



ZACHARIAS KUNUK

Qaggiq (Gathering Place) documents aspects of the Inuit way of life around the turn of the century. It records the gathering together of several nomadic families, the building of a communal igloo (*qaggiq*), and the celebrations which follow: games, singing, and drum dancing. In making *Qaggiq*, great care was taken to achieve historical accuracy: the characters wear handmade caribou-skin clothing, use only traditional tools and implements, and speak pure Inuktituk. The tape's plot and subplot reflect the social codes of the era.

Qaggiq was shot over four days on location in Igloodik, Northwest Territories, in May 1988, using as actors the members of several local families. Although the storyline of the tape was carefully scripted, the actual dialogue and interaction between characters was improvised throughout.

Zacharius Kunuk was born at Kapuivik, Igloodik, in 1957. He originally worked as a carver of Inuit sculpture. He is the Senior Producer at the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation and responsible for over 50 Inuktituk-language programs broadcast by satellite throughout the Northwest Territories. He has received a number of awards from the Canada Council and the Northwest Territories Arts Council. Zacharias Kunuk lives and works in Igloodik, Northwest Territories.

Selected Exhibitions (s-solo, g-group, t-travelling)

- 1991 - Earth Spirit Festival, Toronto, Ontario (g)
- Sterling University, Scotland (g)
- *Canada '91*, Tokyo, Japan (g)
- Winnipeg Art Gallery, Manitoba (g)
- California Museum of Photography, United States (g)
- 1990 - *Festival international du nouveau cinéma et de la vidéo*, Montreal, Quebec (g)
- National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario (g)
- Moving Images Biennale, Madrid, Spain (g)
- *Festival international du film de fête*, Paris, France (g)
- 1989 - Museum of Modern Art, New York, United States (g)
- American Film Institute, Los Angeles, United States (g)
- *World Wide Video Festival*, The Hague, Holland (g)

Selected Collections

AVATAQ Documentation Centre on Northern Quebec, Quebec
Canada Council Art Bank, Ottawa, Ontario
Moving Images Biennale, Madrid, Spain
Museum of Northern Peoples, Hokkaido, Japan
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
U'Mista Cultural Centre, Alert Bay, British Columbia