

FOLLOWING THE VISION

FOLLOWING THE VISION features 60 full-page colour images from six very talented Nova Scotia artists — Tom Forrestall, Joy Laking, Alex Livingston, Heather MacLeod, Dawn MacNutt, and Robert Pope. These artists follow their own particular vision wherever it leads, probing all manner of experience, often calling upon imagination and intuition to bring freshness and insight to their work. FOLLOWING THE VISION is a compelling read and the images are a delight to examine and ponder.



ROBERT POPE FOUNDATION

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FOLLOWING THE VISION

TOM FORRESTALL

“Emotion became more important than decoration, and emotion lay in the details.”

JOY LAKING

“The best artists appear to break the bonds of time and space.”

ALEX LIVINGSTON

“A profound satisfaction, engaging the mind and heart in equal measure ...”

HEATHER MACLEOD

“A strategy for posing interesting questions on our increasingly complex relationships to land ...”

DAWN MACNUTT

“One could call (these artworks) whimsical, anxious, even inscrutable; they confront us like actors, wearing masks, that shift in and out of different roles.”

ROBERT POPE

“He lived as though there was a long life ahead, but worked as if time was limited.”

Six Nova Scotia Artists

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Foreword

Six Nova Scotia artists and their work are featured in this book. Five are board members of the Robert Pope Foundation and the sixth, the late Robert Pope, has been the organization's guiding inspiration. The Robert Pope Foundation promotes artistic endeavours and assists in many health care programs. Not only do these six people share a compassionate vision, but they are first and foremost creative artists.

All of them are driven to create beautiful and meaningful artwork. Through words and images, these illustrated essays give a glimpse into their varied lives and work habits. "The beauty of human frailty" is a significant theme in the sculptures of Dawn MacNutt. Power and serenity are strongly combined in the paintings of Robert Pope. The work of Tom Forrestall is fuelled by intuition while travel to distant places has stimulated and deepened the art of Joy Laking. Heather MacLeod brings a photographer's eye to environmental concerns, and Alex Livingston draws us into the pleasures of the painting process.

Each artist is represented by ten images in this volume. I am grateful to the artists who shared in this project, and a special thank you to the writers whose accompanying essays enrich our understanding of the artists' work. I hope that all who open this book will enjoy, as I have, the insights that these gifted individuals offer on the complexities and wonders of life.

William Pope

President, Robert Pope Foundation