



# Treasures of the National Museum of the American Indian

Smithsonian Institute  
W Richard West

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- This *Tiny Folio* volume provides an impressive overview of the most significant collection of art by Native Americans anywhere in the world

Established by an act of Congress in 1989, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) is dedicated to the preservation, study, and exhibition of the life, languages, literature, history, and the arts of Native Americans. The museum's collections span more than 10,000 years and – as this lavishly illustrated miniature volume demonstrates – include a multitude of fascinating objects, from ancient clay figurines to contemporary Indian paintings, from all over the Americas.

**W. Richard West, Jr.**, a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma and a Peace Chief of the Southern Cheyenne, is founding director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. **Clara Sue Kidwell**, is an academic scholar, historian, feminist and Native American author. She is the former Assistant Director for Cultural Resources at the National Museum of the American Indian and is the director of Native American studies at the University of Oklahoma. **Charlotte Heth** and **Richard W. Hill, Sr.**, also played important roles in the development of the museum.