

Art in the Time of Covid

October 9, 2020

Carol Felix

STICKS and STONES, ROCKS and BONES

"I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing, reading, and listening to our Rappahannock artists and learning how their diverse forms of art have been impacted by this unprecedented time of COVID. These musings have inspired me to question my own artistic reactions to all the isolation this pandemic has brought to our daily lives. As a painter, I have found myself curiously uninspired to paint as I normally did ... before.

Instead I have turned to our many gardens and dug in with a vengeance. I think in the beginning, I was searching for things that have proven they do not change with stressful conditions, but remain permanent and steadfast. For me, I think I've found the solace and comfort I was seeking ... in rocks.

We have one hill in particular that we've named "Hap's Hill" in remembrance of our beloved first Bernese Mountain dog, Hap, who left us 4 years ago. In my need to break down barriers, removing old fencing and gates that guarded our entrance, I noticed evidence of an old stone wall that completely surrounds Hap's Hill. Digging in to bring forth that old stone wall revealed bones and relics long buried. Tiny, unidentified bulbs appeared from beneath overgrown shrubs and old tree stumps.

A millstone was found. As was the jaw of some long-forgotten horse and metal fragments of tools, horseshoes, and bits of rusted, but still intact, chain."

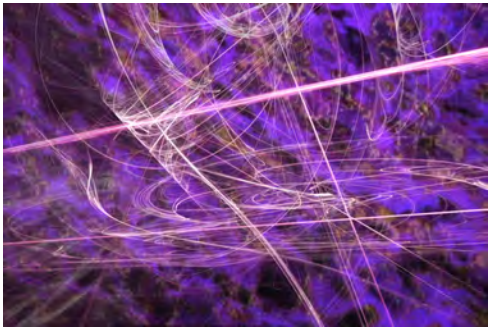
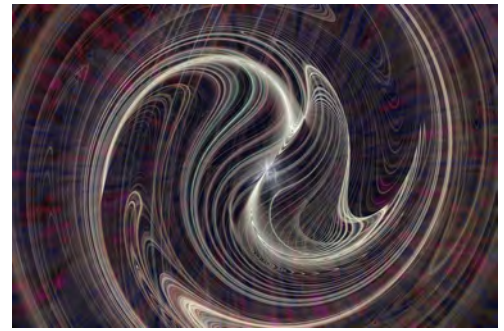
"This is the lesson learned ... life goes on, we persevere, we change and become something new and beautiful ... new works of art.

Perhaps, in my own small way, I'm trying to remake and ease along spring, which will surely come."



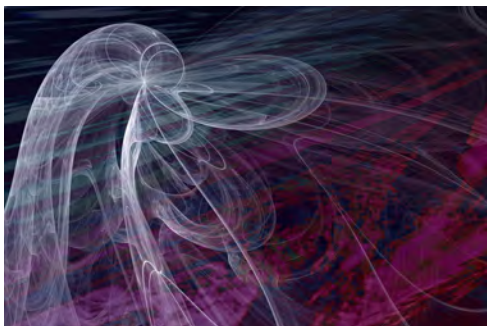
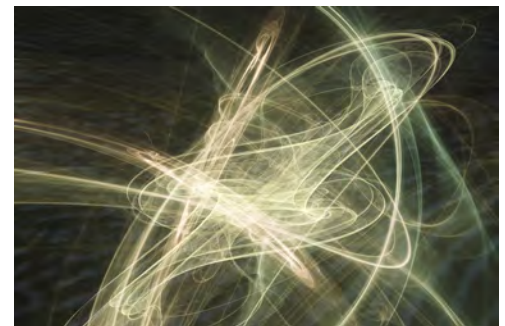
Jim Serbent

"Enough relentless, negative, depressing news by the minute. In the time of Covid, this new Bardo Series presents positive, meditative, abstract works about transcendence. Not only do these pieces attempt to elevate the spirit of the viewer, all of the processes involved in their creation are most definitely meditative for the artist."



"These archival pigment prints are comprised of high energy fractal renderings superimposed over still-framed video feedback backgrounds, some fused with aerial photography or other natural sources."

"Fractals are visualizations of mathematical formulae that emulate repeating patterns found in nature, from coastlines to plant blossoms. If that's a bit much to contemplate, all one needs to know is that this series was inspired by levels of being and states of consciousness rooted in Tibetan Buddhism."



"As you look deeper into each composition, your mind will hopefully transcend mundane concerns and, even if just for a moment, attain a higher level. Mathematical relationships have been integrated in the arts from the time of cave paintings. Digital fusion of the above elements opened new portals for me to delve deeper into the mathematics of art with spirit and imagination."



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