

Love Letters to the Collection
Guest curator selection #3



Donna Loos (Little Shell, 1931-2018), *Family Watch*, acrylic on canvas, 2001, 43.75 x 63.5." MAM Contemporary American Indian Art Collection, donated by Donna Loos, 2018.14, copyright the artist.

Selected by Chris La Tray

March 11, 2020

Chris is Chippewa-Cree Métis, and is an enrolled member of the [Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians](#). His forthcoming book, *Becoming Little Shell*, will be published by Milkweed Editions in spring of 2021. In December 2019, the Little Shell tribe became the 574th federally recognized tribe in the United States.

I love this silhouette piece by the late Donna Loos. Like me, she was Métis and a member of the Little Shell Tribe. I love the color, and the mood, but it speaks mostly to me in the anonymity of the people in silhouette. They are there, but we don't know them. We might even overlook them; in all likelihood most of us will. In THAT is the story of Donna and my people. We have been here longer than almost anybody. Few have heard of us, fewer still care. But we know who we are, and we will remain when others are long gone. Only now, NOW, you will know us.

- Chris La Tray