

## John A. Hancock



**About the Art Work** My paintings, drawings, and collages grow out of my exploration of the natural world and our place in it. The artwork usually starts from direct observation. Later, in the studio using my drawings, sketches, and notes, I create paintings in watercolor, gouache, or acrylic. Sometimes I use a combination of all of these and other materials as I improvise and experiment my way through the working process. In this way, I bring together naturalistic and abstract elements into a balanced if rather tentative harmony.

**About the Artist** Since 2000, I have lived, made art, and taught in the shadow of Blue Ridge Mountains of central Virginia. Prior to relocating my family here, I lived, studied, and worked in both the Southeast and Midwest (from Atlanta to Wichita, from Florida to North Carolina). Moving about the country fueled my love of travel and the exploration of both exotic and ordinary places.

**Professional Info** I regularly exhibit my art locally, regionally, nationally, and have also shown in England. For many years I balanced being an artist with working as an art professor. I am now in the studio full time. While I still on occasion teach a college art class, I enjoy the opportunity to judge art shows, conduct workshops, and make presentations to professional and community art groups and schools.