

Phillip Arnold

Selected Audio Transcript

Other elements of the statue that—So we have twin Haudenosaunee boys. They're now men. But seeing four disembodied Native American heads at the feet of Columbus has always been very difficult for our family. Also the reliefs, the bas reliefs, the scenes of the captives that Columbus had taken to the court of Isabella and Ferdinand in Spain in 1492, 1493, are also very painful to look at because they are in a submissive pose in front of the king and queen. So I know all of these messages go to the superiority of Europeans, of Christianity, and those kinds of things, but as someone teaching in Native Studies and also in Religion, these messages of the innate supremacy of Christianity over and above the worldviews of Indigenous peoples is constantly goading...

Biography

My name is Phil Arnold. I'm the chair of the Religion Department at Syracuse University. I'm also core faculty in Native American and Indigenous Studies at Syracuse University. I'm the founding director of the Skänoñh Great Law of Peace Center and was responsible for creating the narrative there. I'm also the president of the Indigenous Values Initiative, which is a nonprofit organization formed to educate the general public about the Haudenosaunee and Indigenous issues.