

Electronic Press Kit



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(What They've Been Taught)

By Brit Hensel and Keli Gonzales (Cherokee Nation)

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By **Brit Hensel** and **Keli Gonzales** (Cherokee Nation)

Produced by: Taylor Hensel, Adam Mazo, Kavita Pillay, and Tracy Rector

PRESS CONTACT

press@reciprocity.org

PRESS KIT UPDATE:

09/16/22

TECH SPECS

Documentary Short

TRT: 09:05

Aspect Ratio: 16:9,
shot in 2:35.1

Color, HD

Languages: English &
Tsalagi Gawonihisdi

POSTER &

STILL PHOTOS

<https://bit.ly/3BHJlf6>

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SYNOPSIS

DETAILED SYNOPSIS

O'Shoo (What They've Been Taught) explores expressions of reciprocity within Cherokee communities, brought to life through a story told by an elder and first language speaker. O'Shoo is a reflection on tradition, language, land, and a commitment to maintaining balance. This film was created in collaboration with independent artists from both Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

LOGLINE

Expressions of reciprocity in the Cherokee world as conveyed in a story told by an elder and first language speaker.

TITLE STYLE GUIDE

The title O'Shoo (pronounced oo-day-yo-nuh) is Cherokee.

When writing or speaking the title, please always use both the Cherokee and English: *Example: O'Shoo (What They've Been Taught)*

Here is the link to a step by step guide on accessing the Cherokee syllabary keyboards for all Apple and Google products:

<https://language.cherokee.org/fonts-and-keyboards/cherokee-keyboards/>

In Adobe products, Phoreus Cherokee font is preferred and in Word, Plantagenet Cherokee. If a system is unable to display O'Shoo, the transliteration Udeyonv may be used.

Example: Udeyonv (What They've Been Taught)

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ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

ABOUT FILMMAKER BRIT HENSEL (DIRECTOR)

Brit Hensel is an Oklahoma based writer and award-winning filmmaker. A citizen of Cherokee Nation, her work largely explores traditional Cherokee values, language, and her peoples' connection to land in Oklahoma (former Indian Territory) and in her ancestral homelands of North Carolina (Qualla Boundary). Previously, Brit directed the documentary films, Zibi Yajdan (2019) and Native and American (2017). She was a producer for Osiyo, Voices of the Cherokee People. Brit recently worked on the first and second seasons of the FX series Reservation Dogs and was awarded the 2022 Tulsa Artist Fellowship and 4th World Indigenous Fellowship. Brit continues to use her love for storytelling to help amplify the voices and values of her community. Most importantly, she hopes her work honors and makes Cherokee people proud.

ABOUT KELI GONZALES (ASSOCIATE PRODUCER)

Keli ~~W~~ Gonzales is a Cherokee artist from Welling, OK. She merges pop culture and traditional Cherokee cultural images to make personal statements. Women are central figures in her work. She also incorporates the Cherokee syllabary into her work with the hope that it will inspire people to learn to read syllabary and possibly learn the Cherokee language.

ARTISTS' STATEMENT from Brit and Keli

"It is important to us that this film included the perspectives of western and eastern Giduwa (Cherokee) people. Although our communities are separated by distance, our collaboration on this film offers a balanced perspective of what reciprocity means to our people and how it's actualized in our lives. This film was brought to life by a team of all Giduwa people, in front of and behind the camera, and was shot on lands that have shaped us."

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PRODUCTION NOTES

ŌṢḂŌ (What They've Been Taught) was created in collaboration with independent artists from both the Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The film was selected for Sundance Film Festival 2022, making Brit Hensel the first woman citizen of the Cherokee Nation to direct a film at the festival. The film was produced as part of Season 1 of the Reciprocity Project - a collaborative multimedia platform and short film series made in partnership with Indigenous storytellers and their communities worldwide produced by Nia Tero and Upstander Project in association with REI Co-op Studios. Produced by Taylor Hensel, Adam Mazo, Kavita Pillay, and Tracy Rector.

ABOUT RECIPROCITY PROJECT

Facing a climate crisis, the Reciprocity Project embraces Indigenous value systems that have bolstered the Earth, which was in balance until the modern industrial age. This short film series and multimedia platform, made in partnership with Indigenous storytellers and their communities worldwide, invites learning from time-honored and current Indigenous ways of being.

<https://www.reciprocity.org/>

ABOUT NIA TERO

Nia Tero is a US-based non-profit working in solidarity with Indigenous peoples and movements worldwide with a mission of securing Indigenous guardianship of vital ecosystems. Nia Tero is committed to an antiracist and inclusive culture centering Indigenous rights, wisdom, practices, worldviews, and protocols.

<https://www.niatero.org/>

ABOUT UPSTANDER PROJECT

Upstander Project encourages decolonization and upstander behavior through compelling documentary films and learning resources. Their goals are to overcome indifference to social injustice, develop the skills of upstanders, and contribute to action-oriented campaigns in response to vital social issues. <https://upstanderproject.org/>

ABOUT REI

REI Co-op Studios develops and produces stories that entertain, enrich and explore the power of time spent outside, while complementing the co-op's broader climate and racial equity, diversity, and inclusion commitments.

<https://www.rei.com/newsroom/article/rei-co-op-studios>

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PRESS & ACCLAIM

“Brit’s film is a beautiful meditation of sound and space, expressing her people’s reciprocal relationship to the natural worlds that they exist in.”

- Sterlin Harjo

SOUTH SEATTLE EMERALD - 9/22/21

Seedcast: Reciprocity

<https://southseattleemerald.com/2020/12/16/seedcast-reciprocity/>

THE JOURNAL RECORD - 12/14/21

Collaborative Cherokee film project to premiere at Sundance

<https://journalrecord.com/2021/12/14/collaborative-choerokee-film-project-to-premier-at-sundance/>

MISSOULIAN - 1/13/22

Big Sky Documentary Film Festival unveils line-up for hybrid screenings

https://missoulian.com/entertainment/movies/big-sky-documentary-film-festival-unveils-line-up-for-hybrid-screenings/article_5c0de098-a06d-56c1-a034-718fecf536f8.html

TULSA WORLD - 1/19/22

Cherokee filmmaker Brit Hensel secures place in Sundance Film Festival history

https://tulsaworld.com/entertainment/movies/choerokee-filmmaker-brit-hensel-secures-place-in-sundance-film-festival-history/article_606fe724-7318-11ec-8e78-fb0aaf279009.html

INDIAN COUNTRY TODAY - 1/19/22

Sundance puts spotlight on Indigenous films

<https://indiancountrytoday.com/news/sundance-puts-spotlight-on-indigenous-films>

THE UTAH REVIEW - 1/29/22

Sundance 2022: Eight short films emphasize excellent range of options featuring the best of international filmmaking

<https://www.theutahreview.com/sundance-2022-eight-short-films-emphasize-excellent-range-of-options-featuring-the-best-of-international-filmmaking/>

DEADLINE - 2/10/22

Santa Barbara Film Festival Sets Lineup

<https://deadline.com/2022/02/santa-barbara-film-festival-lineup-2022-1234930179>

CHEROKEE PHOENIX - 4/14/22

‘Udeyonv’ (What They’ve Been Taught) selected by Sundance Film Festival

https://www.cherokeephoenix.org/entertainment/udeyonv-what-they-ve-been-taught-selected-by-sundance-film-festival/article_e8a0aebc-bbf7-11ec-9116-47b6c742851c.html

THE OKLAHOMAN - 5/6/22

Cherokee filmmaker brings Sundance selected short film home to Oklahoma's deadCenter fest

<https://www.oklahoman.com/story/entertainment/2022/05/06/choerokee-filmmaker-brings-sundance-feature-deadcenter-film-festival-okc/9320058002/sundance-feature-deadcenter-film-festival-okc/9320058002/>

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CREDITS

O'SHO

A film by Brit Hensel

Told by Thomas Belt

Filmed on the Qualla Boundary, North Carolina and in Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma

A Nia Tero and Upstander Project Production

In association with REI Co-op Studios

FEATURING:

Thomas Belt

John Henry Gloyne

Ernie Tiger

Elwood Gloyne

Waloshi Gloyne

Booger Gloyne

Beau Carroll

Johi Griffin

Bear Allison

Keli Gonzales

Tsinas Johnson

Sanoyi Johnson

Walel Johnson

JP Johnson

CINEMATOGRAPHERS:

Nick Buttram

Brit Hensel

Blake Brown

CHEROKEE TRANSLATION:

David Crawler

Garfield Long

Bo Lossiah

ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS:

Keli Gonzales

John Henry Gloyne

FIELD PRODUCER:

Loren Waters

JP Johnson

Beau Carroll

EDITOR:

Sauli Pillay

COVID-19 SUPERVISOR:

Eleni Ledesma

ON SET COVID-19 COORDINATOR:

Loren Waters

MUSIC BY:

Daniel Bachman

TRACK TITLES:

Blues in the Anthropocene

Farnham

Green Alum Springs

MASK CARVING:

John Henry Gloyne



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CREDITS CONTINUED

PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Bear Allison
Taylor Hensel
Loren Waters

ADVISORS:

Thomas Belt
Johi Griffin
Beau Carroll

SPECIAL THANKS:

Tonya Carroll
Catcuze Tiger
Henryetta & John Gloyne
Jonah Bird
Nathan Messer
Taylor Hensel
Gabriel Krengel
Mark Taylor

RECIPROCITY PROJECT PRODUCERS:

Taylor Hensel
Adam Mazo
Kavita Pillay
Tracy Rector

SERIES CO-DIRECTORS:

Taylor Hensel
Adam Mazo

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:

Tracy Rector

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS FOR REI CO-OP STUDIOS:

Hanna Boyd
Joe Crosby
Paolo Mottola

CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:

Hindou Ibrahim
Yo-Yo Ma
Cristina Mittermeier

LEARNING CO-DIRECTORS:

Dina Gilio-Whitaker
Mishy Lesser

FIELD PRODUCTION

COORDINATOR:

Kavita Pillay

PRODUCTION MANAGER:

Sauli Pillay

LEAD ASSISTANT EDITOR:

Jacob Bearchum

TECHNOLOGIST / SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT:

Ben Pender-Cudlip

ADMINISTRATION / PROGRAM SUPPORT SPECIALIST:

Chelsea Strelser

COLOR CORRECTION:

Heather Cassano

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Bad Animals

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David Gallander

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Yen Tan

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Joel Schomberg

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ACCOUNTING:

Melissa Billows
Jonathan Saceda
Susi Walsh

LEGAL:

Jeffrey Cadwell
Justine Jacob
Sarah Robertson

WEBSITE:

TurnStyle Studio

Production and Clearance Counsel
by DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

Insurance Provided by
Interstate Fire & Casualty

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Intergenerational teachings. Photo by Taylor Hensel



Thomas Belt (Cherokee Nation) as he sits in front of camera during interview. Photo by Taylor Hensel



Brit Hensel (Director)



Keli Gonzales
(Associate Producer)



Bamboo grove. Photo by Taylor Hensel



Production Crew: Keli Gonzales, JP Johnson, Nick Bruttram, Blake Brown, Brit Hensel, and Loren Waters. Photo by Taylor Hensel

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