

# Daphne Odjig: Potawatomi Celebrated Visual Artist Who Told the Stories of Her People



**Daphne Odjig - Potawatomi's Celebrated Visual Artist Who Told The Stories of Her People | Canadian History for Kids | True Canadian Heroes - Indigenous People Of Canada Edition** by Professor Beaver

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Daphne Odjig was a celebrated Potawatomi visual artist who told the stories of her people through her paintings. She was born in 1919 on the Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve in Ontario, Canada. Odjig began painting in the 1960s, and her work quickly gained recognition for its vibrant colors, bold lines, and unique style.

Odjig was a member of the Woodland School of Art, a group of Indigenous artists who sought to revive traditional Indigenous art forms and incorporate them into contemporary art. Odjig's work is often characterized by its use of bright colors and geometric shapes, and she often depicted scenes from Indigenous life and culture.

Odjig's work has been exhibited in museums and galleries around the world, and she has received numerous awards for her contributions to the

arts. In 1973, she was awarded the Order of Canada, and in 1986 she was inducted into the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

Odjig died in 2008 at the age of 88. Her work continues to be celebrated for its beauty, its power, and its ability to tell the stories of Indigenous people.

## **Early Life and Education**

Daphne Odjig was born on September 11, 1919, on the Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve in Ontario, Canada. Her parents were both Potawatomi, and she was raised in a traditional Indigenous household. Odjig began drawing at a young age, and she often used her drawings to tell stories about her family and her community.

Odjig attended the Shingwauk Indian Residential School, where she was exposed to a variety of art forms. She also studied at the Ontario College of Art and Design, where she learned about Western art techniques.

## **Artistic Career**

Odjig began painting in the 1960s, and her work quickly gained recognition for its vibrant colors, bold lines, and unique style. She was a member of the Woodland School of Art, a group of Indigenous artists who sought to revive traditional Indigenous art forms and incorporate them into contemporary art.

Odjig's work is often characterized by its use of bright colors and geometric shapes, and she often depicted scenes from Indigenous life and culture. Her paintings are full of life and energy, and they often tell stories about the history, culture, and traditions of the Potawatomi people.

Odjig's work has been exhibited in museums and galleries around the world. She has also received numerous awards for her contributions to the arts, including the Order of Canada and the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

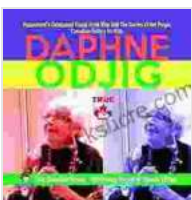
## **Legacy**

Daphne Odjig died in 2008 at the age of 88. Her work continues to be celebrated for its beauty, its power, and its ability to tell the stories of Indigenous people. Odjig's legacy is one of artistic excellence and cultural pride, and her work continues to inspire and educate people around the world.

## **Images**







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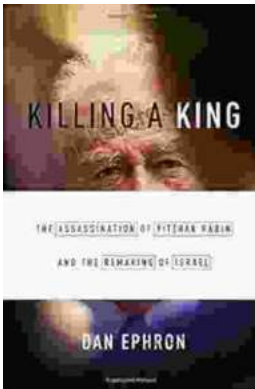
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