



The Artist†

In the beginning I found painting painful and difficult because I was unsure of my own identity. As my exploration of painting and my understanding of Mi'kmaq spiritualism expanded, my confidence and ability grew with it. Since my family is where I am centered, everything else is exterior. I feel that I have gained the inner strength to conceptualize my spiritualism. Simplicity of line and colour and uncomplicated symbolism now gives my work a cleanness and strength. From this point of beginning I incorporate new themes and mediums to insure my artistic progression. Elements of Mi'kmaq petroglyph records found throughout Nova Scotia provide some inspiration for the developing of my general theme, which is my expression of the pride and understanding attached to our cultural heritage. Most of my subjects deal with family, searching, struggle, and strength. All these things are part of my art, and my art gives me strength for my continuing spiritual quest.

— Alan Syliboy

† Source: From <<http://www.redcrane.ca/aboutartist.html>>.