Can you imagine wearing these?

In preparation for our upcoming Collections Spotlight with the artist, Jhon Goes in Center (Oglala Lakota), we are highlighting a few of the nickel silver (also known as German silver) pieces in the Coe collection.

This pair of early Kiowa earrings from the late 19th century is an exemplary introduction to the style and material that came to be widely popular across the Plains region and beyond.

Learn more about these earrings here.

Every Indian princess in Oklahoma wants to wear a Bruce Caesar Crown...

This crown, and other similar crowns, are part of Pan-Indian ceremonialism and are widely made and worn throughout Indian Country by Indian Princesses. The artist Bruce Caesar has a long list of commissions for these pieces. In this crown he has depicted a
peyote bird in a feather circle. This bird carries the prayers upward into the spiritual realms. Indian Princess is the term used to honor Southern Plains, young Native women.

In a recent conversation, Bruce mentioned that he has little time to make anything besides crowns for which he has a long order list. The artist Teri Greeves added that every Indian princess in Oklahoma wants to wear a Bruce Caesar crown.

Learn more about this artist and his work here. 

Bruce Caesar (Sac and Fox/Pawnee), Crown, c. 1975. Nickel (German) silver, 4.25 x 6.25 x 7.5 in. (10.7 x 15.8 x 19 cm). NA0452a

COLLECTION SPOTLIGHT with Jhon Goes in Center

Collections Spotlight, a program developed in partnership with First American Art Magazine, is a free interactive, online discussion that brings together the public, scholars, and Native artists who select artworks from the Coe’s collection to interpret and discuss.

The next Collections Spotlight event is Tuesday, August 4, 2020, at 3 pm MDT with John Goes in Center entitled Plains Personal Adornment in Metal.

Jhon Goes in Center is an Oglala Lakota metalsmith, carver, dancer, regalia maker, and cultural artist. Now based in Rapid City, South Dakota, Jhon hails from the Pine Ridge Reservation. He earned his museum studies degree from the University of Colorado and studied metal engraving from nationally renowned firearms engraver John Rohner. Jhon will discuss personal adornment in metals by Northern and Southern Plains artists from the 19th century to present.

This event is free. To register, click here.

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