## **Artist Statement**

**Shantel Benoit** 





My work explores the natural world and how I perceive the natural environment surrounding myself, this can be expressed fictitiously, abstractedly or realistically depending on the individual piece in question. The core of my pieces, and who I am as an Artist, revolve around the coasts, great forests, and wildlife of the province of British Columbia. Being someone who was raised in a logging and fishing community, I have always been fascinated with the relationship our species have with the natural world around us. Ultimately, my art practise allows me to emotionally express myself and reflect on the environments I choose to surround myself.

With the traditional media of drawing and painting, movement and line are very important to me as they are the sole translation of my perception on canvas and paper. I explore themes such as: Deforestation, human toxicity in the natural world, local history, wonders of nature and more. I strive for each artwork to communicate a soothing or intriguing disposition that will keep the viewer interested. Prompting conversation on what we seem to take for granted.