



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of the American Indian*

## Tom Jones II photographic prints from "Ho-Chunk People" series

Rachel Menyuk

2024

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Museum of the American Indian
<b>Title:</b>	Tom Jones II photographic prints from "Ho-Chunk People" series
<b>Date:</b>	1998-2001
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAI.AC.056
<b>Creator:</b>	Jones, Tom, 1964- (Photographer)
<b>Extent:</b>	8 Photographic prints (black and white; 18 x 22 inches; 16 x 20 inches)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	This collection includes eight photographic prints made by Ho-Chunk artist Tom Jones between 1998 and 2001. The majority of the prints are from the "Ho-Chunk People" series which document the contemporary life of members of the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin. The prints are large format, black and white, silver gelatin prints.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Purchased from the photographer Tom Jones, 2002 and 2004.

### Processing Information

Processed by Rachel Menyuk, processing archivist, 2024.

### Community Narrative

Additional updates were made to the photo descriptions following a consultation with Tom Jones, March 2024.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Tom Jones II photographic prints from "Ho-Chunk People" series, NMAI.AC.056; National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Access to NMAI Archives Center collections is by appointment only, Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. Please contact the archives to make an appointment (phone: 301-238-1400, email: nmaiarchives@si.edu).

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is identified as the National Museum of the American Indian. For more information please see the Smithsonian's [Terms of Use](#) and NMAI Archive Center's [Digital Image request](#) website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Tom Jones (Professor of Photography, University of Wisconsin-Madison) is an artist, curator, writer, and educator. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a Master of Fine Arts in Photography and a Master of Arts in Museum Studies from Columbia College in Chicago, Illinois.

Jones' artwork is a commentary on American Indian identity, experience and perception. He is examining how American Indian culture is represented through popular culture and raises questions about these depictions of identity by non-natives and Natives alike. He continues to work on an ongoing photographic essay on the contemporary life of his tribe, the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.

Jones co-authored the book "People of the Big Voice, Photographs of Ho-Chunk Families by Charles Van Schaick, 1879-1943." He is the co-curator for the exhibition and contributing author to the book, "For a Love of His People: The Photography of Horace Poolaw" for the National Museum of the American Indian. His artwork is in numerous private and public collections, most notably: The National Museum of the American Indian, Polaroid Corporation, Sprint Corporation, The Nerman Museum, The Minneapolis Institute of Art, The Museum of Contemporary of Native Arts, The Museum of Contemporary Photography, and Microsoft.

<https://www.tomjonesho-chunk.com/blank-1>

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## Scope and Contents

This collection includes eight signed photographic prints made by Ho-Chunk artist Tom Jones between 1998 and 2001. The prints are large format, black and white, silver gelatin prints either 18 x 22 inches or 16 x 20 inches.

The photographs from the "Ho-Chunk People" series, which documents the contemporary life of members of the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin, include portraits of Nina Cleveland, Dorothy Crowfether, James Hill, Jim Funmaker (Choka), Herb Goodbear, and Bill O'Brian. There is also a photographic print from the Tree Marker series and one that shows a ceremonial meal set up in front of a longhouse.

Catalog numbers: P28507-P28511, P32369-P32371.

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## Artist Statement on the "Ho-Chunk People" series

"Inside The Ho-Chunk People. For the past three years I have been working on a body of work photographing the contemporary life of my tribe, the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin. By doing so, I hope to give both the tribe and the outside world the perspective from someone who comes from within the Ho Chunk community. Traditionally, photographs of the Native American Indian are taken by outsiders. We have generally been represented with beads and feathers, widely known through the extraordinary photographic portrayals of Edward Curtis. While this has been an aspect of our life, like many Native American Indians the Ho Chunk People still adhere to traditional ways inspite of adapting to the white culture that surrounds them. The emphasis of my current body of work is focused on the members of my tribe and the environments in which they live, giving a name and face to the individuals and their way of life in our own time. First and foremost, I am ever mindful of my responsibility to the tribe by doing this work to help carry on a sense of pride about who and what we are as a people."

Tom Jones, Artist's statement for the Exhibition "The Ho-Chunk People Photographs by Tom Jones" Nov, 2001, Rochester Art Center.

## Arrangement

Arranged numerically by catalog number.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]

Cultures:

Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Photographs -- Silver gelatin prints

Places:

Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin

## Container Listing

- Box 1 P28507: [Nina Cleveland, 1999](#)  
1 Photographic print  
Creator: Jones, Tom, 1964-  
Notes: Indoor portrait of Ho-Chunk woman Nina Cleveland (maiden name Greendeer) sitting in living room in front of display of family photos atop television. A figure of a deer was purposely captured in the background to represent her clan affiliation. The reflection of photographer Tom Jones can be seen in the television set. This photograph is part of "The Ho-Chunk People" series, 1998-2001, made on the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.  
Culture: Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]
- Box 1 P28508: [Dorothy Crowfreather, 1999](#)  
1 Photographic print  
Creator: Jones, Tom, 1964-  
Notes: Outdoor portrait of young dancer, Dorothy Crowfreather, wearing a jingle dress holding large Super Soaker watergun at a powwow with other participants, shelter, and woods in background. Tom Jones captured this photograph as Dorothy was chasing after her brother. This photograph is part of "The Ho-Chunk People" series, 1998-2001, made on the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.  
Culture: Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]
- Box 1 P28509: [Marker Tree \(Near Devil's Lake #1\), 1998](#)  
1 Photographic print  
Creator: Jones, Tom, 1964-  
Notes: View of a large marker tree in the clearing of a wooded area, the tree is pointing to a spring. The trees were purposely bent to mark different locations. Part of the ongoing "Trail Marker Trees" series.  
Culture: Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]
- Box 1 P28510: [Untitled, 1999](#)  
1 Photographic print  
Creator: Jones, Tom, 1964-  
Notes: View of a meal set up outdoors on a cloth on the ground at a medicine dance with a longhouse in background. Tom Jones received permission from his Uncle, Dennis Funmaker, to photograph the meal prior to it beginning. This photograph is part of "The Ho-Chunk People" series, 1998-2001, made on the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.  
Culture: Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]
- Box 1 P28511: [James Hill, 2001](#)  
1 Photographic print  
Creator: Jones, Tom, 1964-  
Notes: Outdoor portrait of James Hill, a young boy wearing a camouflage shirt holding a feather in front of his face; standing near trucks

parked in field at a powwow. This photograph is part of "The Ho-Chunk People" series, 1998-2001, made on the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.

Culture: Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]

Box 1

P32369: [Jim Funmaker/Choka Watching Oprah, 1998](#)

1 Photographic print

Creator: Jones, Tom, 1964-

Notes: Indoor portrait of Jim Funmaker (Choka), grandfather to photopgrapher Tom Jones, reclining on livingroom couch watching the Oprah Winfrey Show. The wall hanging behind him includes imagery of Native men, hide robes, pottery, moccasins, feathered staffs, drums, and a shield and has family photographs hanging from it. The Jaquard tapestry above the television set shows a grizzly bear, a representation of his clan. This photograph is part of "The Ho-Chunk People" series, 1998-2001, made on the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.

Culture: Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]

Box 1

P32370: [Herb Goodbear, 1998](#)

1 Photographic print

Creator: Jones, Tom, 1964-

Notes: Indoor portrait of Herb Goodbear (1916-2001) seated on a couch holding pipe, wearing a Pendleton blanket or jacket, with family photos, a decorative plate, a mirror, and a calendar on the wall behind him. This photograph is part of "The Ho-Chunk People" series, 1998-2001, made on the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.

Culture: Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]

Box 1

P32371: [Bill O'Brian, 2000](#)

1 Photographic print

Creator: Jones, Tom, 1964-

Notes: Indoor portrait of Bill O'Brian seated in a chair with a large print of an Native man behind him. This photograph is part of "The Ho-Chunk People" series, 1998-2001, made on the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.

Culture: Ho-Chunk [Wisconsin]