



## Native American Church Art

featuring

### Gordon Emhoolah



Gordon Emhoolah, an enrolled member of the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, is a talented painter. Born and raised around the “Apache Wye” area west of Anadarko, Oklahoma, Gordon and his wife, Lorrie Thorpe-Emhoolah, reside in Norman, Oklahoma. Gordon currently works full-time as an artist.

Gordon first began his artistic work in the mid 1990’s, exploring sketching and graffiti art as a hobby. His mother Rachel Chalepah and father Hubert “Bucky” Emhoolah instilled in Gordon at an early age the importance of traditional powwow’s and the Native American Church. The values learned from this upbringing had a profound effect on Gordon’s art. With no formal training, Gordon has taught himself how to tell narrative stories through his art. He has progressively become a highly skilled painter, focusing his talent on the depiction of Native American Church traditions. Acrylic and watercolor paints on canvas are the media Gordon uses to demonstrate his extensive knowledge of the current and historical practices of the Native American Church. His hope is to use his art to carry on these teachings for future generations.

As a descendent of the Kiowa, Apache and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, Gordon grew up surrounded by traditional cultural practices and ceremonies. This upbringing provides him the inspiration for his art today. His art brings a contemporary feel to the traditional subjects that he depicts. Gordon uses meditation and song to guide him while he creates his art. This will be Gordon’s first exhibit in a museum setting and he is grateful for the opportunity to share his creations with his family, friends, and the community.

The artwork featured in the exhibition may be purchased by contacting Gordon Emhoolah directly by email at [emhoolahgordon@gmail.com](mailto:emhoolahgordon@gmail.com).

*The Southern Plains Indian Museum is managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Indian Arts and Crafts Board. Regular viewing hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All exhibits at the museum are free and open to the public.*

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*Our Ancestors*  
Acrylic on Canvas  
© 2019 Gordon Emhoolah



*Power of Prayer*  
Acrylic on  
Canvas  
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*Spirit Within*  
Acrylic on  
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*Everlasting Life*  
Acrylic on Canvas  
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Emhoolah



*Hidden Spirit*  
Acrylic on  
Canvas  
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