

Paulette Melanson grew up in the village of Scoudouc, New Brunswick. Her father as well as her aunt on her mother's side were artistic. She has always drawn and painted since she can remember. In high school she completed two credits in visual arts and participated in her first exhibition in Bouctouche, NB where she sold a large abstract painting titled 'The Mysteries of Life' which was installed in a community center. This painting and the young artist were the subject of a newspaper article published in 1971 in the *Évangéline* (a daily newspaper in Moncton). Although visual arts were close to her heart, Paulette decided to continue her high school studies in science at the Université de Moncton and graduated in 1975 with a B.Sc. Over the years she completed a B.Ed. and M.Ed. and pursued several jobs including a long career in the federal government ending with Parks Canada as a workplace mediator - a job that required her to work in historic sites and parks across the country. In 1985 Paulette moved to Nova Scotia to work with Health Canada. During the 80's and 90's she pursued several continuing education courses in visual arts at the NS College School of Art and Design and since that time she continues to attend trainings and workshops with artists she greatly respects. She has exhibited her paintings since 2008.

Paulette works mainly in acrylic, watercolor and mixed media. Her works include landscapes and abstract paintings inspired by her Acadian heritage as well as the environment in which she resides (southern NS). Her passion is to experiment with paint and find meaning in the resulting layers. The painting created by this process becomes her guide to what the painting wants to become - sometimes unpredictable until the last minute. All of her abstract works are created this way. Her landscapes, on the other hand, are carefully planned to evoke a mood or feeling attached to a particular place.

According to Paulette, her artistic work is representative of the forces of nature, the fragility of life as well as the connectivity of all things.