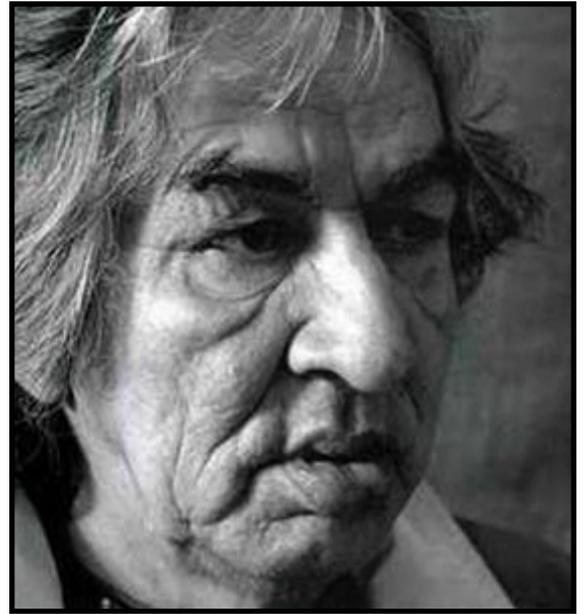


Norval Morrisseau (1932-2007, Indigenous Canadian of the Anishinaabek Tribal Nation)



Norval Morrisseau, also known as Copper Thunderbird, grew up north of Lake Superior in the Canadian woods. He was raised according to tribal customs, by his grandparents who taught him the culture and legends of the Anishinaabek (the Objive) people.

He was a self-taught artist. His art reflects the stories and culture of his people. Early in his career he painted on birchbark, moose hide and used earth tone colors. Many of the animals in his art reflect the pictographs found in the regions north of the Great Lakes.

Later, his art took on bright, almost neon colors with thick black outlines.

A Toronto, Canada art dealer discovered the work of Morrisseau and began arrange for art shows around Canada. As his fame grew, he became known as the “Picasso of the North”. He is considered the grandfather of indigenous Canadian art and is arguably the best known and most important Canadian artist.