The Artist

John Tenasco

John Tenasco is an Algonquin from the Kitigan-Zibi Anishinabeg reserve near Maniwaki, Quebec.

John is interested in a variety of media and styles of paintings (portraiture, Abstraction, Impressionism etc.) and in producing works with Aboriginal content in as many ways possible. He earned a D.E.C. at Heritage College and a B.F.A. at the University of Ottawa. John has been awarded the Jaqueline Fry Memorial Scholarship as well as the Suzanne Rivard-Lemoyne Prize.

The work of John Tenasco is situated between abstraction and realism, where myriad ideas are filtered through a personal perspective. Themes of impermanence and the instability of the image are but two that inform his artistic output. With a combination of gestural and controlled linear strokes, an intuitive process begins in a search for form and meaning. The process is either achieved systematically, or its foundations are obliterated — leaving only remnants of its origin. Tenasco's work contains numerous influences — not only from other artists, but also ideas from philosophy, poetry, and music.

For more information on John Tenasco, visit his website at http://www.tenasco.com.