



# Art in the Time of Covid

July 21, 2020

**Artists interpret the world, and right now it's an 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. We encourage you to participate by submitting your art and how it's been affected by covid. We also welcome feedback and will pass along your comments to the artists. Contact [covidart@raac.org](mailto:covidart@raac.org).

## Linda Heimstra

*"One of the joys of this otherwise crazy summer is working with Lilie Halko who received a 2020 RAAC Mitchell Fund grant to study voice, ukulele and keyboard with me. Yesterday we had a great online session. I was teaching Lilie how to play Bob Marley's "Three Little Birds". You may know it by its famous lyrics "Don't worry about a thing, 'cause every little thing is gonna be all right," a really compelling and uplifting song for these times. I was teaching Lilie the chord progression as well as the reggae beat on her ukulele. She was starting to get it by the time we finished our session. Bob Marley would be proud of her!"*



*"She's a great student; eager and appreciative, and of course you know she has a remarkable voice. She is gifted indeed. I feel so lucky that I get to show her what I know. It gives me comfort during these crazy times to know that we are able to create something meaningful together, even if just virtually. And I know it helps us both to "accept" this thing that we cannot control, and to find a great escape by playing music together! Here's a screen grab of a wonderful moment when Lilie was beginning to both understand and feel the reggae rhythm! "*

## Adam Disbrow

*"I focus on balance and counterposing ideas in my work. I like art and writing with layers: work with depth that could mean many things depending upon how the viewer or reader perceives them. It is too easy to say that art is ever merely a receptacle for grief, an expression of personal hardship, or a distraction. Art is a symbol of our human connection, strength, perseverance, hope, and love-- though, sometimes manifested as an expression of the desire for these things. This is as poignant now as it ever has been."*



Self-Portrait - XII

## Heroes

By Adam Martin Disbrow, 2020

They have all gone home  
Through the windows they crawled in through  
Night to day  
Over Jordan  
Startled by the dog's bark  
They left their beds and gathered their guns  
Letting the scene unfold  
The fuel injected in the drive  
Wet from the moisture of night  
Hearing the screen slap closed  
and the spring squeak---  
Crickets and frogs, Loud like July, Suddenly silent.  
The white light from the road lamp  
Over there reassuring  
The shed across the yard impenetrably black  
They all met in front of the abyss  
And together entered the darkness

**Patricia Underwood**

*"Italy is my second home. I've studied the language, loved the art and food and made deep friendships. Had plans to teach art classes in Tuscany this year. Then COVID arrived."*



*"Two photos taken last year illustrate its impact."*

*"The first, an exterior of Il Ponte dei Sospiri (Bridge of Sighs), Doge's Palace, Venice – is the bridge through which prisoners took their last view of beautiful Venice before crossing from the courtroom to their prison cells."*

*"The second, a shot looking out on Venice from within the bridge is dark, limiting, choking. Italy has suffered greatly. I cannot travel there. I have just lost a very dear friend to Covid in Milan."*





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**Questions, thoughts: email [covidart@raac.org](mailto:covidart@raac.org)**