

"Not a Song of Golden Greek"

Laura Cornelius Kellogg and Native North American Writing on Greco-Roman Antiquity

Craig Williams
Classics Department
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Kent Monkman "Welcoming the Newcomers" The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY.

In a little known history, generations of Indigenous writers of North America have made a range of uses of that antiquity which was brought across the Atlantic by settler-colonists, not infrequently cited as paragon of civilization and contrasted with the ancient cultures of this continent and its allegedly "primitive" peoples. In the first part of my lecture I provide a sampling of contemporary Native North American writers who engage with Greco-Roman antiquity, many of them precisely in order to talk back to such views. In the second part, I discuss some of the roles of Greco-Roman antiquity in the writings of Laura Cornelius Kellogg (1880-1947), Oneida educator and activist, and author of *Our Democracy and the American Indian*.



Department of Classics
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



Institute of Native American Studies
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
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