

## Cézanne

*Joe Fafard – Clip 4*

When I was in California in 1980, I began working on sculptures that would create certain illusions, illusions of space. I was trying to create a sculpture that would be thin, but when you'd look at it, you'd have the impression that it had a sizeable volume. I tried to create such an illusion using sculpture. I tried several times. When I turned to Cézanne's work, I saw how he took a large space raised it and made it almost two-dimensional on the canvas. He took Mont St-Victoire and placed it as if it was . . . I thought that was the way to do it, like Cézanne's piece. It was a bit like his canvases, to play with space like Cézanne played with space, but with sculpture. On the back of the piece, to make reference to what I was doing, I painted a small imitation of one of the landscapes I imagined Cézanne might have painted. I didn't use a particular image. That's why the Cézanne piece plays with the way of applying paint, but I applied it in one stroke, then I coloured it with the kind of stroke Cézanne used. I extended the piece and leaned it forward a bit, like his landscapes seem to lean towards us.