

Bree Dorman

November 30, 2022

Jamie Mahoney

- 1) Indi City, a Canadian Two-Spirit, BIPOC jewelry designer, creates waist-length earrings that are laser-cut acrylic lightweight with hypoallergenic hooks, akin to the foot-long Medicine Florals. Lesley Hampton is an Anishinaabe Mohawk designer and creative director who uses fashion to promote mental health awareness. Sometimes, Hampton creates works for Two-Spirit people and collaborates with LGBT artists, such as Cree designer Scott Wabano, who created a jingle jacket with historical linkages to the Spanish flu pandemic of the 1900s. Lehuauakea, the youthful eponymous designer, identifies as mh (a nonbinary or third-gender person of Indigenous Hawaiian descent), and their HOOPILI massive, hand-carved scrap wood studs with pua shell inlays reflect that. Jeffrey Gibson, a Choctaw and Cherokee artist, explores the concept of "chosen family" and gender pronouns as a call for LGBTQ and Indigenous liberation.
- 2) The Southwestern Association for Indian Art's annual Market celebrated its 100th anniversary on August 20, 2022. The event featured a strong lineup of fourteen designers spanning from streetwear to evening wear to couture and featured Indigenous talent, creativity, and politics. Skawennati's fashion label Calico and Camouflage premiered at the artist's first runway presentation on Sunday afternoon. The collection linked a clear line back to the clothes worn by the artist's avatars in her digital work and installations and featured a blend of streetwear, protest dress, and Indigenous cyberpunk futurism. The show was part fashion runway, part protest, with models walking down the runway holding signs that read "Water is Life" and "Resistance is Fertile."
- 3) Tiffany Shaw-Collinge's family pattern is a crimson canopy with a woven pattern. The SCI-Arc-trained designer asserts Indigenous stewardship and ways of knowing by marking the structure with the traditional northern. Joar Nango's work as a Sámi artist and architect explores the very edges of the design and its interactions with circumpolar Indigenous communities. Nango is currently based in northern Norway, which is part of his people's traditional territory known as Sápmi, which spans three Nordic countries and a portion of Russia. O'Brien, a member of the Meriam and Kaurareg peoples of the

Torres Strait, is one of only a few Indigenous architects working in Australia today. His distinct perspective stems from a deep listening to Country combined with a sensitivity to people and place; the result is an aesthetic that isn't easy to anticipate or classify.

- 4) Jonny Appleseed, Joshua Whitehead's debut novel, debuted in 2018 with a humorous, touching, unique narrative of a 20-something Two-Spirit/Indigiqueer person living, loving, working, and remembering in the week leading up to his stepfather's burial. It earned the Canada Reads Award in 2021. Whitehead, a Peguis First Nation member and University of Calgary scholar and professor. Robin Wall Kimmerer, a Citizen Potawatomi Nation scientist, writer, and gardener. Her work investigates the relationships between humans and the natural world and is based on traditional Indigenous ways of knowing and learning. Cynthia Leitich Smith, an active promoter of Indigenous children's and teen literature, contributes to the publication of Native-centered children's books. Eden Robinson is a Haisla and Heiltsuk First Nations novelist with many works. She is most known for her Trickster trilogy, a coming-of-age story about an Indigenous adolescent struggling with all the obstacles of modern life.
- 5) "Ceremony," by Leslie Marmon Silko, is the narrative of Tayo, a half-white, half-Laguna WWII soldier who returns to the Laguna Pueblo Reservation as a damaged man, terribly traumatized by his experiences and suffering from PTSD. He is struggling to find his place in the world until he encounters a medicine man who exposes him to spiritual rites that may cure him and the world. The Jailing of Cecelia Capture by Janet Campbell Hale is part of a long literary tradition of reflection novels in which the action takes place in a character's mind. This is a significant addition to that canon, containing the reminiscences of Cecelia Capture Welles, a law student, and mother, who, after being arrested for drunk driving, reflects on her life and the intersections of race, gender, family, and history that brought her to the present moment. Paula Gunn Allen is a feminist, editor, poet, activist, and academic. Allen's novel The Woman Who Owned the Shadows is among the first to feature an LGBTQ Native American character, Ephanie, who struggles with her intersecting identities and her place in the world.
- 6) Drowning in Fire (Sun Tracks Series) by Craig Womack (Muscogee Creek-Cherokee), Drowning in Fire depicts a young man's struggle to understand his cultural and sexual identity within a framework borrowed from the community of his origins. Drowning in Fire

has been hailed as a pioneering and hard coming-of-age story. *God is Red: A Native Perspective on Religion* (Standing Rock Sioux) by Vine Deloria, Jr. is regarded as the classic research on Native religious beliefs, bringing new questions regarding species and ultimate fate. Terese Mailhot's *Heart Berries* is a dramatic, poetic narrative of a woman's coming of age on the Pacific Northwest's Seabird Island Band. Terese Marie Mailhot is handed a notebook and begins to write her way out of trauma after surviving a severely dysfunctional home only to find herself hospitalized and facing a dual diagnosis.

- 7) Dennis Staples has developed a spooky and gloomy comic called "This Town Sleeps" (2020). Sterling HolyWhiteMountain is originally from East Glacier, Montana. He's released two fantastic, formally demanding, and eminently engaging short tales. The New Yorker published "Featherweight" in the spring, while the Paris Review recently published "This Then Is a Song, We Are Singing." James Welch, who died in 2003, was a Native American poet, nonfiction writer, and fiction writer. He wrote three books: "Winter in the Blood" (1974), "The Death of Jim Loney" (1979), and "Fools Crow" (1986). Leslie Marmon Silko, who received the Los Angeles Times' 2020 Robert Kirsch Award for lifetime accomplishment, wrote "Ceremony," one of the cornerstone texts of modern Native writing (1977). Silko's 1992 apocalyptic novel, "Almanac of the Dead," is a Native apocalypse novel that spans centuries and straddles borders.

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