

## Dennis Nechvatal Landscapes

Throughout his career, Dennis Nechvatal has explored various styles and disciplines, from pounded recycled aluminum masks to still lifes of flowers to meticulously rendered landscapes. The artist believes his landscape paintings are a way to connect people to the land. Using a primitive stylistic language developed over thirty years of painting, Nechvatal infuses what he calls “verve” into his landscapes. Inspired by the Native American belief that the earth is a living being and we are responsible as its stewards to protect it, Nechvatal paints as a contemplative spiritual act and aspires to create works that will invoke an ideal communal vision of the natural world. The painting *Hope* was commissioned by the Chazen Museum of Art for this exhibition.

Dennis Nechvatal graduated from UW–Madison in 1971 and received his MFA from Indiana University in 1974. He has lived and worked in Madison since 1978.

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