

Unboxing the Canon—Episode 2: Reversing the Gaze  
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Created by Linda Steer

In this episode we examine contemporary Cree artist Kent Monkman's diptych *mistikôsiwak* on view now at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. The monumental paintings were completed in 2019 and are called *Welcoming the Newcomers* and *Resurgence of the People*.

In his words, Monkman aims to “reverse the gaze” from white settlers looking at Indigenous people to Indigenous people looking at settlers. *Welcoming the Newcomers* adapts figures and poses from a variety of works of art that depict the Indigenous people of Turtle Island from the point of view of white Europeans and settlers to present a different story and a different point of view about first contact. *Resurgence of the People* uses Emmanuel Leutze's 1851 *Washington Crossing the Delaware* as a source to picture contemporary immigration from Monkman's point of view.

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Monkman, Kent. *Welcoming the Newcomers*, 2019. Acrylic on canvas, 132 x 264 in. (335.28 x 670.6 cm).

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Credits:

Unboxing the Canon is hosted and produced by Linda Steer for her course "Introduction to the History of Western Art" in the Department of Visual Arts at Brock University. Brock University is located on the traditional lands of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

Our sound designer and editor is Devin Dempsey, who is also reading these credits. Our logo was created by Cherie Michels. The music for this podcast has been adapted from "Night in Venice" and "Inspired" by Kevin MacLeod. Both are licensed under Creative Commons Attribution International 4.0.

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