

Artist's Statement
The "Rise of the Guardian" Story

Maynard Johnny Jr.

The Coast Salish of southern Vancouver Island believe that the Hul'qumi'num people were created from Beings that fell from the sky; and as each Being came to this territory, they began the traditions and beliefs of the Coast Salish. As each Being began their life here on earth, they encountered spiritual and supernatural beings that became a guide in life on earth. The "Rise of the Guardian" reflects a man with a Thunderbird headdress because the Thunderbird was his first spiritual encounter and became his spiritual guide.

Photograph of artwork for the cover by Jay Ruzesky.