

SPARK

A CONVERSATION

JAMES TYLOR: FROM AN UNTOUCHED LANDSCAPE

January 15–June 5, 2022

“The removal of Aboriginal cultures due to colonisation has left the appearance that Australia was ‘Untouched’ before European arrival.” —James Tylor

James Tylor highlights under-told and often unseen histories of Aboriginal peoples. As you explore the exhibition, consider the quote above and the works you see within the context of the places you inhabit.

- What do you know about the land you currently occupy? Who lived there prior to colonisation?
- Think about your own life and places that have been important to you; how would you feel if these places were erased from history?

Tylor seeks to **Indigenize** the Australian landscape. This means shifting the way that we talk about our history and landscape to include, and even prioritize, Indigenous knowledge and places.

- How could your community Indigenize the local landscape?
- What steps can you take to acknowledge the deeper history of the land you occupy?

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The George Eastman Museum resides within the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Onöndowa'ga:', or the "People of the Great Hill," known in English as the Seneca peoples. Specifically, the museum occupies land ceded in the 1788 Phelps-Gorham Purchase, which was procured under false pretenses, duress, and coercion.

We recognize Indigenous individuals and communities—those who live here now and those who were forcibly removed from their homelands. In offering this land acknowledgment, we affirm Indigenous sovereignty, history, and experiences.

At the George Eastman Museum, we are committed to amplifying and sharing Indigenous stories, and work to do so locally and internationally in our exhibitions, collections, programs, and interpretation.

We are grateful to Michael Galban and Grandell Logan, from Ganondagan, for their aid in developing this land acknowledgement.

LEARN MORE

Ganondagan State Historic Site and the Seneca Art & Culture Center, ganondagan.org

Visitors can explore a longhouse, interpreted to show life in the 1600s, and learn about Haudenosaunee contributions to art, culture, and society at the Arts & Culture Center.

Seneca-Iroquois National Museum, senecamuseum.org

The Seneca-Iroquois National Museum houses an extensive collection of artifacts, historical documents, articles, publications, photographs, art, and more relating to the past, present, and future of the Haudenosaunee.

Rochester Museum and Science Center, rmsc.org

At the Western Door is an exhibit that tells the story of more than 400 years of cooperation and conflict between the Haudenosaunee inhabitants and the Europeans who came here as explorers, traders, and settlers.

eastman.org/Tylor