

Art in the Time of Covid

June 2, 2020

Artists interpret the world, and right now it's a new and unfamiliar world we're living in. We're providing an opportunity for all of us to share our creative work inspired by this experience.

We are sending out periodic emails showcasing the covid-inspired work of Rappahannock artists and others in the community whose creativity has been stirred by these times.

The art takes different forms -- visual, written, video or audio -- but deals in some way with the new patterns of our everyday lives. If you would like to participate in this program or give us feedback, please contact newsletter@raac.org.

Jeanne Drevas

"I lived in RappLand for forty years and it's still my homeland, but I moved for my man to Oregon where he grew up. Winters here are dreary in the extreme and I've bought a little pop up truck camper which I take down to Arizona in the winter, which is where the word COVID appeared and I trucked on home.

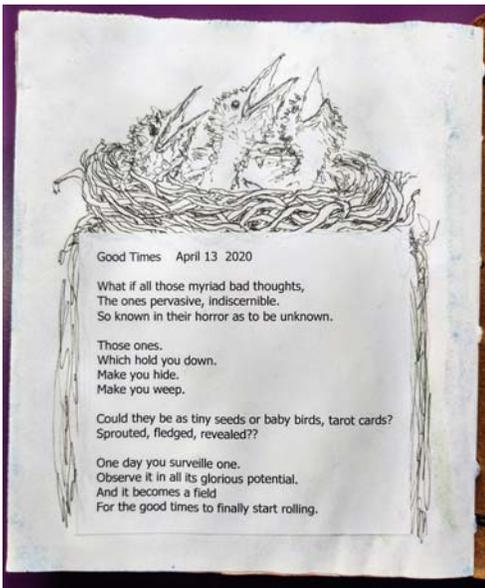
Due to health (arthritis) I no longer play in the realm of 3-D, but am journaling and somehow this winter started writing poetry and with our sheltering in place decided to take an on line poetry class with Sage Cohen, fab teacher."



"I've found that a poem cuts out all the extraneous and I never know where it's going to take me, and there have been

surprises already.

So here are some of my journal entries. You just never know what muse is going to appear. Never did I think I'd move from Rappahannock, have an RV, and write poetry."



Miranda Hope with Battle Run

"Battle Run is a Rappahannock-based trio -- Drew Smith, Miranda Hope, and Mike Shotton -- that we formed last fall. The pandemic derailed our plans to record an album. But the band's desire to share our songs remained strong if not stronger in this challenging time. The band's name comes from the Battle Run River that flows by the barn where we practice in Washington, VA. "Gaslit," explores the painful moment between "he loves me" and "he loves me not." Each band member recorded their parts separately; Drew compiled the files -- audio and visual -- into one video."



Gary Anthes



"This is a photo I made last August in New York City. This has become my favorite place to do "street" photography, and it is incidentally where both my daughters live. It is also, of course, the place in the U.S. hardest hit by COVID-19. I look at this image and think, "Wow, how could the world have changed so much, so fast? Where are the people in these pictures now? Are they healthy? Are they sick, dying, dead? Have they lost their jobs? Will life in New York ever be the same again? If I ever get back to this kind of photography I think I will do it with a new reverence for life and the world we live in. Will that reverence and appreciation show up in my photographs? I don't know, but I hope so."

"My favorite subject pre-virus was street photography, including people inside buildings – museums, subways, shopping centers, and the like. That subject and approach is on hold now, of course.

Instead, it's tree trunks, wood patterns on old barns, the shadows cast by sunlight coming in my window, raindrops falling on a pond, my dog, and so on."



Our mailing address is:

PO Box 24

Washington VA 22747

Questions, thoughts: email newsletter@raac.org