

Available Works



Barn cat - 2017
18" x 25.5"
Acrylic on masonite



Cerro de la Muerte - 2009
18" x 31"
Acrylic on masonite



March Thaw (Dead Calf) - 2014
32.5" x 45.75"
Acrylic on masonite



Sunrise at Santa Rita - 2007
16" x 12"
Acrylic on masonite



Sonora - 2008
24.75" x 21"
Acrylic on masonite

Antony John

Antony John was born in Gilfach Goch, Wales, May 16, 1960. After moving to Canada in 1970, he graduated from the University of Guelph with an Honours B. Sc. in Wildlife Biology. He married Tina Vanden Heuvel and started dairy farming with her father in 1984, in Sebringville, ON. They subsequently bought a farm, and in 1993 started growing organic vegetables under the name "Soiled Reputation".

Like Augustus John before him, Antony had a natural talent for drawing. Indeed, Antony's father was a draughtsman, and as a young child, Antony would use his father's discarded plan drawings to sketch upon. As a teenager, Antony began to branch out into other mediums, briefly with oils but then, after seeing Alex Colville's work, settled on acrylics.

Antony's farming and painting career has been interspersed with acting appearances as well, hosting a television show in 2003 called 'The Manic Organic', and playing the role of Bishop Michael Power in a documentary about the Irish potato famine called 'Death or Canada'.

In his paintings, he is interested in the emotional and moral effects that generate tension and unrest in both the controlled, ordered world of farming, and the unknown, apparently chaotic world of the rainforest, specifically, the elements of both worlds that have to be addressed before a state of grace is achieved.

Antony's work shares its focus on a central duality. Farming, and its attendant morality, representing the world of the planned, organized, and controlled, which is pitted against the overwhelming power and capriciousness of the weather, and American jungles, representing a journey through an unfamiliar landscape, where the world of the unknown carries its own tensions to resolve.

He has received numerous juried show awards (London regional Art Gallery, Perth Huron Arts Council Award, Tom Thompson Juried Exhibition, Sarnia Public Art Gallery), has held exhibitions at The Perimeter Institute, Gallery Stratford, The University of

Guelph Faculty Lounge, and Langdon Hall. Antony's works hang in private collections across Canada and the United States. He has lectured at the Perimeter Institute, The Art Gallery of Ontario, and Fogo Island Inn, and his work has been discussed in the National Post, the Toronto Star, and numerous periodicals and television. Antony is represented by The Agora Gallery (Stratford) and Skwirl Gallery (London).



Antony John CV

EDUCATION

University of Guelph

B.Sc. Wildlife Biology, Honors

1983

AWARDS

Pollinator Partnership Farmer/Rancher Award (Canada)

2017

Premier's Agri-innovation Award

2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Stratford Chef's School

2005 - 2015

Food Color Theory and Food Styling

Stratford Chef's School

2015 - present

Sustainable Food Production

WORK EXPERIENCE 1984

University of Guelph

Collected and identified insects for the museum collection, under professor Stephen Marshall

Heuvelholm Farms

Farm Manager of a 50 cow dairy farm in Sebringville, Ontario

1984-1990

Mackey Landscaping

Landscaper

1991-1993

Responsible for all facets of landscaping unique properties including restaurants and estates in Stratford area.

Soiled Reputation

Owner/Operator

1993 - present

Established a certified organic farm on 80 acres, supplying high end produce to top restaurants in Stratford, London, Niagara, Toronto. Grew the farm to Canada's largest certified organic market garden, on 40 acres and 15000 sq feet of greenhouses, employing a staff of 18 people in the summer, 7 year round. Hundreds of varieties of vegetables grown, including Oaxacan chilies.

The Manic Organic

Television Host

2003 - 2004

Created, wrote, and hosted a television show based on growing and cooking organic produce. Originally aired on FoodTV and House and Garden Channel, the show was picked up by BBC Food and distributed to over 60 countries.

PERTINENT EXPERIENCES

Juried Exhibitions

Participated in numerous juried exhibitions at various public galleries across Southwestern Ontario, including Sarnia, Owen Sound, London, and Stratford

Solo exhibition at Gallery Stratford 1991

Solo exhibition at Agora Gallery Stratford 2015

Group Exhibitions at Agora gallery Stratford 2016 - present

Represented by Agora Gallery and Skwirl Gallery

THE FOOD WEB Created a Power Point presentation that links the day to day seasonal operation of an organic produce farm in Ontario, with organic farms in Central and South America, via the migratory birds and insects that live and breed in both hemispheres. This show has been presented to numerous environmental groups, Universities, and Symposia. 2012 - present

Accomplished Canadian Realist Artist

Won numerous juried awards, exhibited both in group and solo shows all over south western Ontario, represented by Agora Gallery in Stratford, Ontario. Subject matter is divided between agricultural issues through my farm experience, and the flora and fauna of tropical ecosystems. Currently working on a series of paintings highlighting the mangrove habitat protected by Osa Conservation in Costa Rica 1985 - present

ARTIST IN RESIDENCIES/CONSULTANCIES

Belcampo Belize 2013 - 2014

Responsible for leading bird tour, consult on establishment of vegetable garden for lodge, create paintings based on birds seen at lodge

Fogo Island Inn 2017

Gave 'The Food Web' presentation to lodge guests, consulted on the establishment of a local produce growing community for the Inn