



Allen Smutylo's writing and art derive from traveling and living in some of the world's most remote places. His inaugural book, *Wild Places Wild Hearts: Nomads of the Himalaya*, won the Best Travel / Adventure Book, Banff Film and Book Festival. His next book *The Memory of Water* was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award, the Best Travel/Adventure Book at the Banff Film Festival, and the Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-Fiction. His last book, *The Mongolian Chronicles: A Story of Eagles, Demons and Empires* was longlisted for the RBC Taylor Prize.

Allen Smutylo's paintings and etchings are represented in hundreds of public and corporate collections.

The Globe and Mail has called his work "a profound and poignant meditation on the connection between landscape and culture. ...Required Reading."

The *Winnipeg Free Press* wrote: "He seeks to capture the multi-sensory and extra-sensory experience of life...Smutylo uses a quote from Marcel Proust to suggest why his artistic career has taken him all over the world: 'The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeing new landscapes, but in having new eyes.' His gift to his readers and viewers of his artwork is to lend them those new eyes."

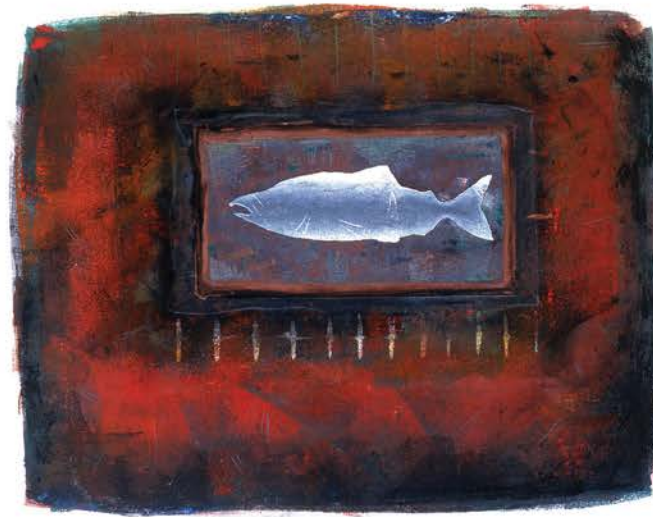
Allen lives in Big Bay, Ontario, Canada.

www.allensmutylo.com

Front cover: Allen Smutylo, *Ice House, Rattlesnake Harbour*, oil on canvas, 36x52 in.

Back cover: Allen Smutylo, *Waterlines #73*, mixed media, 7x11 in.

Spine: Allen Smutylo, *Storm from the Southwest*, block print, 5x7 in.



"In the time of Cabot, Cartier, and Champlain, the North Star, also called Polaris, was crucial to night navigation when crossing large bodies of water like the ocean. The North Star sits less than one degree from the north celestial pole. Unlike all other stars, which rotate in the night sky with the earth's rotation, the North Star is always seen in the same spot, above the earth's northern axis. Those mariners who plied ships of wood and canvas depended on it to measure their ship's latitudinal location.

"From Earth, the North Star is but a pin prick in the sky, but its energy, in the form of electromagnetic radiation, originates from a burning globe of gases seventy million kilometres wide. The North Star's distance from earth is measured in light-years. For its light to reach us, it must zoom across an eternity of cosmic waves and interstellar dust for 323 years. Seeing its jewel-like radiance was a glimpse into the past – a time capsule of white energy from the year 1699. When it began its journey through the cosmos, voyageurs' paddles pulled through Georgian Bay waters that were absent of mercury or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). The air they inhaled was free of biphenyl particulates. The land they camped on had no traces of lead, DDT or PCBs. And the country that would become Canada had a non-Indigenous population of 1,600 people."