



Exhibit C hosts “Outside In: a Showcase of the Sheridan Underpass Mural Artists”
Bricktown art gallery to feature native art show from July through October

OKLAHOMA CITY – (July 1, 2017) The four American Indian artists behind Bricktown’s newest underpass murals on Sheridan Avenue will have their award-winning artwork on display at Exhibit C in Bricktown July 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017.

The show titled “Outside In: a Showcase of the Sheridan Underpass Mural Artists,” will feature the personal works of Chad “Nish” Earles, Rhiana Deck, J. NiCole Hatfield and Steven Grounds. In July 2016, Earles and Deck were selected to create the “Earth to Sky” mural on the north side of the underpass, and Hatfield and Grounds were selected to create the “Strength of the Woman” mural on the south side of the underpass.

The murals brought awareness to the many talents of all four American Indian artists who have been featured all over the world, said Paige Williams Shepherd, director of corporate development and tourism for the Chickasaw Nation.

“The Sheridan underpass project served as a stage for these four artists to showcase their creativity to the numerous visitors and tourists that travel to and through the Bricktown area,” said Shepherd. “Showcasing these talented artists in Bricktown allows visitors the opportunity to experience the artists’ personal artwork and unique style at Exhibit C continuing to bring awareness to the diverse native art in the state and in the area.”

Chad “Nish” Earles

Earles is a member of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma and is known for his artwork in various mediums including drawing, painting and screen-printing.

Earles received his bachelor's of fine art in graphic design from Atlanta College of Art in Georgia, and began his career in art and design at Critt Graham + Associates where he created a wide variety of design projects for nationwide clientele.

In 2011, Earles founded Nishology, his signature art and design brand with a mission to perpetuate Caddo art, culture and traditions. Based in his hometown of Oklahoma City, Earles is currently participating and exhibiting his artwork at numerous art markets, festivals, museums and cultural events nationwide.

Rhiana Deck

Deck is a visual artist and member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. She creates paintings with acrylics, ink and occasionally spray-paint. Through her artwork, Deck expresses the beauty and balance within nature in order to communicate the importance of respecting the earth and preserving it for future generations.

Her work has been exhibited in Oklahoma, Colorado and Georgia. She has donated works to the Red Feather Gala benefiting the Oklahoma City Indian Clinic and The Taste of OKC benefiting The Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma.

J. NiCole Hatfield

Hatfield of the Comanche and Kiowa tribes, is a self-taught contemporary American Indian painter. Hatfield draws her inspiration from old historical photographs of proud tribal women. By painting these photographs, Hatfield said she not only acknowledges the tribal women, but also honors them and gives them a voice in the contemporary world. She frequently incorporates tribal language into her paintings to help keep native languages alive.

Hatfield attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she transcended her art into a range of different mediums. Her preferred medium is acrylic which translates bold colors to canvas. Her award-winning artwork has been featured across the country.

Hatfield also travels across the country creating live works of art for special events or fundraisers for organizations including the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Symposium.

Steven Grounds

Grounds of the Navajo, Euchee, Creek and Seminole tribes, began studying and creating art during early childhood. After graduating with his bachelor's degree in American Indian studies from Haskell Indian Nations University in 2004, he began to focus his artistic vision under the pseudonym Native Evolution, which was influenced by the street art scene when he resided in Phoenix from 2005-2010.

After moving back home to Oklahoma, Grounds decided to pursue his dream of painting street art murals. The most notable mural in Grounds' portfolio is the 70-plus feet Cheyenne and Arapaho mural located in Concho, Oklahoma.

Over the years Grounds has been able to collaborate with many great artists and has his ever-evolving body of work in both the street art scene and fine art galleries.

An artist reception for all four artists will be Saturday, July 15, from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. at Exhibit C. For more information on the artist receptions visit: www.exhibitcgallery.com

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About Exhibit C

Exhibit C art gallery and cultural experience is located in Bricktown. Exhibit C's art gallery displays works of several artists from the Chickasaw and southeastern tribes and continues the vision of raising awareness of the many cultural and entertainment experiences in Oklahoma set forth by Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. Exhibit C is open daily from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. at 1 E. Sheridan, Bricktown. All items located in the Exhibit C art gallery and retail space are for purchase.

About Chickasaw Country

Nestled in south-central Oklahoma, Chickasaw Country is a regional tourism organization representing 13 of Oklahoma's 77 counties. As the official destination tourism organization, Chickasaw Country includes 7,648 square miles, 11 percent of Oklahoma's total 68,597 square miles. Chickasaw Country, a division of the Chickasaw Nation, is a tourism source for visitors and communities within the region and

promotes destinations, attractions and festivals. Chickasaw Country is a diverse and culturally-vested destination, with new adventures and experiences around every corner.

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