



Art in the Time of Covid

December 12, 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 describing how it's been affected by Covid. We also welcome feedback and will pass along your comments to the artists. Contact covidart@raac.org.

Ray Boc

"Covid-19 has disrupted our lives. We are constantly adjusting to changing health conditions and restrictions. My photography is shaped by fear of infection and the real threat of disability, thus rendering my work local and sometimes melancholy. I find myself trying, daily, to create an engaging photograph in color. This is difficult, and, for now, eludes me. That is why I am drawn to infrared and monochrome photography.

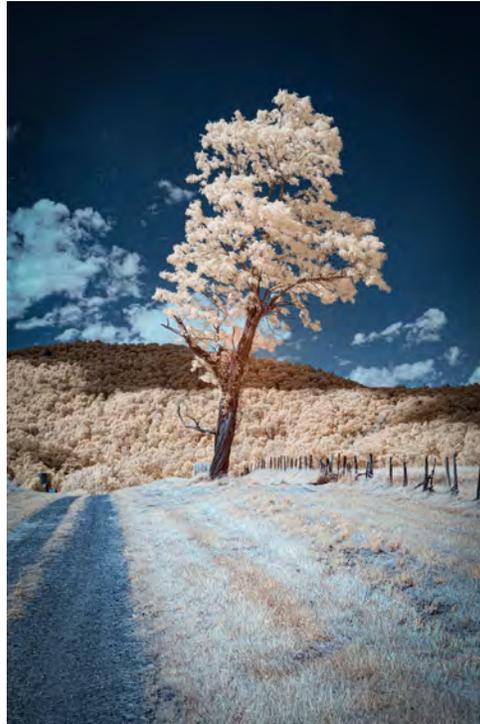
These three infrared images of Quaintance Farm Road illustrate my use of naturally occurring light, on a bright sunlit day, dictated by slow moving clouds.

Immerse yourself in these three images. What feelings do they evoke?



Quaintance Farm Road: The road leads us to a leaning tree that is highlighted in sunlight against a background of a cloud covered forest.

For me, each image conveys different emotions, created by me, with camera and computer, in an attempt to convey the complexity and sentiments of this epoch of Covid-19."



Leaning Tree

I have moved in closer to the bright tree and positioned it against the dark sky. The image of the tree remains, whereas it would have been lost against the background of the lighted forest.



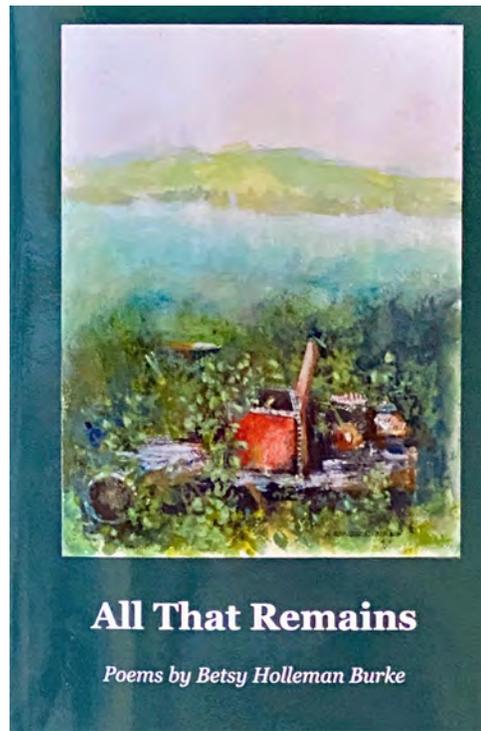
Hay Bales and Tree

Five days later the subject tree is in the cloud shadow against the sunlit background. Where does the line of hay bales lead you? What feelings are evoked as you reach that destination?

Ruthie Windsor-Mann

"A go-cart is all that remains from the demolition of the go-to house when I was a teenager growing up in Knoxville, TN. Devastated by the loss of her childhood home, my friend Betsy Christenerry wrote a series of poems that have just been published by Cherry Grove Collections. All That Remains can be found on Amazon.

Fast forward through the decades. Betsy's book of poetry was about to be published. Based on my experience with her family and the house at 3222 Kingston Pike, she asked if I would do the cover.



Poetry and painting encompass feelings and to do the painting justice, many of those youthful memories were allowed to flow freely in my mind. Betsy wanted to use the one remaining object on the cover. The rest was left to me. Even though my recollections don't include that go-cart, I hope I correctly brought forth those wistful, long-ago memories. Completing the visual is a hint of the Tennessee River and the foothills of the Smoky Mountains as they fade from view and memory.

Who would have thought all of those years ago that what was being experienced then would be conjured up and used to fruition during a global pandemic in the year 2020?"



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Questions, thoughts: email covidart@raac.org