



It is with reverence, humility, and gratitude, that I acknowledge the First Nations on whose unceded land and waterways we gather, organize, and occupy.

Lenape Schaghticoke Wappinger Mohican  
Algonquian peoples Sint Sinck Kitchawongs

Those named and not named and legacies existing in name only.

With good intentions for the land, the water, the plants, people and animals, I honor and respect the legacy of this land and water and the Indigenous stewards of this land whether forcefully displaced, returned, and those who continue to reside here.

These nations have acting and thriving tribal governments that speak for themselves.

I am just a visitor here.





Curtis Zunigha, Forced Removal of the Lenape  
People:  
History and Homecoming  
[https://youtu.be/DnlfnnddwWU?si=O\\_FStsFC1sZgla  
YO](https://youtu.be/DnlfnnddwWU?si=O_FStsFC1sZgla_YO)



Lenape Hoking & Munsee-Lenape  
Delaware Nation and Delaware Tribe displaced to  
Oklahoma  
[Delawarenation-nsn.gov](http://Delawarenation-nsn.gov)



Stockbridge-Munsee  
"People of the waters that are never still"  
<https://www.mohican.com/>



Schaghticoke  
<https://www.schaghticoke.info/>



The Delaware Nation at Moraviantown Ontario  
<https://delawarenation.on.ca/>

*Brita Marie Helgesen*  
*www.britamarie.com*

Brita works in various media and forms including photography, fabric, ink, embroidery, ceramics, watercolor acrylic, video, found, and recycled objects. Inspiration is found in nature, history, literature, languages, music, people, the common and uncommon human experiences, and the many ways individuals can and do express themselves.

In existence because of the Vermont mountains where her parents met, Brita was born and raised in Westchester (Ossining and Peekskill) and has lived, worked, and studied in North Carolina, Washington DC, Yonkers, the Bronx, and Brooklyn and on the vineyards and castle grounds of Brunnenberg in the Alto Adige region of Italy. Since 2012 Brita has lived on the beach in Rockaway, Queens, and part-time for the last three years, off-grid in the Catskill Mountains.

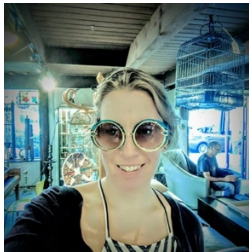
Brita attended Ossining Schools (OHS '98), Rippowam Cisqua School ('95), Guilford College ('02), Purchase College (SUNY), City College (CUNY), Queens College (CUNY), Borough of Manhattan Community College (CUNY), Lehman College (CUNY) ('19), Pacific College of Health and Science and is now enrolled at William Paterson University.

Brita has worked as photo editor for Guilford College's *Guilfordian* newspaper photographing Madalyn Albright, Toots and the Maytals among many others. She has also worked with the Center for Visual Arts, Greensboro, NC, counter girl at One Station Plaza and Rafiki Food Coop and Café (Peekskill), archival photography research at the National Archives, assistant archivist at the Rockefeller Archives, slide librarian and assistant adjunct professor at City College CUNY, assistant to the president at the fine arts photography auction house Be-hold, at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum at Queens College (CUNY) as educator, designer and photographer, museum manager and interim director. Additionally, Brita has worked as an arts educator for Henry Street Settlement, Abrons Art Center, and with the New York City Department of Cultural After School Adventures Program (CASA) exploring art making with elementary art students in Flushing and Astoria Queens through lessons developed around Museum collections. Each year, this education program culminated in the exhibition "Animals at the Museum" at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum. Since 2001 Brita has photographed people, events,



weddings, objects, and music independently and for organizations including the Family Center, Westchester County Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, the Rockaway Greybeards, and others.

In 2019 Brita became a Registered Nurse and currently works in South Brooklyn. Brita is studying to become an adult gerontology nurse practitioner with a research focus on innovative, integrative, complementary, and holistic therapies for persons living with Alzheimer's dementia.





*Lapageria rosea, Copihue  
La Estrella Solitaria,  
La Bandera  
Chilean bellflower /  
Chilean flag  
2023*



In 1977, the Chilean bellflower was declared the national flower of Chile, a ruling that made it illegal for people to pick the plant in an effort to prevent it from extinction.

Between the 1950s and 1990s upwards of 50,000 Chilean children and newborns were forcibly separated from their mothers and irregularly/illegally given up for adoption through a network of doctors, midwives, social workers, judges, and lawyers, who orchestrated the displacement of these children and their delivery to adoptive families around the world (Nos Buscamos, 2023).

My best friend Sara was one of those babies, taken from her family in Chile at 7 months old. In 2022 she was reunited with Chilean family, sisters, mothers, and brothers. Since then she has connected with many other Chilean adoptees and they are collectively working to raise awareness and push the Chilean government and American governments to recognize and address their roles in this gross human rights violation, work towards healing and right the wrong.



Manríquez, P.(2023, September 27). The Pinochet -Era debt that the United States still hasn't settled. *New Republic*. Np



Hahn, J. & Finan, E. (2022, November 19). Woman stolen from biological family at birth meets sibling for first time: 'this is definitely my sister!' *People*.



Thank you, Dave!

David Jude Jolicoeur (b. September 21, 1968 – d. February 12, 2023)  
Embroidery thread and fabric.  
Proposal for a record cover. Series, 2023



After Aldus Manutius, printed in Homer's  
*Iliad* and *Odyssey*, October, 1504



After Aldus Manutius *Aquarius* from the  
*Astronomici Veteres*, 1499. The  
woodcuts of the constellations were re-  
used blocks from Venetian astronomical  
editions of the 1480s.



Doug, One Station Plaza, 2023  
Photograph, 1993  
Cyanotype on fabric, fabric and thread



Freddie sings the Temptations, Doug on  
the bass, One Station Plaza, Peekskill,  
2023  
Photograph 1993  
Cyanotype on fabric, fabric and thread



Tawaret statue, middle to late period,  
Ancient Egypt.  
From the collection of the Godwin-  
Ternbach Museum, Queens College.  
Photographed by Brita Helgesen



River chart: Croton, Ossining,  
Haverstraw, 2023  
After 1950s nautical chart  
Embroidery thread, thread and fabric.