

XI About The Author



Dr. Ronnie Theisz is currently professor of English and American Indian Studies at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, SD. He has previously taught at Fordham University and Sinte Gleska University, the Rosebud Sioux Tribal university. He has been an active traditional singer since

1963 and since 1972 has been a core member of Porcupine Singers, a widely recognized Lakota drum group. Among his other publications are: **Buckskin Tokens. Contemporary Lakota Oral Narratives; Songs and Dances of the Lakota**, with Ben Black Bear, Sr.; **Standing in the Light. A Lakota Way of Seeing**, with Severt Young Bear, Sr.; and **Sending their Voices: Essays in Lakota Musicology**. His contributions in the field of Lakota song tradition have been recognized by awards received from the Oglala Sioux Tribe, The Native American Heritage Association, and, in April 2003, by the Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Dakota Humanities Council.