana Claxton

The nature of this symposium will be one of creative celebration and critical investigation. We will celebrate the creative performance works of Lori Blondeau and Skeena Reece, who are considered Canada’s leading Aboriginal performance artists. Both artists will be creating new works that respond to the film “A Man Called Horse.”

Dana Claxton, the Ruth Wynn Woodward Chair in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies will lead the critical investigation as Presenter and Moderator. Her research paper will locate how Lakota Sioux Women have been represented in the trilogy of “A Man Called Horse.”

Hulleah J. Tsinhnahjinnie — Director of the C.N. Gorman Museum at University of California Davis and Assistant Professor in the Department of Native American Studies at University of California will present the Keynote address on broader issues concerning aboriginal womanhood and the screen. In addition, the critical investigation will be cast further and invite graduate students to submit abstracts on the topic on the representation of Indigenous Woman on screen.

The importance of this symposium to critical research includes cross-disciplinary research ranging from Woman Studies, Film History, Communications, the Broadcasting industry and Indigenous Studies.

The rationale for supporting this symposium is that the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies at Simon Fraser University will be contributing to a much needed and desired macro conversation concerning First Nations Womanhood and screen culture.

Please Circulate Widely!

Wopila

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