

Giovanni Spezzacatena :: www.rabideye.com



Giovanni (Gian) Spezzacatena was born, and lived for many years in Montreal. He is an interdisciplinary artist now residing in Powell River, BC.

While Gian's education and artistic background are in experimental film and animation (BFA , MFA : Concordia University), he has always painted and drawn, often using non-traditional materials like beeswax and metals in his 2-d work. Giovanni has taught many courses in animation, film studies, web design, graphic design, interdisciplinary arts, interactive computer animation (Flash) and many other topics at the university and college levels in Montreal, Seattle and in Powell River.

An over-reaching aesthetic has informed most of Gian's two-dimensional art best approaches what the Japanese traditionally refer to as: *wabi-sabi*. Writer Leonard Koren states that wabi-sabi "occupies roughly the same position in the Japanese pantheon of aesthetic values as do the Greek ideals of beauty and perfection in the West." Richard R. Powell summarizes by saying "(wabi-sabi) nurtures all that is authentic by acknowledging three simple realities:

nothing lasts, nothing is finished, and nothing is perfect."

The words *wabi* and *sabi* do not translate easily. *Wabi* connotes rustic simplicity, freshness or quietness, and can be applied to both natural and human-made objects, or understated elegance. It can also refer to quirks and anomalies arising from the process of construction, which add uniqueness and elegance to the object. *Sabi* is beauty or serenity that comes with age, when the life of the object and its impermanence are evidenced in its patina and wear, or in any visible repairs.

Gian is educated in the media arts of design, animation, and film studies/production, with an MFA degree; he has taught in the design/media fields since 1997. Visit: www.rabideye.com

View some of Gian's web design and implementation projects at: www.mdill.com, www.jumpradio.ca, www.areml.com, www.powellriverstudiotour.com, www.artemiscafe.net

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