

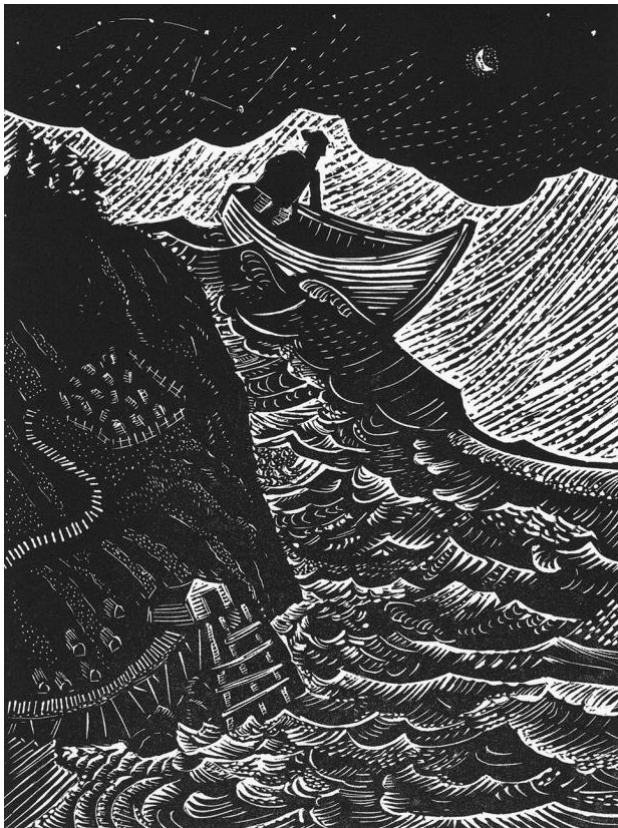
CHRISTINA PARKER

GALLERY

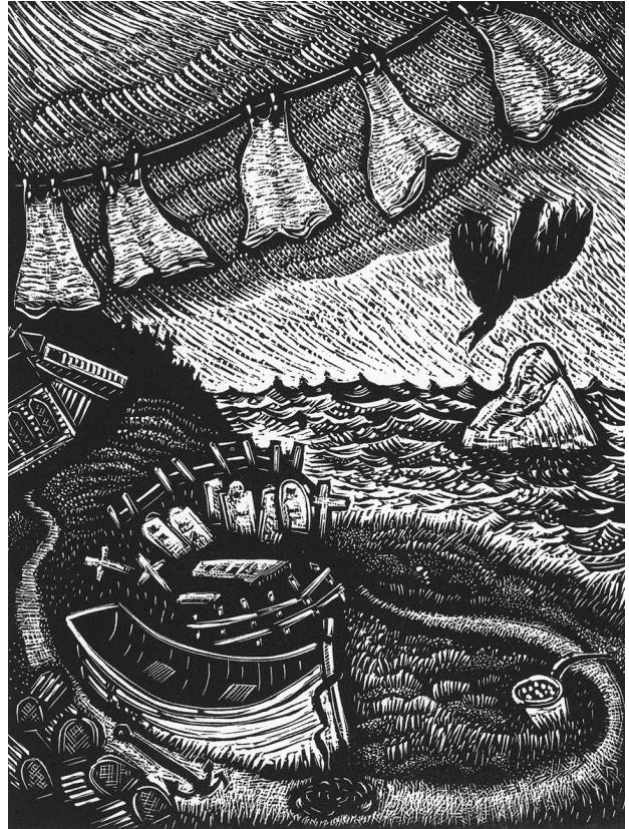
ALAN STEIN WE ARE THE SONGS OF WEATHER

The work in this exhibit is in part based on an artist book collaboration with poet Des Walsh. *We Are The Songs Of Weather* was hand printed in 2022 in a limited edition of 60 copies.

Over the past ten years I have driven down most of the roads leading out to the coast around Trinity Bight, visiting harbours, walking the hills and shoreline near our house in Old Bonaventure, always with a sketchbook and camera. I wanted to capture the spirit of the place through its natural and built landscape. I've collected stories and tried to understand the history of the place, and over the years I have created a series of paintings based on these sketches.



Moved By Seasons That Are Not Out of Hell, Wood engraving, 6 × 4.5", 2022



Notes on an Upcoming Anniversary, Wood engraving, 6 × 4.5", 2022

After buying our house and establishing a studio in Old Bonaventure, I met Des Walsh and we became good friends. I read his poetry and proposed that I create a body of work that would be inspired by his poems and family stories. I then designed and published a hand printed, limited edition book of 18 selected poems, and created a wood engraving image for each poem.

As part of my process of creating images for the wood engraving blocks, I made larger charcoal drawings blending my sketches with imagery inspired by the poems. This exhibit features the wood engravings and charcoal drawings together with pastel paintings from the area. A short film by Barbara Doran, "The Poet and The Painter", documents this project.



Moonrise Over the Harbour, Oil on canvas, 40 × 60", 2021

ALAN STEIN RCA OSA established a painting studio and The Church Street Press in Parry Sound in 1988. At The Church Street Press Alan hand prints limited edition books illustrated with his own wood engravings. In 2014, Alan established a painting studio in Old Bonaventure, Newfoundland.

Alan is an elected member of The Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, a life member of the Ontario Society of Artists, the Society of Canadian Artists and The Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour. Alan has exhibited his books and paintings in public galleries across Canada, and his books are collected internationally. He has received many awards for his work, including a First Prize for Book Design in Canada. His archives are at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto. Several of his paintings are on display at the

Ontario Legislative Building as part of the Ontario Government Art Collection.

Alan's recent hand printed books include *We Are The Songs Of Weather* with Newfoundland poet Des Walsh in 2022, and *On Spirit Lake, Georgian Bay Stories*, 12 original stories by well-known Canadian authors with a connection to Georgian Bay. His next limited edition book will be with award winning Canadian author Anne Michaels.

Alan divides his time between Georgian Bay in Ontario and Trinity Bight on the Bonavista Peninsula in Newfoundland.

"The Poet And The Painter", the documentary film by Barbara Doran about *We Are The Songs Of Weather*, can be viewed on Alan's website, alanstein.art.