Thomas Vienneau was born in Miramichi and from an early age, he expressed an interest in drawing through his many sketchbooks and paint sets. In high school, Thomas' interest grew while studying art history and was further encouraged by working on many projects under the instruction of art teacher Linda Gallant. Later, Thomas attended Mount Allison University. He is now based in Moncton.

Thomas has been professionally producing artwork as a painter for over ten years.

The mediums Thomas chooses to work with are primarily acrylic paints of various types, though he also works with watercolours, oils, and digital. Some acrylic pieces are heavily coated with paint and done in a more contemporary abstract style, while others have an acrylic-wash base featuring more whimsical scenery and figures.

"Over the years, I have developed my signature style, which I would describe as grotesque, whimsical, and hopeful. Artist Francis Bacon is my biggest influence."

# **Exhibitions and Displays**

- Café C'est La Vie, Moncton NB (2023).
- Queering Forward, Centre des Arts et de la Culture de Dieppe (2022).
- The Acorn Studio, Moncton NB (2020).
- Dreams of Love and Loss, Moncton Public Library (2018).
- Body of Work, Mexicali Rosas, Moncton NB (2013).
- Sandstones Gallery (2010).
- Paintings, Mexicali Rosas, Moncton NB (2009).

### **Donations**

- Benefit Dance with Norm and Jean-Marc, Notre-Dame NB (2022). Several paintings and merchandise donated to silent auction.
- Queer Christmas Party, Dieppe NB (2022). Live painting and several pieces donated to benefit Fierté Dieppe Pride.
- 100 Artists for the Moncton Public Library (2019). Painting donated for charity fundraiser for Moncton Public Library.
- Benefit Dance and Auction for D. O'Donnell, Moncton NB (2018). Several paintings donated to silent auction.
- 100 Artists for the Moncton Public Library (2016). Painting donated for charity fundraiser for Moncton Public Library.

### **Awards**

• Jane LeBlanc Legacy Fund, Artist Support Scholarship, inaugural winner (2021).

## **Collections and Commissions**

- A Renewed Hope: Star Wars Destiny CCG, digital artwork commissioned for game and prizing (2022-23).
- Works held in private collections across Canada, USA, and Brazil.
- Painting Desert Rose purchased by Campbellton Centennial Library, NB (2020).
- Several commissions completed for private collectors across Canada and USA.

# **Bibliography**

- Mos Eisley Gazette, Artist Edition Thomas Vienneau, December 2022.
  https://swdrenewedhope.com/mos-eisley-gazette-artist-edition-thomas-vienneau
- People of Moncton, Self-Taught Artist from Miramichi Thomas, July 2020. https://youtu.be/mELRrZ0ryRE
- Golden Ratio Magazine, p.1, vol. 2, Summer 2016.
- Golden Ratio Magazine, p. 8, vol. 1, Spring 2012.
- L'étoile Provinciale, p. 15, February 2 2012.

#### Social

- Instagram: @thomas\_vienneau
- · Facebook: Thomas Vienneau Artist
- YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs5N0bzze48FFLAiRQvfUfA
- Fine Art America (Prints and Merchandise): https://fineartamerica.com/art/thomas+vienneau



Variations on Black and White No.4, 2021. 8 x 10", acrylic on heavy paper.



Variations on Manganese Blue No.3, 2021. 8 x 10", acrylic on heavy paper.



I, Creature IV, 2021. 8 x 10", acrylic on heavy paper.



Don't Stop, Keep Going, 2021. 8 x 10", acrylic on heavy paper.



Losing Your Identity, 2020. 18 x 24", acrylic on canvas.



Enough!, 2020. 18 x 24", acrylic on canvas.



Ghosts in the Walls, 2016. 20 x 24", acrylic on canvas.



Say hello to the new hell, 2014. 20 x 24", acrylic on canvas.



Two Men, 2010. 20 x 24", acrylic on canvas.



I Can't Sleep Until I Devour You, 2009. 30 x 30", acrylic on canvas.

## **Artist Statement**

My use of figurative art, abstraction, and expressionism allows me to push the boundaries of my artistry. Within those styles my artwork takes a critical view of mental health, queer experience, and political issues. Inspiration comes from both introspection and the stories of other individuals. Over the years I have developed my signature style, which I would describe as grotesque and whimsical, yet colourful and uplifting, with my work exploring human suffering, personal journey, and hope.

Though themes and subject matter may vary my methodology is consistent. Each work begins with a conceptualized image created from emotion, thoughts, or experience. A painting then takes form on the canvas in either a watercolour-style acrylic wash or a heavy impasto.

When working on projects that include multiple artworks there are common themes, styles and colours within the paintings to bring them together. My landscape paintings tend to represent an emotional state. Figurative work allows a story to unfold or focus on a particular individual. Gestural and abstract pieces can be seen as a photograph of a thought or emotional moment.