

# LYDIA GREY

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## ARTIST STATEMENT / BIO

I am an interdisciplinary artist and curator working in video, performance, photography, installation, conceptual collections, web media, drawing, book arts, and sculpture.

I define my work as a dialog on the interrelationship of science, my Native American heritage, contemporary culture in the context of history, and extensive world travel. I strive to create opportunities where performers and spectators can question their expectations and their relationship to the artwork, either internally or through interaction and participation. Whichever art form or medium I work in, my primary materials are people – including myself – whom I watch, photograph, and include in video and live performances.

I have exhibited and performed nationally and internationally, including shows at HereArts, Snug Harbor, The Knitting Factory, Soho 20, Franklin Furnace, and the LUMEN Festival in New York, NY; Bethanien (Kulturwerk des BBK), Berlin, Germany; Art-and-Gallery, Milan, Italy; Hunterdon Museum, Clinton, NJ; The Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, NM; Market House Gallery, Providence, RI; Galeria Mesa, Mesa, AZ; University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA; Fluxfest, Chicago, IL; and the Dreamcatcher International Video and Short Film Festival, Kiev, Ukraine.

My curatorial projects include *PVE: Performance Video Event*, which combined video projection, performance art, and live music, at University of the Streets, New York, NY; *diSTILLation*, a video exhibition shown at the Printmaking Council of New Jersey and Fylkingen in Stockholm, Sweden; *Screen Squirts*, an exhibition of video and prints at Vlepo Gallery, Staten Island, NY; and I co-curated *Crossing the Continent: Native American Works on Paper* (with Eileen Foti). I initiated and co-curated *The Y2K Solution: Creative Moves into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, an exchange between six MFA programs, which included panel discussions, performances, and exhibitions at multiple venues.

I organized an exchange program between New Jersey and German artists that included workshops, exhibitions, travel by artists to create new work in each others studios, and a portfolio of prints by the combined group of artists.

Currently, I am working on a series of video interpretations of traditional Native American legends from various tribes, to be narrated by native speakers in each tribe's language. The legend videos will be combined with documentary information, with the goal of creating an artwork that gives insight into Indian cultures, and ties together traditional languages and legends with the contemporary living communities of Native peoples.

I hold BFA and MFA degrees from Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, and have been teaching Video at Raritan Valley Community College in New Jersey since 2001.