



DOZAY'S
NATIVE ART
GALLERY

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Arlene Christmas (Dozay) was born and raised on the banks of the St. John and Tobique Rivers in western New Brunswick. She was the middle child of a large family of nine brothers and sisters and numerous uncles, aunts and cousins. She praises her people's tradition of family togetherness as the inspiration for many of her artistic works.

Dozay left the Tobique Reserve when she was eighteen to pursue her education and interest in art. She worked as a trainee with the New Brunswick Museum, under the direction of Robert Purcival. She later moved to Nova Scotia and enrolled at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in Halifax. Her first break as a professional artist occurred by accident in 1982 when she showed an Indian art dealer some of the drawings she had made over the years. Since that time, Dozay has displayed and exhibited her work throughout the Maritimes, Ontario and the United States. Her talent also extends to graphic art, which has led to freelance work for various Aboriginal organizations.



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Profile:

Place of Birth:	Negootcook/Tobique First Nation, New Brunswick, Atlantic Canada
Tribal Affiliate:	Maliseet
Spoken Language:	Maliseet and English
Family:	Married, two children
Present Residence:	Membertou Nova Scotia, Atlantic Canada

Education Background:

1976	Graduated Grade XII Schwartz Creek High School, Flint, Michigan
1977-88	Nova Scotia College of Art & Design, Halifax, Nova Scotia University College of Cape Breton, part-time student
1988-98	Completed various courses and workshops on painting, drawing, computer graphics and airbrushing

Employment Experience:

1972	Art Trainee - New Brunswick Museum, St. John, NB
1977	Summer Student - Multicultural Association of Nova Scotia
1978-79	Researcher - Native Communications Society of Nova Scotia, Sydney, NS
1988	Summer Student - Membertou Band Council, Sydney, NS
1989-2000	Freelance Graphics and Illustrations
2000-2001	Animation of Native Legend

Professional Artist:

1989 - Present	Co-owner and operator of Dozay Native Art Gallery, Membertou, Sydney, NS
1998 - Present	Co-owner of Kinoway Kisitaqn
2002 - Present	Member, Nations in a Circle
2006 - Present	Member, CARFAC, Ottawa, Ontario



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Shows and Galleries

1983 - Present

Dozay has displayed her art at shows and galleries in:
St. John, New Brunswick
Ottawa, Ontario
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Moncton, New Brunswick
Pasadena, California
Lakefield, Ontario
Toronto, Ontario
Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Sudbury, Ontario
Fredericton, New Brunswick
Baddeck, Nova Scotia
Vancouver, British Columbia
Windsor, Ontario
Sydney, Nova Scotia
Canning, Nova Scotia
Eskasoni, Nova Scotia
Inverness, Nova Scotia

Exhibitions:

1984-1986

Future of Our Children Exhibit, Atlantic Regional Indian Arts and Crafts Corporation, Moncton, St. John and Halifax

1994-1995

Pe'l A'Tukwey Travelling Exhibition, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

1995

Solo Exhibition, Gate House Gallery, Sydney, Nova Scotia

1998

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Industrial Strength, Group Exhibition

2000

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia "Reclaiming History"

2003

University College of Cape Breton Art Gallery, Joint Exhibition,
"Up Where We Belong", Sydney, Nova Scotia

2005

Cape Breton University, Joint Exhibition, Sydney, Nova Scotia

2008 - Present

"Glooscap In Unamaki", Wagmatcook, Membertou, Cabot Shores, Millbrook, Canning, Nova Scotia

2009

Sculpture "First Peoples of the Eastern Door", Joint Project by nine Maliseet & Mi'kmaq Artists, 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games, Whistler, British Columbia



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Graphic Art and Design:

1981 - Present

Dozay has provided graphic art services for a number of organizations including:

Membertou Band Council
Dalhousie University
Assembly of First Nations
Province of Nova Scotia
Union of Nova Scotia Indians
Native Council of Nova Scotia
Mi'kmaq Family and Children Services
John Cabot Meeting Society
Mi'kmaq Justice Institute
Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre
Folkus Atlantic Ltd.
Eskasoni
Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq
Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources
Atlantic Wholesalers
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Tui'kn Initiative
Donna Cona Inc.
Kukwes Consulting
Eskasoni Health Centre
Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs
Kwilmu'kw Maw-Klusuaqn
Mi'kmaw Association of Cultural Studies

Wall Murals:

1998 - Present

Dozay has been commissioned to do both outdoor and indoor wall murals for the following organizations or buildings:

Micmac Native Friendship Centre Day Care
Eskasoni Fish and Wildlife Commission
Membertou Wellness Home
Wagmatcook Cultural and Heritage Centre
Membertou Trade and Convention Centre
Waycobah Health Centre
Eskasoni Market
Membertou RCMP Detachment
Halifax Regional Municipality Bedford Row Project
Membertou Veterans Memorial Building



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Book Illustrations:

1991 - Present

Ki'kwaju aqq Muin (The Badger and the Bear), Eskasoni School Board 1991
Paqtatek, University College of Cape Breton 1991
Loon Rock, University College of Cape Breton Press, 1996
Claypots and Bones, Pka'wo'qq aq Waqntal, Solus Publishing, 1997
Glooscap Legends of Prince Edward Island, unpublished
Tales from Maliseet Country: The Maliseet, University of Nebraska Press, 2007

Donations:

1992 - Present

Cape Breton Regional Hospital Foundation, Sydney, Nova Scotia
Odawa Native Friendship Centre, Ottawa, Ontario
Atlantic AIDS First Nations Task Force, Halifax, NS
Membertou Senior Citizen's Club, Membertou, Nova Scotia
University College of Cape Breton Silent Auction, Sydney, Nova Scotia
Cape Breton Centre for Craft and Design Auction, Sydney, Nova Scotia
Canadian Mental Health Association, Auctions, Membertou, Nova Scotia



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Lectures and Teaching:

1987 - Present

Eskasoni Elementary & Junior High Schools
Membertou First Nation
New Brunswick College of Craft & Design
Eskasoni Training and Education Centre
Cape Breton Centre for Craft & Design
Private classes - drawing and airbrushing

Committees and Boards:

Nova Scotia Arts Council - Peer Assessment Committee
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia - Pel'A'Tuk'wey Exhibition Committee
Artist's Cooperative Group "Insight"
Cape Breton Centre for Craft & Design
Arts Cape Breton
Nations in a Circle
Mi'kmawey Debert Advisory Committee
CARFAC
Vancouver Olympics High End Engagement Project

Publications, Feature Stories & Interviews:

New Brunswick Aboriginal Arts Directory, New Brunswick Art Board,
Fredericton, New Brunswick
Paintings of Nova Scotia; From the Collection of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia,
Mora Dianne O'Neill, Nimbus Publishing, 2004
Strength and Spirit Magazine, Cape Breton Partnership, "Crafting a Career Out of
Traditional Art" Sydney, Nova Scotia, 2009
ATV "Live at Five" Interview, February 26, 2009
APTN National News Interview, September 2, 2009
From Land and Sea: Nova Scotia's Contemporary Landscape Artists,
Nimbus Publishing, 2009