

Key Images & Credit Lines

The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition



Daphne Odjig
Harmony and the Universe, 1986
Phillip Gevik, Gallery Gevik, Toronto



Daphne Odjig
Spiritual Renewal, 1984
Collection of Laurentian University Museum and Art Centre/Laurentian University
Purchase, B.A. McDonald Memorial Fund and the
Canada Council Art Bank, 1984



Daphne Odjig
Mother Earth Struggles for Survival, 1975
Collection of Barbara A. Newton Vedan, Vancouver



Daphne Odjig
From Mother Earth Flows the River of Life, 1973
Canadian Museum of Civilization Collection, Gatineau,
Quebec, III-M-55



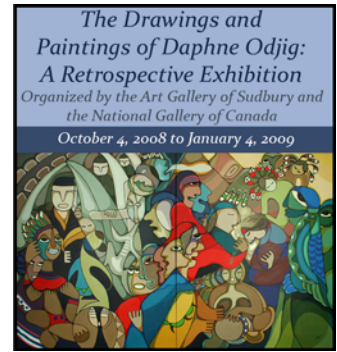
Daphne Odjig
Genocide No. 1, 1971
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
Photo © NGC

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Exhibition Fact Sheet

The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition

Description:

The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition is a celebration of the works of one of Canada's most celebrated and distinctive painters, Daphne Odjig. The exhibition features over forty years of Odjig's artistic career.

Where:

McMichael Canadian Art Collection in galleries 10-12.

When:

October 4, 2008 to January 4, 2009.

Exhibition organizers:

The Art Gallery of Sudbury and the National Gallery of Canada. Financially supported by KPMG.

What's unique:

- First retrospective in over two decades
- Celebrates over four decades of creative work
- Pieces communicate the breadth of Odjig's engagement with her personal, political and cultural history

Number of works:

Fifty-one.

Type of works:

Drawings and paintings.

Subject of paintings:

First Nations cultural history, legends, and human relationships.

Themes:

First Nations history, legends, erotica, landscapes, nature, spirituality.

Lenders:

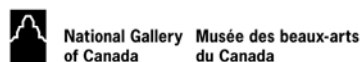
Private collectors and institutional lenders.

Percentage of works from lenders:

Institutional lenders: 40%

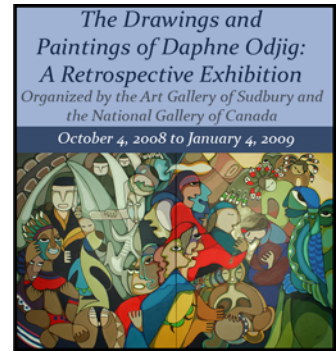
Private collectors: 60%

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Image Credit: Daphne Odjig, *Spiritual Renewal* 1984, Collection of Laurentian University Museum and Art Centre/Laurentian University Purchase, B.A. McDonald Memorial Fund and the Canada Council Art Bank, 1984



List of Works

The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition

Our History

1 *From Mother Earth Flows the River of Life* 1973
 acrylic on canvas
 153.8 × 213.2 cm
 Canadian Museum of Civilization Collection, Gatineau, Quebec, III-M-55

2 *Genocide No. 1* 1971
 acrylic on board
 61 × 76 cm
 National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
 Purchased 2001

3 *Tribute to the Great Chiefs of the Past* 1973
 acrylic, graphite on paper
 50.5 × 37.7 cm
 Collection of Laurentian University Museum and Art Centre/Laurentian University
 Purchase, B.A. McDonald Memorial Fund, 1986

4 *Massacre* 1971
 oil pastel on paper
 62.3 × 92.5 cm
 Collection of the Winnipeg Art Gallery

5 *Rebirth of a Culture* 1979
 acrylic on canvas
 124.5 × 155.5 cm
 McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Ontario
 Donated by James Hubbard and Dennis Jones in honour of Estella and Stuart Wright

6 *Roots* 1979
 acrylic on canvas (triptych)
 152.4 × 121.9 cm (each panel)
 Government of Ontario Art Collection, Archives of Ontario

Our Legends

7 *Earth Mother* 1969
 acrylic on paper
 91.4 × 61.5 cm
 Collection of Stan Somerville, Westbank, British Columbia

8 *Legend of the Rolling Head* 1968
 pastel on wove paper
 92.5 × 62 cm
 National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
 Purchased 2001

9 *Nanabozho and the Man-Eating Giant* n.d.
 oil pastel on paper
 95.5 × 66.7 cm
 Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Gatineau, Quebec

10 *Nanabajou and His Daughter* 1969
 acrylic on board
 107.5 × 77.6 cm
 Phillip Gevik, Gallery Gevik, Toronto

11 *The Eternal Struggle* 1966
 acrylic on paper
 104.5 × 80.5 cm
 Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Gatineau, Quebec

12 *Thunderbird Woman* 1971
 mixed media on board
 93.7 × 63.2 cm
 Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Gatineau, Quebec

13 *The Watchful Eye Man Eating Giant* n.d.
 pastel on paper
 99.5 × 72.5 cm
 Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Gatineau, Quebec

14 *Untitled (Mythological Figure)* 1968
 acrylic on board
 56.1 × 36 cm
 Collection of the Winnipeg Art Gallery
 Gift from the Estate of Arnold O. Brigden

15 *The Shaking Tent* 1969
 acrylic on paper
 109 × 78.7 cm
 Collection of the Manitoba Centennial Centre Corporation, Winnipeg

16 *Medicine Man and the Shaking Tent* 1974
 dry brush acrylic on paper
 86 × 113 cm
 Ermi Tano Collection, Alberta

17 *Nanabush and the Beavers* 1969
 acrylic on board
 94 × 119 cm. (approximate)
 Collection of the Manitoba Centennial Centre Corporation

18 *Fire of the Maple Leaves* 1968
oil pastel on paper
88 × 56 cm
Collection of Ben Robertson,
Kamloops, British Columbia

Pow Wow

19 *The Grand Entrance* 1989
acrylic on canvas
121.9 × 101.6 cm
Thunder Bay Art Gallery Collection,
Canada

Council Art Bank Special Purchase
Assistance Program

20 *Pow Wow Dancer* 1978
acrylic on canvas
91 × 86 cm
Private collection

21 *Pow Wow* 1969
acrylic on board
50.5 × 40 cm
Thunder Bay Art Gallery Collection
Gift of L. Bruce Pierce

22 *Off to the Pow Wow* 1973
acrylic on paper
117 × 88 cm
Thunder Bay Art Gallery Collection
From the Estate of Helen E. Band

23 *At the Feast* 1983
acrylic on canvas
72.25 × 61 cm
Phillip Gevik, Gallery Gevik, Toronto

24 *Spiritual Renewal* 1984
acrylic on canvas (diptych)
167.5 × 121.5 cm (each panel)
Collection of Laurentian University
Museum and Art Centre/Laurentian
University
Purchase, B.A. McDonald Memorial
Fund and the Canada Council Art
Bank, 1984

Tales from the Smokehouse

In 1968 Dr Herbert Schwarz
commissioned her to paint a series of
erotic illustrations for his book "*Tales
from the Smokehouse*", published in
1974.
Warning: explicit sexual content.

25 *The Medicine Dream* 1970
acrylic on paper
90 × 60 cm
Collection of John R. MacDougall,
Hingham, Massachusetts

26 *Big Horn Gives Birth to a Calf*
1970
acrylic, pen and ink on wove paper
61 × 91.7 cm
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
Purchased 2001

27 *Big One and the Bad Medicine
Woman* 1970
acrylic on canvas
66 × 61 cm
Private collection

28 *The Lady Teacher* 1970
acrylic on board
99.2 × 76.3 cm
Phillip Gevik, Gallery Gevik, Toronto

29 *The Evil Spell* 1971
acrylic on board
76.4 × 101.8 cm
Phillip Gevik, Gallery Gevik, Toronto

Our Land

30 *Mother Earth Struggles for
Survival* 1975
acrylic on canvas
86.5 × 71 cm
Collection of Barbara A. Newton
Vedan, Vancouver

31 *And Some Watched the Sunset*
1985
acrylic on canvas
76.3 × 66.2 cm
Phillip Gevik, Gallery Gevik, Toronto

32 *Cradled in Repose* 1985
acrylic on canvas
61 × 51 cm
Thunder Bay Art Gallery Collection
With assistance from The Walter and
Duncan L. Gordon Charitable
Foundation

33 *The Living Forest* 1981
pastel on paper
61 × 46 cm
Collection of George and Marilyn
Reti,
Kelowna, British Columbia

34 *People of the Forest* 1981
oil pastel on paper
75 × 58 cm
Thunder Bay Art Gallery Collection
Art Plus Acquisition

35 *Harmony and the Universe* 1986
acrylic on canvas
81.4 × 165.4 cm
Phillip Gevik, Gallery Gevik, Toronto

36 *The Oneness of It All* 1985
acrylic on canvas
137 × 102 cm
Collection of Fran Lewis, Celista,
British Columbia

37 *Guardians of the Sea* 1989
acrylic on canvas
81.5 × 76.5 cm
Collection of Barbara A. Newton Vedan,
Vancouver

The Artist's Life

38 *Infinite Cycle* 1961
oil on masonite
59.9 × 59.9 cm
National Gallery of Canada
Gift of Frederic L.R. Jackman, Toronto,
2006

39 *Theatre Queue* 1962
oil on canvas
51 × 61 cm
Private collection

40 *My Religious Dilemma* 1980
acrylic on canvas
101.0 × 81 cm
Collection of Glenbow Museum,
Calgary, Alberta

41 *To Drop the Mask* 1980
acrylic on canvas
66 × 61 cm
Collection of Clifford and Louise
Harris, North Vancouver

42 *The Artist's Studio* 1982
acrylic on canvas
79 × 66.1 cm
Phillip Gevik, Gallery Gevik, Toronto

43 *L'amour Fou* 1986
acrylic on canvas
152.4 × 81.3 cm
The Shayne Gallery, Montreal, Quebec

44 *Indecision* 1981
graphite on paper
10.7 × 10.7 cm
Collection of the Winnipeg Art Gallery
Gift of Sally and Morley Shuckett

45 *My Patchwork Quilt* 1998
acrylic on canvas
46 × 41 cm
Collection of Elaine Mayo, Toronto

Our Families

46 *Three Powerful Influences* 1981
acrylic on canvas
122 × 102 cm
Collection of Doyle and Susan Bray,
Kelowna, British Columbia

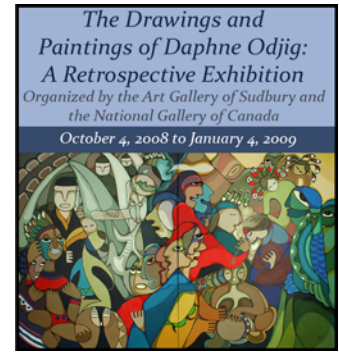
47 *Sisters* 1976
acrylic on canvas
86 × 71 cm
Private collection

48 *When Hearts were Young* 1996
acrylic on canvas
61 × 51 cm
Collection of Barbara A Newton Vedan,
Vancouver

49 *Walking with Donald* 1981
acrylic on canvas
101 × 81 cm
Private collection

50 *Moment of Commitment* 1978
acrylic on canvas
60.5 × 50.5 cm
Collection of Clifford and Louise
Harris, North Vancouver

51 *In Their Fathers' Footsteps* 1987
acrylic on canvas
137 × 102 cm
Collection of Christopher Bredt and
Jamie Cameron, Toronto



Artist Biography – Daphne Odjig

The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition



Daphne Odjig at the Art Gallery of Sudbury
 October 12, 2007

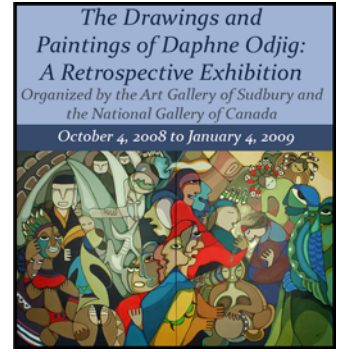
Photo credit: Art Gallery of Sudbury

Daphne Odjig is one of Canada's most celebrated and distinctive painters. A self-taught First Nations artist of mixed English and Potawatomi descent, Odjig grew up in the village of Wikwemikong on Manitoulin Island, where she experienced the culture of her ancestors. She first learned about art-making from her grandfather, Jonas Odjig, a tombstone carver who taught her Potawatomi traditions, customs and legends, and the rich pictorial style of Anishnabe painting.

Odjig's style, which has undergone various developments and adaptations throughout her career, has remained identifiably unique. A combination of Anishnabec (depiction of the outer with the inner and a connectedness to the spirit), Cubist and Surrealist influences, Odjig's work is defined by curving contours, strong outlines, overlapping shapes and vibrant colours. Her work addresses her personal, political and cultural history, bringing issues facing First Nations people to the forefront of her artwork.

An Order of Canada recipient, Odjig has been recognized nationally for her work throughout Canada. She holds seven honorary doctorates and is a recipient of the 2007 Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts.

She currently resides in Penticton, British Columbia.



Curator Biography – Bonnie Devine *The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition*



Bonnie Devine at the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation, August 25, 2008

Photo credit: Margo Little

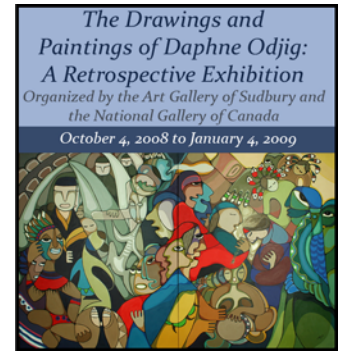
Bonnie Devine, a member of the Serpent River First Nation in Northern Ontario (Ojibway) is an artist, curator, writer and educator. Her primary interests are sculpture and installation, which she studied at the Ontario College of Art and Design and York University. Recent solo exhibitions, combining sculpture, drawing and sound were, *Medicine River* at AxeNeo7 Gallery, Gatineau, Quebec in March 2007, and *Writing Home* at Gallery Connexion, Fredericton, New Brunswick in March 2008.

In addition to an active art practice and teaching career, (Devine is an associate professor at the Ontario College of Art and Design in the Aboriginal Visual Culture Department), she is the curator of *The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition*, organized by the Art Gallery of Sudbury and the National Gallery of Canada, which opens in the fall of 2008 at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection.

In October 2007 and in collaboration with the Art Gallery of Sudbury, Devine organized the symposium *Witness*, a critical examination of the Woodland School painters, which coincided with the Sudbury, Ontario opening of the Daphne Odjig retrospective exhibition.

History and narrative have been and remain a compelling interest. Her work is about stories and the voices that tell them, the bodies that carry them and the land that birthed them.

She lives and works in Toronto, Ontario.



Programs, Events and Tours

The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition

OCTOBER 12

FAMILY SUNDAY:

Daphne Odjig and The Art of the Anishnabe

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Inspired by *The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition*, create Petroglyph prints and enjoy live First Nations performances.

OCTOBER 18 TO DECEMBER 13 (8 classes, no class on October 25)

SAM: Saturdays at the McMichael Children's Classes, ages 5 to 12

Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to noon

Weekly two hour art classes just for kids. Visit the McMichael exhibitions and explore and work in the outdoor natural environment. Learn about colours and composition and work with a wide range of materials and methods in an atmosphere that's fun and rewarding! This fall session is inspired by *The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition* and *Child's Play*.

OCTOBER 18

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Making, Collecting and Exhibiting First Nations and Inuit Art

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Join us for a day of discussion surrounding current practices in creating, curating and promoting contemporary works of First Nations and Inuit artists. Panelists include: Bonnie Devine, artist and curator of *The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition*; Judith Nasby, curator of *Contemporary Canadian Inuit Drawings/Chinese Drawings from Huxian, Jinshan and Qijiang*; and Barry Ace, curator, artist and former director of Indian Affairs.

OCTOBER 26

ARTCHAT:


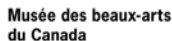
The Fine Art of Daphne Odjig

11:30 a.m.

Daphne Odjig was instrumental in the development of the pictorial style known today as the Woodland School. Explore Odjig's connection to this First Nations movement, as well as her individual artistic journey.

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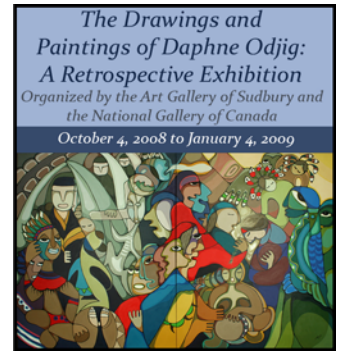
Organized by:  art gallery of sudbury
galerie d'art de sudbury

 National Gallery
of Canada  Musée des beaux-arts
du Canada

Supported by:  KPMG

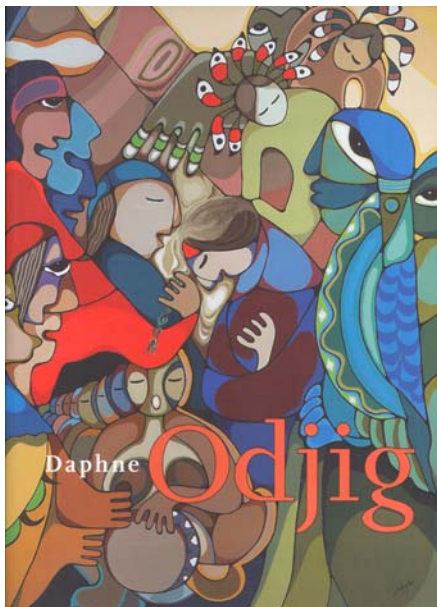
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Image Credit: Daphne Odjig, *Spiritual Renewal* 1984, Collection of Laurentian University Museum and Art Centre/Laurentian University Purchase, B.A. McDonald Memorial Fund and the Canada Council Art Bank, 1984



Catalogue

The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition



The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition

By: Bonnie Devine, with texts by Robert Houle and Duke Redbird

This catalogue is a celebration of Daphne Odjig's artistic career. The drawings and paintings represented in the catalogue feature forty-four years of Daphne Odjig's artistic production and include examples of her legend paintings, history murals, erotica, abstractions and landscapes which are featured in a traveling exhibition jointly organized by the Art Gallery of Sudbury and the National Gallery of Canada. As a group, these works articulate the breadth of Odjig's visual engagement with her personal and cultural history. As a linear narrative, they trace the remarkable development of the artist from initial experimentation to mature mastery of her media. English, French and Anishnabemwin editions available.

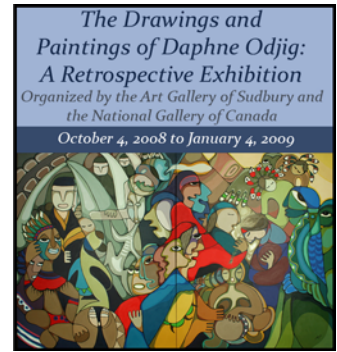
Softcover | 144 pages

National Gallery of Canada, 2007

ISBN 078-0888848484-06

\$44.95 (available in the McMichael Gallery Shop)

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Tour Schedule

The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition

Following its showing at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, *The Drawings and Paintings of Daphne Odjig: A Retrospective Exhibition* will tour to the following venue:

National Gallery of Canada

October 16, 2009 to January 10, 2010

380 Sussex Drive

Ottawa, Ontario


K1N 9N4

T: 613.990.1985

www.gallery.ca

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Organized by:  art gallery of sudbury
galerie d'art de sudbury

 National Gallery of Canada
Musée des beaux-arts du Canada

Supported by:  KPMG

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