

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Abu Dhabi, Capitol of United Arab Emirates



ABU DHABI ART HUB

shares, "It should be a time of rich exploration as we introduce you to the history, culture, the traditional as well as the futuristic city. It is our expectation that this will be reflected in the artworks created during your residency."

I want to thank the ABU DHABI ART HUB in the United Arab Emirates for their interest in my artwork and storytelling as an Artist-in-Residence. I have officially accepted their personal invitation and am preparing for a 17-hour flight in April. During my month-long residency, I will be representing MHA Nation, the Arikara and Hidatsa, through multiple cultural opportunities; studio visits, a storytelling event and final exhibit.

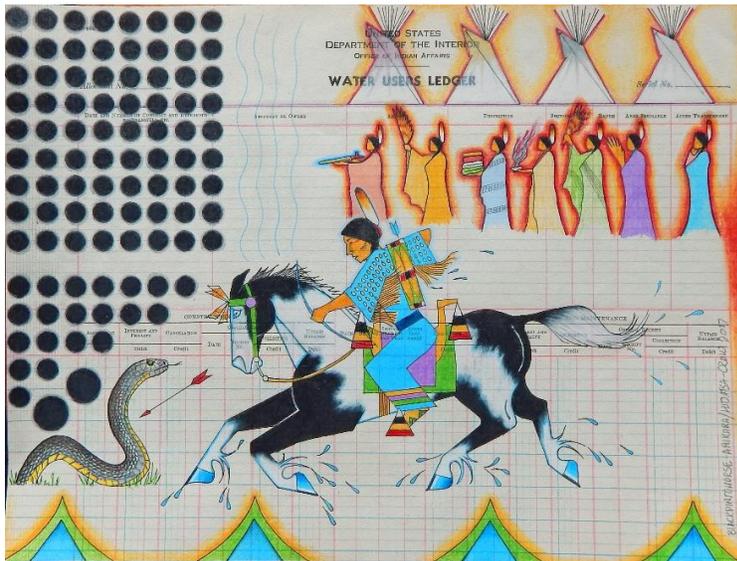


I will be developing and creating a body of works, both oil paintings and ledgers. I will be featured at a community event, where I will tell our traditional stories and answer questions about my culture and artwork. A final exhibit will bring closure to my time at Abu Dhabi Art Hub where dignitaries and art patrons will attend. I am honored to represent my people during this wonderful opportunity, <http://www.adah.ae/>.

ART IS A CREATIVE OUTLET FOR SELF EXPRESSION

BPH's art celebrates his culture, history, traditions and how he views the world.

First Strike illustrates both indigenous prophecy & contemporary, realistic conflict.



Colored pencil on a United States Department of Interior.
Office of Indian Affairs, WATER USERS LEDGER, cir. early 1900's

FIRST STRIKE

This piece is a tribute to the gathering of many nations on the Standing Rock Reservation, as a unified voice that stood physically, side by side as well as those who supported from the outside with prayer, to protect the sacred water, ancient burial sites and human rights from the destruction of the BLACK SNAKE prophecy. More importantly to honor all the woman warriors who were the foundation of this historic event and are the cornerstone of all societies in the world.

The black snake represents the pipe line project and company. Black circles surrounded by gray represent supporters of the black snake that can't see the light through the darkness; greed, ignorance and uncertainty.

Illustrated above are four lodges representing each direction; north, east, south and west and the powers associated with them. Seven women pictured just below the lodges offer their gifts and prayers. One is holding a child to acknowledge the seventh generation and future generations that will be affected.

A woman warrior dressed in blue signifies the sacred water and holiness. She is shooting a red arrow into the black snake, symbolizing the first strike was by the First Nations through their protest. While in her quiver is a blue arrow- the second strike will be by nature.

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Thank you.