



Matthew Perry

A Vermont Life, 2016

Woodburner and watercolor on birch-veneered plywood

Opening bid: \$4,900

I never thought too much about Grandma Moses until now. Maybe I let her age, her image and fame get in the way of seeing her more than I could...as an important artist. Once I began to read about her, I began to connect and see similarities that we share. Her father was an artist too and brought home paper (newsprint) to draw on. She prefers the country to the city and saw chores not as work but part of life. She also liked to depict, through her pictures, the quiet to eventful, everyday life with representation being simple, honest and getting right to the point.

I'm drawn towards subjects that have character. I see just as much beauty in a gas station covered with lottery and cigarette signs as in an autumn sunset vista of the Green Mountains. I find people and their activity one of the most interesting subjects to draw. Each has their own story.

This piece is my visual story inspired by the life of Anna Mary Robertson Moses. I pull from 35 years in Vermont, sharing it with the weather it brings each month. I share the open land, small businesses and preservation with economic struggle, technology and progress. The story has plenty of characters including neighbors, family and perhaps yourself.

I chose to draw with a wood-burning pen (with a 750 degree tip); it comes with no eraser. It is very immediate and you have to be simple, take what you get and get right to the point.