



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**The MSU Broad Art Museum Presents New *Artist Project Series* Exhibition  
Featuring the Work of Joseph Tisiga**

**East Lansing, MI** – *Joseph Tisiga*, on view from Feb. 12–July 24, 2022 at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad Art Museum), is the next iteration of the museum’s *Artist Project Series*. Tisiga is well known for his paintings, sculptures, and works on paper that center narrative scenes and invented characters as a means to confront and distort colonial histories and power dynamics.

“It is far too rare an opportunity to work so closely with an artist to bring a new and major work into the world, and we are thrilled to work with Joseph to do just that with his new installation,” notes Senior Curator and Director of Curatorial Affairs, Steven L. Bridges. “Joseph’s cultural commentary, biting humor, and poignant critique of encounters between Western and Indigenous peoples draws attention to important questions about land and ownership. These are issues we continue to grapple with here at MSU and in the Mid-Michigan region in general.”

Tisiga's installation describes an invented encounter between people of Indigenous and colonial-settler ancestry, a common narrative thread in the artist's work. The images and fragmented stories presented throughout the gallery combine First Nations lore and colonial ideologies to reflect upon the real and imagined histories that construct notions of individual and collective identity. Elements of Tisiga's work stem from personal experiences and narratives: The artist is a member of the Kaska Dena Nation, whose ancestral homelands include the Canadian-claimed Yukon territories. However, the blurring of identities—and boundaries—within the installation creates a sense of uncertainty, inviting visitors to enter and continue the story through their own imaginative offerings.

**Exhibition Credits:** *Joseph Tisiga* is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University as part of the *Artist Project Series* and was curated by former Assistant Curator Georgia Erger with Senior Curator and Director of Curatorial Affairs Steven L. Bridges. Support for this series is provided by the MSU Federal Credit Union Artist Studio Series Endowment.

**The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad Art Museum)** connects people with art through experiences that inspire curiosity and inquiry. Presenting exhibitions and programs that engage diverse communities around issues of local relevance and global significance, the MSU Broad advances the University values of quality, inclusion, and connectivity. Opened on November 10, 2012, the museum was designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Zaha Hadid and named in honor of Eli and Edythe Broad, longtime supporters of the university who provided the lead gift for its creation.

**Michigan State University** has been working to advance the common good in uncommon ways for more than 150 years. One of the top research universities in the world, MSU focuses its vast resources on creating solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges, while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 200 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.

Image: Joseph Tisiga, *Trespassers Menaced by Psychosis*, 2017. Courtesy the artist and Bradley Ertaskiran Gallery, Montréal.

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