

Sherwin Bitsui



poetry reading and q&a

Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019

7:00p.m.

Global Building GA0001

Sherwin Bitsui, winner of the American Book Award, is originally from White Cone, Arizona, on the Navajo reservation. He is Diné of the Todich'ii'nii, born for the Tlizi-laani. He is the author of the poetry collections *Shapeshift* (2003), *Flood Song* (2009), and *Dissolve* (2018).

Steeped in Native American culture, mythology, and history, Bitsui's poems reveal the tensions in the intersection of Native American and contemporary urban culture. His poems are imagistic, surreal, and rich with details of the landscape of the Southwest. *Flood Song* is a book-length lyric sequence that explores the traditions of Native American writing through postmodern fragment and stream of consciousness. As an eco-poet, his poems are imagistic, surreal, and rich with details of the landscape of the Southwest.

Bitsui has received a Whiting Writers' Award, a grant from the Witter Bynner Foundation for Poetry, a Truman Capote Creative Writing Fellowship, and a Lannan Literary Fellowship. He teaches at the Institute of American Indian Arts.

