(What They’ve Been Taught)
By Brit Hensel and Keli Gonzales (Cherokee Nation)
Produced by: Taylor Hensel, Adam Mazo, Kavita Pillay, and Tracy Rector

TECH SPECS
Documentary Short
TRT: 09:05
Aspect Ratio: 16:9, shot in 2:35.1
Color, HD
Languages: English & Tsalagi Gawonihisdi

POSTER & STILL PHOTOS

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA
Website: www.brithensel.com
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PRESS CONTACT
press@reciprocity.org

PRESS KIT UPDATE:
09/16/22
O’SHE. (What They’ve Been Taught)

SYNOPSIS

DETAILED SYNOPSIS
O’SHE. (What They’ve Been Taught) explores expressions of reciprocity within Cherokee communities, brought to life through a story told by an elder and first language speaker. O’SHE. is a reflection on tradition, language, land, and a commitment to maintaining balance. This film was created in collaboration with independent artists from both Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

LOGLINE
Expressions of reciprocity in the Cherokee world as conveyed in a story told by an elder and first language speaker.

TITLE STYLE GUIDE
The title O’SHE. (pronounced oo-day-yo-nuh) is Cherokee.

When writing or speaking the title, please always use both the Cherokee and English: Example: O’SHE. (What They’ve Been Taught)

Here is the link to a step by step guide on accessing the Cherokee syllabary keyboards for all Apple and Google products: https://language.cherokee.org/fonts-and-keyboards/cherokee-keyboards/

In Adobe products, Phoreus Cherokee font is preferred and in Word, Plantagenet Cherokee. If a system is unable to display O’SHE., the transliteration Udeyonv may be used.

Example: Udeyonv (What They’ve Been Taught)
ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

ABOUT FILMMAKER BRIT HENSEL (DIRECTOR)
Brit Hensel is an Oklahoma based writer and award-winning filmmaker. A citizen of Cherokee Nation, her work largely explores traditional Cherokee values, language, and her peoples’ connection to land in Oklahoma (former Indian Territory) and in her ancestral homelands of North Carolina (Qualla Boundary). Previously, Brit directed the documentary films, Zibi Yajdan (2019) and Native and American (2017). She was a producer for Osiyo, Voices of the Cherokee People. Brit recently worked on the first and second seasons of the FX series Reservation Dogs and was awarded the 2022 Tulsa Artist Fellowship and 4th World Indigenous Fellowship. Brit continues to use her love for storytelling to help amplify the voices and values of her community. Most importantly, she hopes her work honors and makes Cherokee people proud.

ABOUT KELI GONZALES (ASSOCIATE PRODUCER)
Keli Gúwą́n Gonzales is a Cherokee artist from Welling, OK. She merges pop culture and traditional Cherokee cultural images to make personal statements. Women are central figures in her work. She also incorporates the Cherokee syllabary into her work with the hope that it will inspire people to learn to read syllabary and possibly learn the Cherokee language.

ARTISTS’ STATEMENT STATEMENT from Brit and Keli
“It is important to us that this film included the perspectives of western and eastern Giduwa (Cherokee) people. Although our communities are separated by distance, our collaboration on this film offers a balanced perspective of what reciprocity means to our people and how it’s actualized in our lives. This film was brought to life by a team of all Giduwa people, in front of and behind the camera, and was shot on lands that have shaped us.”
PRODUCTION NOTES

(What They’ve Been Taught) was created in collaboration with independent artists from both the Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The film was selected for Sundance Film Festival 2022, making Brit Hensel the first woman citizen of the Cherokee Nation to direct a film at the festival. The film was produced as part of Season 1 of the Reciprocity Project - a collaborative multimedia platform and short film series made in partnership with Indigenous storytellers and their communities worldwide produced by Nia Tero and Upstander Project in association with REI Co-op Studios. Produced by Taylor Hensel, Adam Mazo, Kavita Pillay, and Tracy Rector.

ABOUT RECIPROCITY PROJECT
Facing a climate crisis, the Reciprocity Project embraces Indigenous value systems that have bolstered the Earth, which was in balance until the modern industrial age. This short film series and multimedia platform, made in partnership with Indigenous storytellers and their communities worldwide, invites learning from time-honored and current Indigenous ways of being. https://www.reciprocity.org/

ABOUT NIA TERO
Nia Tero is a US-based non-profit working in solidarity with Indigenous peoples and movements worldwide with a mission of securing Indigenous guardianship of vital ecosystems. Nia Tero is committed to an antiracist and inclusive culture centering Indigenous rights, wisdom, practices, worldviews, and protocols. https://www.niatero.org/

ABOUT UPSTANDER PROJECT
Upstander Project encourages decolonization and upstander behavior through compelling documentary films and learning resources. Their goals are to overcome indifference to social injustice, develop the skills of upstanders, and contribute to action-oriented campaigns in response to vital social issues. https://upstanderproject.org/

ABOUT REI
REI Co-op Studios develops and produces stories that entertain, enrich and explore the power of time spent outside, while complementing the co-op’s broader climate and racial equity, diversity, and inclusion commitments. https://www.rei.com/newsroom/article/rei-co-op-studios
**PRESS & ACCLAIM**

“Brit’s film is a beautiful meditation of sound and space, expressing her people’s reciprocal relationship to the natural worlds that they exist in.”

- Sterlin Harjo

**SOUTH SEATTLE EMERALD - 9/22/21**
Seedcast: Reciprocity
https://southseattleemerald.com/2020/12/16/seedcast-reciprocity/

**THE JOURNAL RECORD - 12/14/21**
Collaborative Cherokee film project to premiere at Sundance
https://journalrecord.com/2021/12/14/collaborative-cherokee-film-project-to-premier-at-sundance/

**MISSOULIAN - 1/13/22**
Big Sky Documentary Film Festival unveils line-up for hybrid screenings

**TULSA WORLD - 1/19/22**
Cherokee filmmaker Brit Hensel secures place in Sundance Film Festival history

**INDIAN COUNTRY TODAY - 1/19/22**
Sundance puts spotlight on Indigenous films

**THE UTAH REVIEW - 1/29/22**
Sundance 2022: Eight short films emphasize excellent range of options featuring the best of international filmmaking

**DEADLINE - 2/10/22**
Santa Barbara Film Festival Sets Lineup

**CHEROKEE PHOENIX - 4/14/22**
‘Udeyonv’ (What They’ve Been Taught) selected by Sundance Film Festival
https://www.cherokeephoenix.org/entertainment/udeyonv-what-they-ve-been-taught-selected-by-sundance-film-festival/article_e8a0aebc-bbf7-1116-476c742855c.html

**THE OKLAHOMAN - 5/6/22**
Cherokee filmmaker brings Sundance selected short film home to Oklahoma's deadCenter fest

**POSTER & STILL PHOTOS**

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Ọsẹhọ (What They’ve Been Taught)

CREDITS

Ọsẹhọ
A film by Brit Hensel
Told by Thomas Belt
Filmed on the Qualla Boundary, North Carolina and in Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma
A Nia Tero and Upstander Project Production
In association with REI Co-op Studios

FEATURING:
Thomas Belt
John Henry Gloyne
Ernie Tiger
Elwood Gloyne
Waloshi Gloyne
Booger Gloyne
Beau Carroll
Johi Griffin
Bear Allison
Keli Gonzales
Tsinas Johnson
Sanoyi Johnson
Walel Johnson
JP Johnson

CINEMATOGRAPHERS:
Nick Buttram
Brit Hensel
Blake Brown

CHEROKEE TRANSLATION:
David Crawler
Garfield Long
Bo Lossiah

ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS:
Keli Gonzales
John Henry Gloyne

FIELD PRODUCER:
Loren Waters
JP Johnson
Beau Carroll

EDITOR:
Sauli Pillay

COVID-19 SUPERVISOR:
Eleni Ledesma

ON SET COVID-19 COORDINATOR:
Loren Waters

MUSIC BY:
Daniel Bachman

TRACK TITLES:
Blues in the Anthropocene
Farnham
Green Alum Springs

MASK CARVING:
John Henry Gloyne

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CREDITS CONTINUED

PHOTOGRAPHERS:
Bear Allison
Taylor Hensel
Loren Waters

ADVISORS:
Thomas Belt
Johi Griffin
Beau Carroll

SPECIAL THANKS:
Tonya Carroll
Catcuce Tiger
Henryetta & John Gloyne
Jonah Bird
Nathan Messer
Taylor Hensel
Gabriel Krengel
Mark Taylor

RECIPROCITY PROJECT PRODUCERS:
Taylor Hensel
Adam Mazo
Kavita Pillay
Tracy Rector

SERIES CO-DIRECTORS:
Taylor Hensel
Adam Mazo

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:
Tracy Rector

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS FOR REI CO-OP STUDIOS:
Hanna Boyd
Joe Crosby
Paolo Mottola

CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:
Hindou Ibrahim
Yo-Yo Ma
Cristina Mittermeier

LEARNING CO-DIRECTORS:
Dina Gilio-Whitaker
Mishy Lesser

FIELD PRODUCTION COORDINATOR:
Kavita Pillay

PRODUCTION MANAGER:
Sauli Pillay

LEAD ASSISTANT EDITOR:
Jacob Bearchum

TECHNOLOGIST / SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT:
Ben Pender-Cudlip

ADMINISTRATION / PROGRAM SUPPORT SPECIALIST:
Chelsea Strelser

COLOR CORRECTION:
Heather Cassano

POST SOUND SERVICES:
Bad Animals

SOUND ENGINEER:
Dave Howe
David Gallander

POSTER DESIGN:
Yen Tan

PROMOTIONAL DESIGN & GRAPHICS:
Cindy Chischilly
Joel Schomberg

SPANISH LANGUAGE TRANSLATION:
Neyda Quiñones-Ortiz
Maria Angelica Ramirez

PRINT TRAFFIC MANAGER:
Jonah Kozlowski

ACCOUNTING:
Melissa Billows
Jonathan Saceda
Susi Walsh

LEGAL:
Jeffrey Cadwell
Justine Jacob
Sarah Robertson

WEBSITE:
TurnStyle Studio

Production and Clearance Counsel by DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

Insurance Provided by Interstate Fire & Casualty

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### PRESS PHOTOS

- Intergenerational teachings. Photo by Taylor Hensel
- Thomas Belt (Cherokee Nation) as he sits in front of camera during interview. Photo by Taylor Hensel
- Brit Hensel (Director)
- Keli Gonzales (Associate Producer)
- Bamboo grove. Photo by Taylor Hensel

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