

Cover Art: Back from the Rabbits

Antoine Mountain

This painting depicts a grandmother and her granddaughter on their way back from checking rabbit snares in springtime. The birch trees are included because they are a factor in snaring rabbits. The buds on birch trees – where the leaves come out – are a favourite rabbit food. When setting snares in the old way, the way I learned is to use a string and a long pole. It's safer, too, because the rabbit is lifted off the ground once it's caught. Wherever the snare is set, cut some branches with some buds and shake the buds loose – that will attract rabbits to the area.



Antoine Mountain is Dene from Radlilh Koe (Fort Good Hope) in the Northwest Territories. His love for the land and its people is the root of his artwork, for which he uses acrylics on canvas, favouring the Impressionist style. He is driven by a deep-rooted spiritualism to depict landscapes, the Dene way of life, and portraits. Antoine has a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Ontario College of Arts and Design at the University of Toronto, a Master's of Environmental Studies from York University, and is currently pursuing a PhD in Indigenous Studies at Trent University.