

March 2023 - Hughie Jones

*the sculpture
Confidence
in winter*



confiding



keeping watch

You will see two figures by the lake. We think they are tree people. Not because they are sculpted from western red cedar. Not because they came before us. They are something we don't really know but we sense. The beginning of the great forests. They were there then.

They look out at the entrance imagining the next visitor. They stand by ginkgo. They stand together confident in their silence. Winter is their time. Trees down to the basics. Trunks and branches. No disguises. Ginkgo understands.

This is the work of the sculptor Michael Dennis. He has lived on Denman Island for over 30 years, carving monumental figures in salvaged cedar. Abstract and semi-representational, they have power, presence and personality. Michael Dennis has mastered the intimacy of the human form. In the words of Michael Dennis:

'I try to create the likeness of the human form stripped to its bare essentials, at its most elemental, without details of feature, like a shadow. How few lines to signify as human a being. I probe some old neural archive where primal images dwell, speak an elemental visual tongue of our elemental form.'



standing with ginkgo



winter is their time

The information on Michael Dennis is from The Duthie Gallery & Sculpture Park
<http://www.duthiegallery.com/artists/michael-dennis/>