

## Don Steele

### Artist's Statement

I was born in Halifax Nova Scotia on Canada's East Coast of Scottish-Irish lineage on my father's side and Métis ( French Canadian -Cree Indian )-American/Dutch heritage on my mother's side . I began painting and drawing as a youth under the influence of my mother , herself an accomplished painter. My family moved to Vancouver , British Columbia , when I was 10 years old and I continued painting and drawing throughout my teens as I took a B Sc in Biochemistry and an MBA and proceeded in a career in business. Later I studied painting and visual art at the Emily Carr University of the Arts graduating with a B A in visual arts/painting.I have studied extensively at the Art students League in New York City.

In terms of my work which ranges from seascape and mountains cape to figurative and portraiture I have worked in oil, acrylic and watercolour. My primary influences have been at various stages the Canadian Group of Seven , Edward Hopper, Lucien Freud and some of my Canadian and American instructors.

I view myself as a narrative painter by which I mean my paintings are a single frame in a much bigger story with a start and an end. I see painting in somewhat the same light as I see jazz and classical music and good food ( I am a bit of an amateur chef) . It must be spontaneous yet substantive...it must be wholesome yet spicy ... it must be a treat to the eye and oblivious to financial value.

Currently I plan to document the coast of British Columbia in a series of moderate sized paintings some of which I will bring to Antibes this summer.

I have a web site with further information [www.donaldrstele.com](http://www.donaldrstele.com)