



The Arctic Institute of North America presents the 2020 – 2021

Arctic Speaker Series

Holding Down Shadows: The disconnect between discourse and practice in contemporary Inuit Art

Speaker:

Bill
Ritchie

Date:

Thursday,
March 18, 2021

Time:

12:00 – 1:00 pm
Mountain Time

Location:

[AINA YouTube](#)



Banner image from Bill Ritchie's website:

<http://www.williambritchie.com/>

Cape Dorset's West Baffin Eskimo Co-op (WBEC) has witnessed a significant departure in who is making art, what is created, and how it is made. Today, WBEC artists are producing some of the world's most bleeding-edge aboriginal art. Yet much of the writing about and marketing of their work continues to reference the past, rather than the present. Through a combination of still imagery and video, former Studio Manager Bill Ritchie will present an intimate and unvarnished view inside the WBEC studios - one that exposes contemporary creative practice and challenges persistent stereotypes. In the process, Bill hopes to fuel discussion

on a range of questions including: Why do past stereotypes concerning Inuit art persist? What is their power? What role does the market, marketers, sealers and academics play in their perpetuation? And how does the pressure to indigenize Inuit art impact today's creative expression?

Biography: Bill Ritchie is a visual artist/printmaker living and working in St. Michael's Newfoundland. From 1988- 2019 he was Arts Advisor/ Studio Manager for Kinngait Studios, West Baffin Co-op in Kinngait (Cape Dorset), Nunavut. He was responsible for artistic development and printmaking innovation/quality control for the lithography, stone cut and drawing programs.

His personal art work can be found in many public and private collections.

For more information please visit: <http://www.williambritchie.com/>

This event is **free and open to the public**

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