

## **Co-curators**

### **Fritz Scholder: Indian/Not Indian**

#### **Truman T. Lowe**

Curator of Contemporary Art, National Museum of the American Indian

Truman Lowe was named curator of contemporary art for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) in 2000. In this role, he conceived and organized an exhibition of little-known works by the 20<sup>th</sup> century Native American artist George Morrison and Allan Houser as part of the inauguration of the museum on the National Mall in 2004. The pairing extended a strategy Lowe began exploring in 2003 in a year-and-a-half-long series at the George Gustav Heye Center in New York. In six exhibitions, *Continuum: 12 Artists* paired works by contemporary Native artists in a manner designed to reveal new meanings and interconnections. Lowe was also the organizer of *Who Stole the Tee Pee?* (2001) at the Heye Center, a group exhibition devoted to questions of lost traditions and histories. Lowe is a noted artist and professor of art at the University of Wisconsin-Madison whose work has been exhibited widely in solo exhibitions and group exhibitions at the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Denver Art Museum, and Eiteljorg Museum. Lowe (Ho-Chunk) was born at Winnebago Mission, Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

#### **Paul Chaat Smith**

Associate Curator, National Museum of the American Indian

Considered a leading expert on American Indian art and politics and the intersection of Native identity and mass culture, Paul Chaat Smith is the co-author of one of the standard texts in Native Studies and American history courses, *Like a Hurricane: The Indian Movement from Alcatraz to Wounded Knee* (1996). In 2004, he organized the permanent history exhibition at the core of the inaugural exhibitions at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC. A year later, he organized James Luna's exhibition *Emendatio* at the 2005 Venice Biennale, and organized and presented in a major symposium there. The day-long conversation, entitled *Vision, Space, Desire: Global Perspectives and Cultural Hybridity*, examined the ways in which the global art world regards non-Western cultures. Smith has explored the work of Richard Ray Whitman, Baco Ohama, Faye HeavyShield, and Kent Monkman in exhibitions and essays and lectured at such institutions as the National Gallery of Art, Washington DC; and the Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities, Los Angeles. He is the founding editor of the American Indian Movement's *Treaty Council News* and is a member of the Comanche Tribe of Oklahoma.