

TRAVELLING EXHIBIT

OBSCURED BY TIME: THE MAGIC OF FLORIDA

THE ART OF HERMANN TRAPPMAN



THE MARKETPLACE (ROSER PARK, ST. PETERSBURG, CIRCA 1500 AD)



NEILY TRAPPMAN STUDIO

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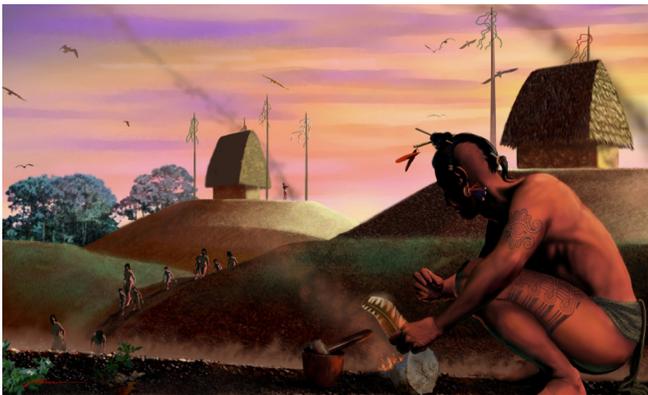
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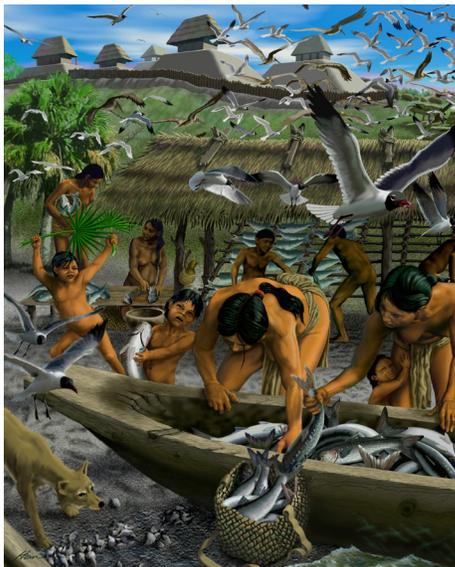
www.firstfloridafrontiers.org

OBSCURED BY TIME: THE MAGIC OF FLORIDA

ABOUT THE EXHIBIT



Praying for a New Dawn
(St. Petersburg, circa 1,450 AD)



The Mullet Run
(St. Petersburg, circa 1,450 AD)



The Mastodaon Hunt
(Florida, circa 14,500 BCE)

In the five hundred years since Europeans began their invasion of the Americas, the indigenous people of Florida have pretty much been forgotten. Scholars speculate that shortly after Columbus arrived in the Caribbean, a number of contagions swept through Florida and on through the rest of the continent, decimating native cultures, wiping them from our modern consciousness. Then slavers arrived along Florida's Gulf Coast, even before the conquistador Juan Ponce de Leon showed up to claim the land for Spain. Within the next 200 years, the ancient civilization was decimated, leaving behind their mounds of shell and a scattering of pot sherds and arrowheads.

Who were these people who worked and played along the shores of Tampa Bay? Tiny vestiges of their vast civilization remain, teased out of the soil by archaeologists or turned up by earth moving equipment in construction sites. Historical accounts by Spanish chroniclers hint at ancient cities, temples on top of large earthworks dotting the coastline and ball courts at the center of their ceremonial complex. Part of the Southeastern Mississippian Complex, in today's Florida, you would never know they even existed.

THE ARTIST

In the *Obscured by Time* exhibit, artist Herman gives life to the now extinct Tocobaga and Calusa Indian cultures and to their even more ancient predecessors, the mammoth hunters from the Ice Age. Trappman has dedicated his career to resurrecting these ancient people, piecing together their story by digging into historical documents and the archaeological records. His visionary artwork offers insights into the pre-historic indigenous people by focusing on their daily lives. The works cover 15,000 years of continuous habitation dating back to the Ice Age up to the advent of the first European settlers in the area.

- Number of pieces: ±70
- Exhibit covers 400-500 linear feet of wall space and utilizes 4 or 5 enclosed display cases
- Exhibit includes giclee prints and reproduction artifacts
- Video of artist discussing his ideas and his artwork
- The insurance value of the complete exhibit is approximately \$60,000
- Press Kit with artist bio and jpg of select images.
- Lesson Plans for Teachers

OBSCURED BY TIME INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE AND DISPLAYS

MEDICINE WOMAN

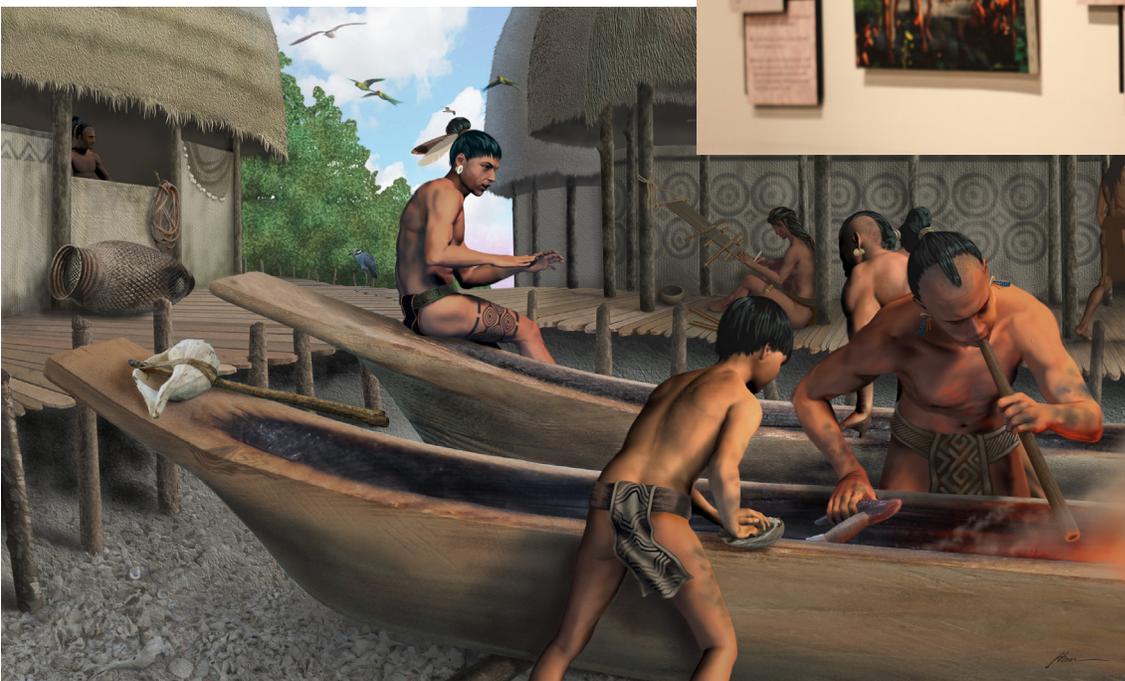
A representation of women's medicine, she is the connection to the healing plants and ancient practices. Signage and objects used in interpretations.

MILPA AGRICULTURE

Native plants and milpa farming methods interpreted with collage style signage. Display of foods and tools made with native materials.

THE NEW CANOE

Florida's native people relied on their canoes for transportation. Display of shell and wooden tools used to make them.



SIGNAGE AND LABELS

- The exhibit includes two exhibit banners, two title banners, three introductory text panels, credit panel, and mounted labels. Host institutions may select to produce their own signage and labels at their expense, and will be provided digital files.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS

- Temperature to be maintained between 68 to 72 degrees Fahrenheit with
- 45 to 50 percent relative humidity. Light levels not to exceed 10 foot-candles.
- No direct sunlight.

SECURITY

- Limited-access, gallery-type area. An open mall, hallway, or lounge area is not acceptable. Locked, environmentally stable interior exhibition storage and staging areas.
- Secure storage for crates and packing materials.
- Trained personnel, in sufficient numbers to assure the safety of exhibition components. Exhibition area must be locked and secure during closing hours.
- Fire protection according to local ordinances

INSTALLATION

- Handling of objects, if not actually by a registrar or curator, must be by a preparator, exhibition technician, or other persons trained in handling objects. The Exhibitor is required to complete incoming and outgoing condition reports, and for reporting any changes.

SHIPPING AND HANDLING

- The Exhibitor is responsible for the costs of incoming shipping.
- The Exhibitor is responsible for unloading, unpacking, and subsequent repacking and reloading. However, arrangements can be made for Neily Trappman Studio to do this at an additional fee. Individual artworks must be repacked using bubble wrap and blue masking tape. Packing tape, duct tape and electrical will damage the artwork and make it difficult to reuse the bubble wrap. Each packaged is labeled and should be easily repacked in the same wrapping materials according to instructions.

INSURANCE

- Total Value - \$80,000
- The Exhibitor shall provide continuous all risk, wall-to-wall fine arts insurance coverage for the exhibition under its existing fine-arts insurance policy during transit and while the Exhibition is in the Exhibitor's care. The Exhibitor must provide a certificate of insurance.



PUBLICITY AND EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH Programming and Public Relations Requirements

- The development and implementation of a minimum of two programming events consistent with cultural messages of the exhibit during the course of the exhibit, such as storytelling and family days.
- A Museum-in-a-Trunk with lesson plans will be provided for the exhibit for educators.
- Publication of appropriate collateral such as announcements or posters consistent with other similar exhibits hosted by the institution.
- Appropriate promotion of the exhibit including press releases, newsletters, websites consistent with other similar exhibits hosted by the institution.



ADDITIONAL INTERPRETIVE MATERIALS

NATURAL HISTORY DISPLAY

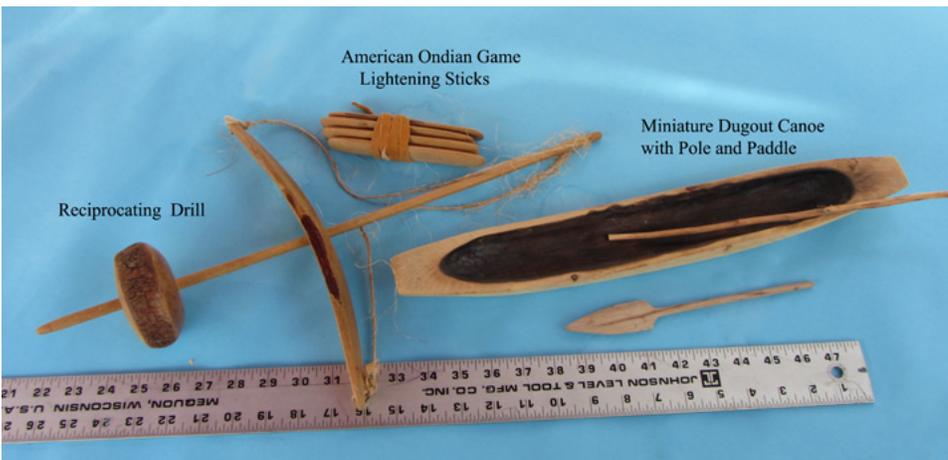


MEGA-FAUNA



Shell Ax and Hammers

REPRODUCTION ARTIFACTS



American Ondian Game
Lightening Sticks

Miniature Dugout Canoe
with Pole and Paddle

Reciprocating Drill



SPANISH CONTACT DISPLAY

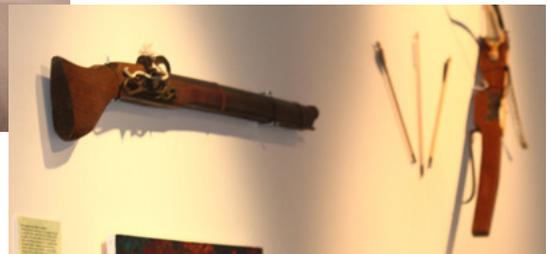


Discovering North America: Juan Ponce De Leon, 1513



LADY OF COFITACHQUI

An awe inspiring story of a young American Indian woman's escape from her Spanish captors during the Hernando De Soto Expedition.

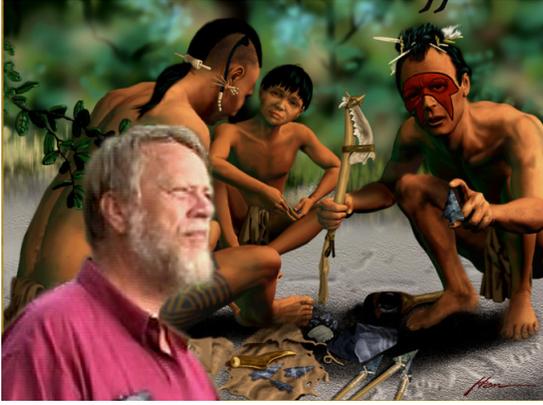


Reproductions of Spanish weaponry bring home the violence of the era.



CHILDREN OF THE DESOTO EXPEDITION

Visitors are surprised that there were children on the De Soto Expedition.



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Bio/CV

Florida natural and cultural history artist and painter Hermann Trappman has been traveling a road that has not only spanned from the New World to the Old World and back again, but back into prehistory itself. With years of meticulous study of Florida's original natives - or pre-Columbian peoples - he has been piecing together their lives and culture through his art.

Born in Rochester, New York to a German immigrant family, Trappman moved to St. Petersburg, Florida when he was eight years old. Curiosity and a taste for discovery naturally evolved into an fascination with nature and the world around him. Growing up in the Tampa Bay area and exploring the once-pristine landscape, finding unusual fossils and shell mounds that are so common in this area led into a deep curiosity of his new home's past and about the people who once lived and thrived here.

Trappman was influenced to the old masters by their drama and their wonderful ability to tell a story. Over time he became attracted to artists who painted or sculpted stories with hidden or multiple meanings. Basically self-taught, he was fortunate to be able to study under New York-trained artist Henry Fink. In 1978, he studied at the House of Art (House de Kunst) in Munich, Germany. This education in the arts was complemented by visiting art museums in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria.

His artwork is based on his personal experiences from when he worked as a fisherman in his teens and then for nearly three decades as a park ranger and environmental educator at Boyd Hill nature park. Before he starts a project, he will create models and reconstruct the tools, weapons, clothing, research the scientific data related to early geological and historical records, and meticulously study the known facts. He says,

What I see in Florida, is how the environment is in partnership with mankind, and how the two of them develop a system which is really a culture of reacting with each other, and that is what is really fascinating about this for me. When I look out there, I see drama, after drama, after drama, and they go way back in time.

"The west coast of Florida and Tampa Bay was one of the world's most plentiful estuaries at the time of European contact. The Native People would never have known hunger. Freshwater filled local ponds and streams. Generous forests grew into good building materials. The remains of Mound Key and the artifacts hauled out of Key Marco, by Frank Hamilton Cushing, are evidence of something far greater than our present interpretation of the Calusa and the Tocobaga. I believe our native people had a complex culture which rivaled the Maya of Central America or the Inca of Peru."

Hermann and his wife Elizabeth Neily founded Florida Frontiers (now First Florida Frontiers, Inc.) in 1998 when they began publishing the magazine, *Florida Frontier Gazette*. Together, they celebrate Florida through art, storytelling, music and special events.

Permanent Exhibits

- DeSoto National Memorial, Bradenton
- Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park Museum, Pinson, Tennessee

Traveling Exhibits

Obscured by Time: The Magic of Florida

Curated by Elizabeth Neily

- 2016 Indian Temple Mound Museum, Fort Walton Beach
- 2013 Collier County Museum, Naples
- 2011 Museum of Florida Art and Culture, South Florida Community College, Avon Park,
- 2010 Tampa Bay History Center, Tampa

ArtCalusa

- Curated by Theresa Schober
- 2013 City Pier Building, Fort Myers
- 2014 Indian Temple Mount Museum, Fort Walton Beach
- 2014 Captiva Community Center, Captiva
- 2015 Brevard Museum of History and Natural History
- 2016 Palm Beach County History Museum

Group Exhibit, Select Works

- Artistic Representations of Florida Throughout 500 years,” at the 22nd Floor Gallery of the Florida Capitol in Tallahassee featured with Lucrezia Bieler, Xavier Cortada, Christopher Still, 2013

Temporary Installations curated by Elizabeth Neily

- St. Petersburg Museum of History, St. Petersburg
- Weedon Island Preserve, St. Petersburg
- Safety Harbor Museum of History, Safety Harbor
- South Florida Museum, Bradenton
- Randell Research Center, Pinelands
- Dade Battlefield State Historic Site, Bushnell
- Feathered Serpent Gallery, St. Petersburg

Public Education Signage

- Maximo Park, City of St. Petersburg
- Philippi Park, Pinellas County
- DeSoto Trail kiosks and brochures www.floridadesototrail.com
- Indian Mound Park Kiosks, Englewood
- Silver River State Park, Ocala
- Crystal River State Archaeological Park kiosk, Crystal River

PowerPoint Lectures

- *Ancient Lives: Native American and Spanish Contact Period*
- *Living in Paradise: Medicinal and Edible Plants of the Tocobaga Indians*
- *Birth of the Sun, Earth, Moon, and Florida*
- *Birth of the Gulf of Mexico*

Streaming Video:

CHICKASAW.TV

- *De Soto Arrives in North America: A Great Collision*

<https://www.chickasaw.tv/history/video/de-soto...in.../hernando-de-soto-videos> / Hermann Trappman describes the cultural clash when European explorers arrived on the North American continent that native peoples had long occupied. He sees the De Soto National Memorial in Tampa as a monument to the clash, and de Soto's expedition — which reached its nadir on Chickasaw soil.

- *The Native Outlook on a Sustainable Way of Life*

Hermann Trappman discusses how the Native Americans viewed the world differently than the European conquistadors who came to the New World. They strove to be at one with their landscape; sustainability was a priority. He explains the importance of understanding the native worldview as an idea for the future, not just the pre-European-contact past.

- *De Soto National Memorial: Reenactors of the de Soto Story*

Hermann Trappman, describes how de Soto reenactors help others connect with a moment of history and ignite a lasting interest. He observes that the reenactors are passionate and each have their own perspective on history.

- *History Starts Now*

Hermann Trappman explains how history is much more than a subject taught in a classroom. It is a reflection of each person's past. He says history connects our own past to the world of those around us through language, activities, technology and relationships.

- *Stickball: A Traditional Game Known as Little Brother of War*

Hermann Trappman explains how Chickasaws and other tribes played the ancient game of stickball.

Audio Recordings

- https://floridahumanities.org/audio_archive/hermann-trappman

Films

- *Weedon Island Canoe*, permanent exhibit at Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center
- *Shape of Shells*, Neily Trappman Studio Production, 2014
- *Big Cypress Swamp: the Western Everglades*, Live Oak Productions Group, 2013
- *Winds of Change*, Pyramid Productions, consultant for Tocobaga Indians depicted in film, Tampa Bay History Center permanent exhibit. Profile of Pánfilo de Narváez's landing in Tampa Bay area in 1528 and violent encounters with indigenous people.
- *The Art of Hermann Trappman*, Neily Trappman Studio Production, 2009

Publications

- *ArtCalusa: Reflections on Representation* (limited edition catalogue), authored by Theresa M. Schober, Gretchen M. Bataille, Steven H. Koski, Jerald T. Milanich, Ryan J. Wheeler, Lee Trust for Historic Preservation, Fort Myers, FL, 2013
- *Digging Miami* by Robert S. Carr, University Press of Florida, 2012
- *Florida Frontier Gazette*, artwork and articles, published by Florida Frontier, 1998 through 2004
- Award Winning *Junior Ranger Activity Book*, DeSoto National Memorial, National Park Service, 2009
- *Indian Mounds You Can Visit*, I. Mac Perry, Great Outdoors 1998
- *Through Indian Eyes. The Untold Story of Native Peoples*, Reader's Digest, 1996

Public Appearances and Performances

- 2016 *The Music Box: Tampa Bay!* Guest speaker, The USF Contemporary Art Museum
- 2015 *Secrets of the Bay*, interview with Gen Pla, *the Average Angler Adventures*, on Bright House Sports Network.
- 2015 *Living in Paradise*, guest presenter, Forage Fest, Arcadia
- 2014 *A Different Point of View*, guest speaker, Time Sifters Archaeological Society, Sarasota
- 2010 *Whispers on the Waves*, play written and performed by Trappman, Sacred Lands Preservation and Education Center, St. Petersburg