

MACAULAY & CO. FINE ART

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LAWRENCE PAUL YUXWELUPTUN

PAINTINGS & SCULPTURES

February 4th - March 25th, 2023

Opening: February 4th, 2-4pm

We are thrilled to present new works by Lawrence Paul Yuweluption exhibited publicly for the first time. The paintings and sculptures on view are a critical and impassioned melding of modernism, history, and Indigenous perspectives that records what the artist feels are the major issues facing Indigenous people today. Influential as both artist and activist, Yuxweluption merges traditional iconography with representations of the environment and the history of colonization, resulting in his powerful, contemporary imagery.

On view are landscape and Ovoid paintings, alongside figurative Ovoid sculptures. This latter work creates a new visual language of conceptual art. The principal pinnacle concept is the Ovoid*. In this context the Ovoid is first liberated from the rules of Northwest Coast Design in the paintings, and then rebuilt again into figures. The Ovoid serves as a philosophy to think about such things as land claims, Aboriginal rights, self-determination and self-government, social conditions and environmentalism, Native reason and Native philosophy – all of these things synthesized together. Fundamentally, it is about colonial deconstruction and Aboriginal reconstruction.

***Ovoids** are a basic formline shape in Pacific Northwest Coast Native art. In other words, ovoids are basic building blocks with many variations. Ovoids can represent heads, bodies, joints, eyes, or any number of other creatures or things in a formline art design. Sometimes, people describe ovoids as “bean-shaped” or “loaf-shaped.”

THE RULES TO OVOIDISM

Ovoids can come in all shapes and sizes.

Only ovoids can be used.

Ovoids can be any colour.

Ovoids can be made into sculptures and all other forms of art as long as you retain the principles and guidelines that are deemed absolute.

Ovoid painting can be used as a metaphorical terminology of thinking, for instance, "all my relations."

Therefore I will gain wisdom. Ha, Ha!

Political statements

and joyous statements

can be made.

All modern equipment and material

are allowed to create an ovoid.

You should at least be an Indian to create an ovoid.

Ha!

- Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun