Fritz Scholder: Indian/Not Indian

In 1977, after more than a decade of depicting Ameri-can Indians, Scholder was ready to explore what he considered new material, unaided by research. As he traveled, he also left the Southwest for New York, where he hoped to capture the validity and authenticity of the Indian subject. Scholder's career spanned five decades and encompassed painting, sculpture, prints, and photography. As a young painter for the Taos Society of American Artists (TSAA) in Santa Fe, New Mexico, during the 1950s, he had become one of the insiders of a group of modern painters that sought to link the popular imagery about Native people and painting as they really were. Scholder's paintings in particular were commercially successful and enormously influential, as many other Native artists were for both reaching and benefiting from his heritage.

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