



A Narrative of Kiowa Life

*Featuring
Monroe Tsatoke*



Monroe Tsatoke, an enrolled member of the Kiowa Tribe, is an established artist who has worked in a variety of media for over 40 years. Monroe enjoys creating Native American regalia with traditional materials and techniques, as well as creating contemporary paintings on canvas. He holds a bachelor of fine arts degree in education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University and a master of arts degree in education from the University of Oklahoma. Monroe's forty-year career as an art teacher began in 1976, and he taught at several schools over the next decades before spending the final fourteen years of his career at Riverside Indian School, Anadarko, Oklahoma. Monroe currently resides in Carnegie, Oklahoma with his wife Johanna (BigBow) Tsatoke. He is an ordained minister and currently serves as the Pastor for three churches in the area.

Born in Carnegie, Oklahoma, Monroe was raised in a traditional Kiowa home. Drawing inspiration from the art of the Kiowa Five and from his Tribe's culture, he enjoys painting subjects in ceremonial regalia as well as landscapes. Although he primarily paints with acrylics and watercolors, he has begun to experiment with new techniques, including the use of spray paint in his work. Monroe takes pride in crafting each of his paintings from start to finish. His process begins by stretching his own canvases and then priming the canvas himself. Once the painting is complete, he finishes each work by building a unique wooden frame for the painting.

Monroe was drawn to the arts as a young child. In elementary school, Monroe was asked to draw a picture for the school which was then published in the school newspaper. Over time he learned from many Native American artists in the local area and was directly mentored by two well-known artists, Parker Boyiddle (Kiowa) and Archie Blackowl (Cheyenne).

While a student at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Monroe was fortunate to meet the artist Archie Blackowl. After introductions, Archie began to share his knowledge, talents, and skills. Grateful for the advice and mentorship, Monroe continued to study his Tribe's history and develop his own unique artistic style. He continues to keep the rich stories, myths, and culture of the Kiowa people alive through art.

This exhibit marks the first solo exhibition of Monroe's work and the first time his art has been exhibited in a professional museum setting. The artwork featured in the exhibition may be purchased by contacting Monroe Tsatoke directly at arthurtsatoke@gmail.com.

A Narrative of Kiowa Life

*Featuring
Monroe Tsatoke*



Kiowa Warrior

Acrylic on canvas
© 2022 A. Monroe Tsatoke

December 9, 2022 – February 24, 2023



***Kwoi- Mahtone,
Kiowa Girl***
Acrylic on canvas
© 2022 A. Monroe Tsatoke



***Tone-Khone-Gaw,
Black Leggings Society***
Acrylic on canvas
© 2022 A. Monroe Tsatoke



***O-Ho-Mah,
Kiowa Wardance Society***
Acrylic on canvas
© 2022 A. Monroe Tsatoke

***Portrait: Monroe Tsatoke
in War Bonnet***
Acrylic on canvas
© 2022 A. Monroe Tsatoke

