

Cover Art

Arctic Cotton Grass

Nathalie Parenteau

Whitehorse

Artist Statement

This artwork was inspired by a week-long visit at the Dechenla Lodge located along the North Canal Road in the Northwest Territories near the Yukon border. This area is rich with wildlife and is part of the traditional land of the Kaska and Sahtu Nations.

nathalieparenteau.com

Biography

When asked how her images come to life, Yukon artist Nathalie Parenteau promptly replies: “They takes shape on their own. I just scratch the canvas with the paint brush and there they are.” Or so it seems.

Born in Montréal, Nathalie was raised in a family that cherished the arts and her youth was spent surrounded by the colourful Québec culture, easing her early on onto an artistic path. She came to the Yukon after high school, volunteering with a youth group, and was immediately under the spell of the North. There, her love for nature and solitude found their perfect vessel. The years spent in the wilds of this mythical territory in tepees, wall tents, and cabins provided the perfect breeding ground for her calling. The seasons’ play of light on mountains, the melting of ice on lakes in the spring, the coming and going of forest creatures, all enchanted her and still do.

After months circling the globe and then earning a biology degree at the University of Western Ontario in her twenties, she set up her studio and got to work full time, letting her imagination manifest itself in bright colours and harmonious lines. Although her paintings seem to have their own volition, Nathalie admits to spending long hours with each piece to reach the final result. Her art aims at pulling people into a new world and to explore their subconscious. It touches all genders and has a universal appeal. She paints in acrylic and oils and her style is easily recognizable. Her work is sold extensively across Canada and the United States and is collected by people from all over the world.

Nathalie lives with mountain man Peter in Whitehorse, Yukon, at the edge of the forest. They have an old dawg they fuss over and a library that contains too many unread books.



Detail from Arctic Cotton Grass
Acrylic on canvas, 20" x 16", 2013

