



## **For Immediate Release**

May 21, 2009

### **BADLAND: A Discussion**

Featuring Contemporary Native Artists:

**Rebecca Belmore**

**Lori Blondeau**

**Bonnie Devine**

**Erica Lord**

**What:** **BADLAND:** A Discussion

**Where:** Tipton Hall

**When:** June 25, 2009 @ 6pm

**How Much:** \$5 General Public, \$2.50 students/seniors/SFAI members

**Michelle Laflamme-Childs**

Residency Director &  
Marketing/PR Director

**The Museum of Contemporary Native Arts** and the **Santa Fe Art Institute** will cohost a special discussion by internationally renowned visual artists Rebecca Belmore, Lori Blondeau, Bonnie Devine and Erica Lord. Moderated by Santa Fe Art Institute Director Diane Karp, and sponsored in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the discussion will focus on the upcoming exhibition **BADLAND** which opens to the public on June 26 at the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts.

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The exhibition **BADLAND** will explore the ever-changing nature of land and bring attention to issues of sovereignty, destruction and culture as they relate to the land and its inhabitants. The artists will focus their discussion on their adopted definition of "bad land" which they borrowed from the *Dakota Diary* by Jean Day, "The Lakota Indians called it Makhosica, literally bad land, and the French trappers called it 'les mauvaises terres à traverser' - 'the bad lands to cross.'"

Belmore, Blondeau, Devine, and Lord will also discuss how they've been inspired by the life and work of legendary Canadian artist Daphne Odjig whose retrospective exhibition (curated by Bonnie Devine) will also be on display at the Museum beginning June 26.

#### **IAIA's Mission:**

To empower creativity and leadership in Native arts and cultures through higher education, lifelong learning and outreach

#### **Santa Fe Art Institute's Mission:**

The Santa Fe Art Institute's mission is the exploration of the interconnections of contemporary art and society through artist and writer residencies, public lectures and workshops, exhibitions, and educational outreach. Using the arts as a vehicle

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The Santa Fe Art Institute, an independent educational non-profit organization founded in 1985, is committed to programs that nurture artists and enhance and promote the arts as an essential element of American culture and society.

SFAI funding provided in part by The Burnett Foundation, The McCune Charitable Foundation, The Lannan Foundation, The Warhol Foundation, The Joan Mitchell Foundation, The Brindle Foundation, the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission and the 1% Lodgers' Tax and by New Mexico Arts, a Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

to open discourse, expand possibilities and enhance society, we develop programs to nurture and support artists at all levels of their careers.

**About the Museum**

Located in downtown Santa Fe, the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts is dedicated to advancing the discourse, knowledge and understanding of contemporary Native arts. Founded in 1971, the Museum's exhibitions, publications and educational programs challenge pre-conceived notions of contemporary art. The Museum of Contemporary Native Arts is home to the largest collection of contemporary Native art in the world. A premier shopping destination, the Museum's store offers the finest selection of contemporary Native arts and gifts from both emerging and established artists. Museum hours are Monday – Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday: noon to 5 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays from November through May as well as major holidays. Adult admission is \$5; senior citizens (62 and over), students with valid IDs and residents of NM: \$2.50. Admission is free for Native people, museum members, youth under the age of 16, and NM residents visiting on Sunday.

For more information about the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts please visit [www.iaiamuseum.org](http://www.iaiamuseum.org)

For more information contact:

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or

Michelle Laflamme-Childs at [mchilds@sfai.org](mailto:mchilds@sfai.org) or call (505) 424-5050.

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