

BASKET CAP STUDIES #1

BY SHIROD YOUNKER



ARTIST STATEMENT AND DESCRIPTION

Basket Cap Series #1 (woodcut) is one of my first prints in which I use basketry designs as the primary focal point of the composition. I use many designs from baskets that normally wouldn't be side by side and arrange them to study new relationships of those designs together.

Each one of the designs is usually the center design on a traditional basket hat. By putting a few of them together I can honor more than just one design or weaver. Post-contact with non-natives, the women have become the bearers of most of our culture as well as carrying on the traditions of basket-weaving.

I thought by using these basket designs that I would honor the women and that by using the woodcut method of printmaking, which includes wood carving, I would also honor my male tribal ancestors.

ARTIST BIO

Sculptor and printmaker Shirod Younker (Miluk Coos/Upper Coquille) was raised on the South Slough in Coos Bay, Oregon, where his ancestors lived. Formally educated at Oregon State University, he received his Bachelors of Fine Arts: Sculpture in 2000. Shirod now works as an art program manager for the "Journeys In Creativity: Explorations in Native American Art and Culture" Program at Oregon College of Arts and Crafts in Portland. Through his job, he helps to provide artistic opportunities for Native Youth in the Northwest and, hopefully, to inspire youth to seek careers in art.