

## John Virtue

### What Does John Virtue Create?

John Virtue is a British artist known for his large, black-and-white landscape paintings. He uses only black ink and white paint because he believes colour is a distraction. His artworks often show cities and seas, mixing real places with imagination. He paints with strong lines and big brush strokes.



### Childhood

- He was born in 1947 in Accrington, Lancashire, England.
- He loved drawing from a young age.
- He won a painting prize as a teenager.
- The hills and towns near his home inspired his early art.

### Education

- He studied at the Slade School of Fine Art in London.
- He had important art teachers who helped him grow.
- He later became a professor and taught other artists.
- He liked learning from old masters and modern painters.

### Career

- He worked as a postman while trying to become an artist.
- He became a full-time artist in the 1980s.
- He was chosen to be the National Gallery's Associate Artist.
- His paintings have been shown in famous art galleries.

## Artwork

Landscape No. 664 – a bold view of London



Landscape No. 707 – a swirling black-and-white cityscape



Landscape No. 567 – a powerful moody land painting

Houses on the Moor – a rare piece showing buildings



## **Quotes from John Virtue**

- "I use only black and white because colour is an unnecessary distraction."
- "My paintings are about the landscape I live in."
- "I try to make the invisible visible."