

Portfolio 3

Strength & Remembrance Pole Raising

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### *Strength & Remembrance Pole Raising*

The name of the art piece is Strength & Remembrance Pole Raising it was created by Jody Broomfield and was installed in 100 block East 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Lonsdale (Central) on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019. That area is part of the Coast Salish territory. This statue commemorates some indigenous women who have been oppressed especially the fourteen women killed in the Montreal massacre. At the top of the pole that shows a woman wrapped in a blanket and refers to women who never returned to their homes. She is wrapped in a blanket and stands on the shoulders of an eagle, who bravely protects her and takes her home (Richter, 2019). In my opinion, the source of many oppressions and inequalities is the egocentricity and arrogance of individuals. This means that individuals consider their group, society, beliefs, skin color, appearance, country or religion superior to others, and that becomes grounds for discrimination. Although people can have different values and personalities, they have the right to live in a peaceful world.

With my painting, I want to convey to the audience that humans are vastly different from one another and their differences can support the overall progress of human society. However, the pillar of this progress is based on equal behavior of people with each other, and having acceptance and respect toward diversity. Humans should stand next to each other in show of support rather than face against one another in show of antagonization. I have used spider's web lines in my painting, to symbolize people being self-centered, which is one of the causes of selfishness and violence against others. The painting is composed of two half human beings in two different sizes, which shows the differences between people but at the same time demonstrates how individuals, complement each other. There are also geometric shapes that illustrate the complexities of humans and life. There is a big trapezoid between two human beings demonstrate the border and boundary that exist between them. This means that by respecting and accepting each other in spite of all differences, we can live together peacefully and contribute to the development of all those around us.

## Reference

- Richter, B (2019, October 25). Strength and remembrance pole marks missing and murdered Indigenous women. *North Shore News*. Retrieved from <https://www.nsnews.com/news/strength-and-remembrance-pole-marks-missing-and-murdered-indigenous-women-1.23988706>.

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