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For Immediate Release:

INDIAN PUEBLO CULTURAL CENTER HOSTS EXHIBIT WITH SCULPTURISTS CLIFF FRAGUA AND ANTHONY C WRIGHT ROMERO

National Statuary Hall Po'Pay sculptor Fragua and apprentice Romero each show works in various stone, unique technique, and style.

Albuquerque, NM, Jan. 25, 2022 — The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (IPCC) is hosting an opening night reception Jan. 28 from 5 – 7 p.m. in the Artists Circle Gallery for a new exhibit from sculptors Cliff Fragua (Jemez Pueblo) and Anthony C Wright Romero (Ohkay Owingeh/ Cochiti/Jemez Pueblos), a mentor/apprentice pair who work in various shapes and types of stone.

“Advancing Traditions Into Contemporary Form During COVID” features work from Fragua and Romero, and was conceptualized during virtual meetings between the two artists over the last year.

“Being able to bring in a combination of a well-known talented artist like Cliff, along with an up-and-coming artist such as Anthony, is always a special experience for IPCC guests,” said Head Curator Paula Mirabal. “We are excited to hear about their communication strategy over this past year, and how working remotely from one another impacted the artistic process.”

Fragua’s most well-known work is his 1999 sculpture of Pueblo Revolt leader Po’Pay, which represents the state of New Mexico and resides in the National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C.

ACOMA
COCHITI
ISLETA
JEMEZ
LAGUNA
NAMBE
OHKAY OWINGEH
PICURIS
POJOAQUE
SANDIA
SAN FELIPE
SAN ILDEFONSO
SANTA ANA
SANTA CLARA
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His works are also found at the Albuquerque International Sunport, Albuquerque Museum, the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture in Santa Fe, and Phoenix's City Hall. A carved replica of the Po'Pay statue, also created by Fragua, can be found at IPCC.

Romero was chosen by Fragua to be his mentee for the Native Arts & Cultures Foundation's (NACCF) 2020 Mentor Artist Fellowship awards, which aims to support an established Native artist to mentor an emerging Native artist in the Contemporary Visual Arts and Traditional Arts. The pair are a part of 11 teams from across the country who received this opportunity. The NACF's mission is to promote the revitalization, appreciation, and perpetuation of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian arts and cultures.

The Jan. 28 opening reception is open to the public and is included in museum admission. On March 12 from 1 – 2:30 p.m. in the Artists Circle Gallery the artists will be giving a presentation on their creative process and the inspiration for their work. The exhibit concludes May 20.

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About the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center:

Founded in 1976 by the 19 Pueblo tribes of New Mexico, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center is a world-class museum and cultural center located in the historic 19 Pueblos District. The IPCC is a nonprofit organization with a mission to preserve and perpetuate Pueblo culture, and to advance understanding by presenting with dignity and respect the accomplishments and evolving history of the Pueblo peoples of New Mexico. Visitors can learn fascinating history, shop for Native jewelry and art, watch a cultural dance, hear Native languages, and experience the flavors of traditional and contemporary Native cuisine. To learn more, please visit: www.indianpueblo.org, or Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @IndianPueblo.

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