

MUSEUM ENTRANCE



WARNING

CONTENT & ARTWORK MAY BE
OFFENSIVE TO SOME VIEWERS

ADMITTANCE 14 YEARS AND OVER
WITH ADULT ACCOMPANIMENT

















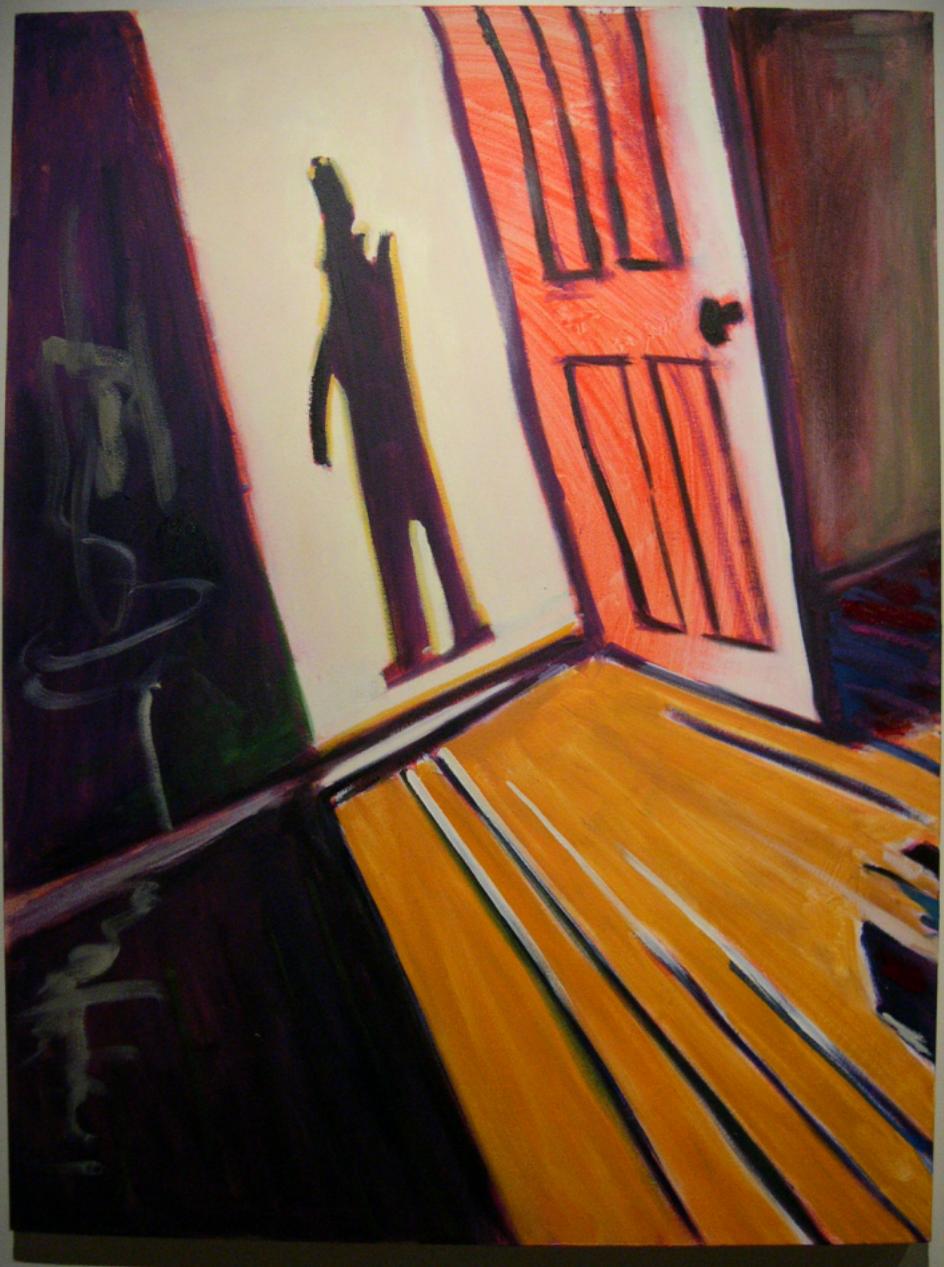














Gary In A Hole
Oil on canvas
24" x 24"

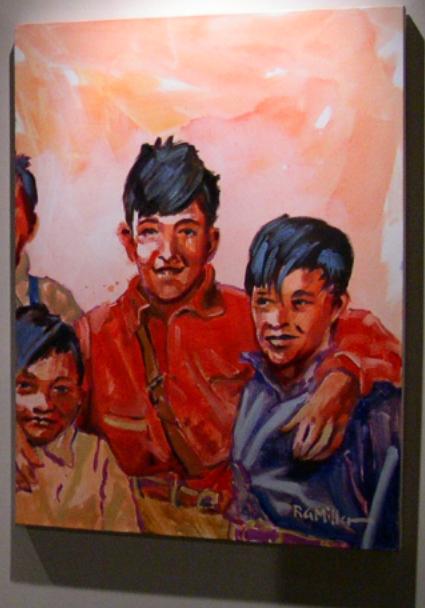


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"Much Hope" is a painting by artist R. Miller. It depicts a group of children, including a young boy in a red shirt, standing together. The painting is set against a warm-toned background. The signature "R. Miller" is visible in the bottom right corner.

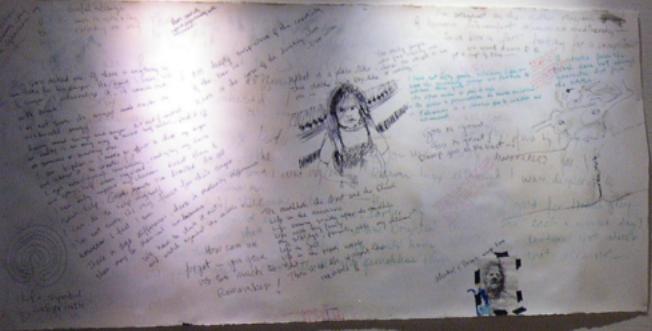
Painted by R. Miller

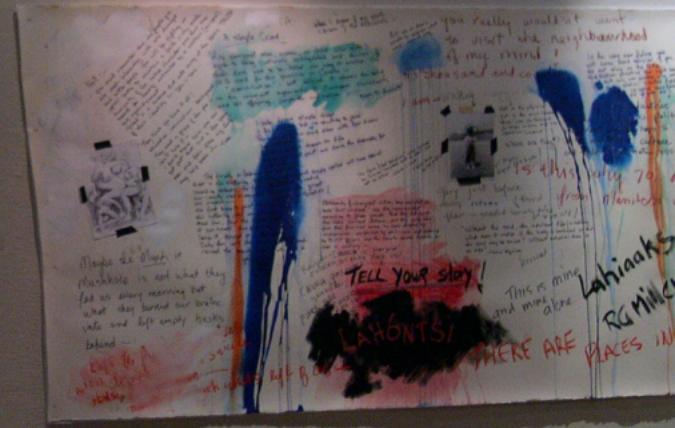
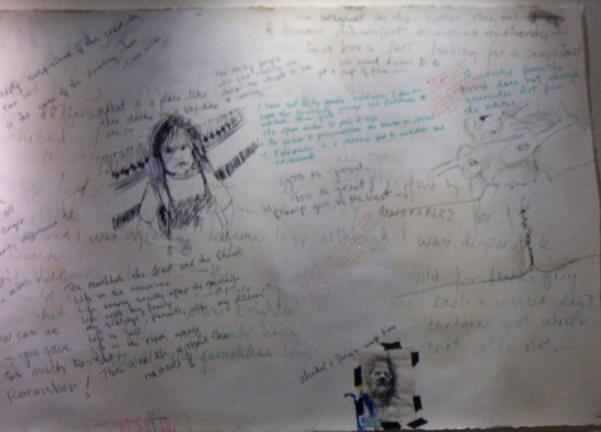


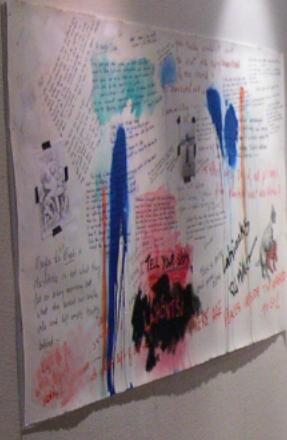
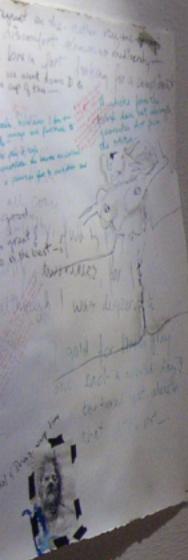
AMEN

















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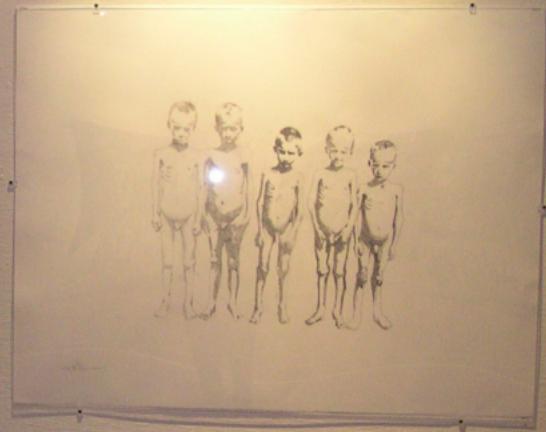


Malaria Targets Children Everywhere
© 2002 UNICEF USA









R.G. MILLER

His ability to bring these images to others to witness his life is healing. You can witness this adjacent exhibition of his works HEALING, which consists of diverse landscapes showcasing nature's transforming the ugliness of a place of his residential school life to a serene place .

WARNING: Not suitable for all audiences

October 19th - December 24th 2018

Mush Hole Remembered

This exhibition of works by R. Gary Miller, Mohawk Artist, is a testament to his life while at the Mohawk Institute from 1953-1964. The suffering and hardships he experienced while there left deep wounds, scars and horrid memories, memories that have taken him to every level of self-destruction that one can imagine.

Exhibition Opening Reception: October 20th at 7:00pm 184-730 200

Woodland Cultural Centre 184 Mohawk Street, Brantford Ontario

October 19th - December 24th 2018

Curatorial Statement

Something art is created for the purpose of revealing truths that exist and performing a vital function. There is one of these statements. Like tens of thousands of First Nations people alive in Canada today, R. Gary Miller attended residential schools. As a reminder of that experience, and the memory of having survived it, he painted this portrait at achieving a "true" sobriety. It was the first painting he did in a residential school that Miller was at, the Brantford Indian Residential School. This was the only school he ever attended. It is significant that the first painting of this work is now on display in the city of the former Indian Residential Schools, which is known as the Woodland Cultural Centre.

R. Gary Miller was born into the Mohawk Nation in 1953, when he was very young, but at three years old. He remained there for the next 11 years. He was sent to the Mohawk Institute at the age of four, and remained there for 11 years. He has been hospitalized many times for a variety of physical and mental illnesses, including schizophrenia, alcohol abuse, depression, and assault. He has been institutionalized many times, and throughout his life has suffered from drug addictions. A common theme in Miller's artwork is the lack of control over his life. He has written and spoken about his experiences in the residential schools and police violence during his recovery. He has also written about the reasons why he left the residential schools and the reasons why he returned to them.

What happened to him, like many others, Miller's childhood was severely disrupted. His mother abandoned him when he was only two years old. For some time, the boy stayed with his grandmother, who had recently moved to a nearby town. He was then sent to the Mohawk Institute at the age of four, at which time he was physically and mentally abused. He was sexually assaulted, beaten, starved, forced to assault other children, and threatened with physical violence. Miller's artwork is a reflection of his life experiences. A common theme in Miller's artwork is the lack of control over his life. He has written and spoken about his experiences in the residential schools and police violence during his recovery. He has also written about the reasons why he left the residential schools and the reasons why he returned to them.

Painting, 2008





R.G.Will





MUSH HOLE REMEMBERED © G. MILLER
Acrylic on panel

This painting depicts a memory of Gary, another member of the crew, as he had been when I first met him. He was a tall, thin man with a beard and mustache, and a gentle, kind expression.

The artist's studio is located at the mouth of a ravine or "mush hole" which is filled with water. The name is derived from the fact that it is a place where water collects after heavy rains. It is also a place of great beauty, with many wildflowers growing along the banks. The area is one of great tranquility and peace.

One day while I was working in my studio, I heard a noise coming from the ravine. I looked out and saw Gary standing at the edge of the water, looking down at something in his hand. He was holding a small object, which turned out to be a piece of wood. He was looking at it with a very serious expression on his face. I asked him what he was doing, and he replied, "I'm trying to find out who I am." I was taken aback by his words, but I responded, "You're Gary, you're a painter, you're a good man." He nodded his head and said, "Yes, I know who I am." And with that, he turned and walked away.

Like everyone else, Gary has his own story to tell. His story is one of resilience, strength, and determination. He is a true artist, and his work is a reflection of his spirit and soul.

The artist would like to thank the viewer for taking the time to look at her work. She hopes that it will bring joy and happiness to those who view it.

G. Miller (Signature)







A dark green, tufted armchair with wooden legs and a high backrest.

A teal upholstered armchair with wooden legs and a high backrest, positioned next to a dark wooden cabinet.

A tall, light-colored wooden screen or cabinet with vertical slats, partially visible on the left side of the frame.





Portrait of Arthur Shilling
Oil on canvas
27 x 36







Miller