

# CHRISTOPHER CAPE



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## ARTIST STATEMENT

Spending his time among the fields, forests, and shorelines of South Western Ontario painting En Plein Air, Christopher seeks to immerse himself in the natural world. Studying the boundaries between painter and painted he seeks to ignite within the viewer a visceral response of not only being in the wild, but being a vital part of it.

Painting out of a studio located on the banks of the Speed river in historic downtown Guelph Christopher Cape is inspired by movement.

As a young man his first tool for expression was skateboarding. Fitting artistic expression and performance into the manufactured substrate of city streets provided a valuable lesson: work with what you have. Plagued by injuries during his amateur career he opted to move to Oakville, Canada, to continue his exploration of expression in movement. Enrolling into Sheridan Colleges Classical Animation program, where expression in movement drives the message of the artist, he found the foundational learning in image making he sought.

A brief stint of studio work led to an impasse in his art. Technically he could express anything through his training in drawing, the question became, “what do I express?”

Winter of 2020 saw his first solo exhibition at a downtown bistro with great success. These En Plein Air paintings connected with people outside of local scenery and imagery. There was something deeper tied to his work. A chance meeting with master Western painter Jay Moore in the spring of 2021 began an 8-month mentorship.

This intensive time unified Cape’s voice to encompass all aspects of his past, and present, manners of expression. Giving him the ability to visually express his voice in a clear and succinct manner that was outside of merely creating beautiful imagery.

