



Jeffrey Gibson's 'Like a Hammer' at Denver Art Museum

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"Like A Hammer," 2014, Jeffrey Gibson. Elk hide, glass beads, artificial sinew, wool blanket, metal studs, steel, found pinewood block, and fur; 56 x 24 x 11 in.

(Collection of Tracy Richelle High and Roman Johnson. Courtesy of Marc Straus Gallery, New York. Image courtesy of Jeffrey Gibson Studio and Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, California. Photograph by Peter Mauney. © Jeffrey Gibson.)

Choctaw-Cherokee painter and sculptor Jeffrey Gibson will have his first major museum exhibition “Like a Hammer” at the Denver Art Museum. The exhibition, on view from May 13, 2018, will display about 65 objects that the artist had created from 2011 to the present.

Converging contemporary art practice with his Native American roots, Gibson creates work encompassing a variety of media — figurative works, text-based wall hangings, beaded punching bags, videos and painted works on rawhide and canvas.

“Gibson’s abstract works take inspiration from his Choctaw and Cherokee heritage, pan-Native American visual culture, alternative subcultures, and the artist’s experiences living abroad as well as popular culture,” the museum states. “Gibson draws upon his heritage and remixes his older works to create a visual vocabulary that explores his multifaceted identity and the history of modernism.”

Colonialism and postcolonialism, American-Indian culture and other civil-right movements are recurrent themes of Gibson’s work.

The universal themes of love, community, strength, vulnerability, and survival are also reflected in many of the artist's works. In 1995, Gibson earned his bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts from the Art Institute of Chicago and Master of Fine Arts degree from the Royal College of Art. His works have previously been shown at National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C., and the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, among others.

The exhibition seeks to show his growth as an artist and aid visitors to gain an enhanced understanding of Gibson’s complex creative practice. After the Denver show, the exhibition will travel to Mississippi Museum of Art, the Seattle Art Museum and the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art.

“Like a Hammer” will be on view from May 13 through August 12, 2018, at the Denver Art Museum, 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy, Denver, CO 80204, USA.

For details, visit: <http://www.blouinartinfo.com/galleryguide-venues/779328/museum-overview>
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Click on the slideshow for a sneak peek at the artworks.

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