



Coyote Leaves the Res: Harry Fonseca



January 4, 2020 • 11 am • Autry National Museum

Join Dr. Amy Scott, chief curator, for a guided tour of this exhibit which features paintings, sketches, and lithographs. The exhibition focuses on the recurring figure of Coyote, a trickster, shape shifter, and storyteller capable of moving undetected between different worlds. This exhibition explores the complexity of Harry Fonseca's (Nisenan Maidu, Hawaiian, Portuguese, 1946–2006) art within the context of a contemporary world, in which new freedoms and old biases often co-exist. As a gay man and a person of mixed heritage, art was a vehicle for self-discovery, a means of navigating different aspects of his life and identity during a time when ideas about Native peoples were often driven by outside forces, including commercial markets, tourism, and historical clichés. Fonseca was an instrumental force in reshaping Native art with his trademark blend of traditional imagery, contemporary experience, and vibrant color and form. As he used his art to explore both his personal journey and the role of history in shaping Native consciousness in the present, Fonseca sought to expand definitions of American Indian art and to shatter the expectations and stereotypes that had long confined it. Lunch to follow curatorial tour.

RSVP • Noon • January 1, 2020 to feelie@ucla.edu