



Article
Navigation

RESEARCH ARTICLE | OCTOBER 01 2007

Trappers' Brides and Country Wives: Native American Women in the Paintings of Alfred Jacob Miller

Jennifer McLerran

American Indian Culture and Research Journal(1994) 18 (2): 1–41.



Article navigation
Volume 18, Issue 2
1 January 1994

No cover
image
available

[< Previous Article](#) [Next Article >](#)

<https://doi.org/10.17953/aicr.18.2.1q7505p644l16203>

ews 
Share 
Tools 

This content is only available as a PDF.

Article PDF first page preview

Trappers' Brides and Country Wives: Native American Women in the Paintings of Alfred Jacob Miller

JENNIFER MCLERRAN

Few nineteenth-century artists used native women who participated in the North American fur trade as the subjects of their paintings. Of those who did produce a significant number of representations of such individuals, Alfred Jacob Miller is among the best known.¹

The purpose of this study is to explore how a number of nineteenth-century conventions of depiction employed by Miller perpetuated and/or challenged two culturally dominant discourses that furthered the subjugation of Native American women. The first discourse to be examined, Orientalism, functioned through literary and artistic representations that positioned colonized individuals as irrevocably other than, and morally inferior to, their European colonizers. The second discourse, commonly labeled "domestic ideology," functioned through an ideal of feminine domesticity that positioned women as moral, civilizing influences on the frontier.

I have chosen to focus on Miller for two reasons. First, over the span of his long career, he produced an unusually large number of paintings and drawings of native women that offer abundant opportunity for exploration of the artistic conventions used in portraying this subject. Second, as the products of an individual

Jennifer McLerran is a graduate student in art history at the University of Washington.

1

You do not currently have access to this content.

[View full article](#)

Sign in

Don't already have an account? [Register](#)

Client Account

Email address / Username

Password

[Sign In](#)

[Reset password](#)

[Register](#)

Sign in via your Institution

[Sign in via your Institution](#)

 **Buy This Article**

1 American Indian and Culture Research Journal Block of 3 Token

\$45

 **Buy Token**

1 American Indian and Culture Research Journal Block of 5 Token

\$60

 **Buy Token**

[View Your Tokens](#)



[View Metrics](#)

CITING ARTICLES VIA

[Google Scholar](#)

[CrossRef](#)

Latest

[Most Read](#)

[Most Cited](#)

A Chapter Closed?

America Meredith

Living in a (Schrödinger's) Box: Jimmie Durham's Strategic Use of Ambiguity

Suzanne Newman Fricke

The Artist Knows Best: The De-Professionalism of a Profession


Nancy Marie Mithlo

Hustling and Hoaxing: Institutions, Modern Styles, and Yeffe Kimball's "Native" Art

Sarah Anne Stolte

Aspirational Descent and the Creation of Family Lore: Race Shifting in the Northeast

Darryl Leroux

 Get Email Alerts

Article Activity Alert

Latest Issue Alert

About This Journal

Contact Us



ISSN: 0161-6463

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Get Adobe Acrobat Reader](#)

[Support](#)

Trappers' Brides and Country Wives: Native American Women in the Paintings of Alfred Jacob Miller. Article. Jan 1994. Le peintre Alfred Jacob Miller (19 eme siecle) representait les femmes amerindiennes selon une approche orientaliste (domination et controle colonial, civilisation et acculturation occidentales, realisme, exotisme, picturisme) et idealiste (ideologie domestique) alors que ces femmes participaient au commerce de la fourrure. Charles Deas representai View. Inventing "Indian art": New Deal Indian policy and the native artists as "natural" resource. Article. Jennifer Mclerran. Naya Native American Men's Leather coat Mountain Man Jacket War Shirt. 100 original leather buckskin. Western Mountain Man. Mountain Man Clothing Early American American Women American Art American History Mountain Man Rendezvous Pioneer Clothing Native American Crafts American Indians. Mountain Men & Historic Reenactment Clothing & Accessories- Rendezvous Clothing, Footwear & Gear. Crazy Crow Trading Post: Largest line of Native American craft supplies & kits anywhere. Beads, leather, feathers, blankets, books- over 8000 items online. Lisa Hickman Costumes. Spring Mountain Free Trappers' Rendezvous. Rendezvous Period Clothing | The Gnome meets people from all walks of life who dress in period Korrine Loehrke Rendezvous. The Trapper's Bride by Alfred Jacob Miller - 1837. In the 18th and 19th centuries, many British and French-Canadian fur traders married First Nations and Inuit women, mainly First Nations Cree, Ojibwa, or Saulteaux. The majority of these fur traders were Scottish, French and Catholic. Therefore, their children, the Métis, were exposed to both the Catholic and indigenous belief systems, thus creating a new distinct aboriginal people in North America. MILLER Alfred Jacob - AMERICAN GALLERY. Posts about MILLER Alfred Jacob written by M.R.N. Alfred Jacob Miller painting of Mountain Men. Native American Art American Artists Jacob Miller Longhunter Fur Trade Man Art Historical Art Mountain Man Outdoor Art. Hunting Elk among the Black Hills. Meet your single American women, read our American dating sites reviews and find your true love at BrightBrides.net. These services are developed for men and women who are eager to find a life partner in any

country in the world without leaving their apartments. A website gives you access to the database of more than one American brides agency, so you will surely have a choice. As soon as you submit a registration form and create a profile, you become a member of an enormous community. There are plenty of American women dating on these sites, and it will be beneficial to make your profile searchable. Add some pictures and the information about yourself and your goals. Try to be specific about the kind of rel Alfred Miller; Alfred J. Miller; Miller; A. J. Miller; alfred miller; alfred jacob miller; alfred j. miller. Description. American painter. Date of birth/death. 2 January 1810. Alfred Jacob Miller: Watercolors and Drawings. The Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore. 1984. The Western Experience. The Monmouth Museum, Lincroft. 1989. The American Artist as Painter and Draftsman. The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore. 2001. This work is in the public domain in its country of origin and other countries and areas where the copyright term is the author's life plus 100 years or fewer.