



Biography:

Mark Light, whose Mohawk name is *Kawesoton* (standing ice), belongs to the snipe clan. He is a husband, father, and grandfather who resides on the Akwesasne Mohawk Territory in Northern New York state. He strongly believes in his traditional teachings and values, which he incorporates into his paintings. He is also a pipe carrier and has been sundancing for the past 37 years. He has travelled all across Turtle Island and always enjoyed meeting new relations in Native communities.

Artwork Description:

This artwork is titled “Resilience” because it shows how Indigenous people are able to overcome the hardest of times—from the abuse of residential schools to where they are today. The children’s silhouettes in the background represent the broken spirits of the abused, raped, and murdered children who were forced to attend the residential schools. The artwork displays the survival as a people and the ability to defy all odds, while keeping language and traditional teachings intact.