

Rick Bartow, Wiyot / Yurok (b. 1946)

- From 1997-1998, his sculpture, *Cedar Mill Pole* was shown at the White House in the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden as part of the exhibition *Honoring Native America*
- 2012, Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian commissioned Bartow's sculpture "We Were Always Here."

Rick Bartow, born in Newport, Oregon, is a member of the Wiyot tribe from Northwestern California. He attended college at Western Oregon State University where he earned a B.A. in 1969, after which he served thirteen months in the Vietnam War (1970-1971). Bartow's art is his therapy for coping with life's challenges, including post-traumatic stress disorder from serving in the Vietnam War, and addiction, both of which he references openly. His style is expressionist, and he generally creates pastel and graphite drawings, paintings, prints, and mixed-media sculptures that draw inspiration from transformation, shape shifting, and shamanism. Animals such as the raven, hawk, bear, deer, and coyote are his favored subjects. Bartow's work encompasses the idea that animals and humans are interconnected, and in a constant state of change.