



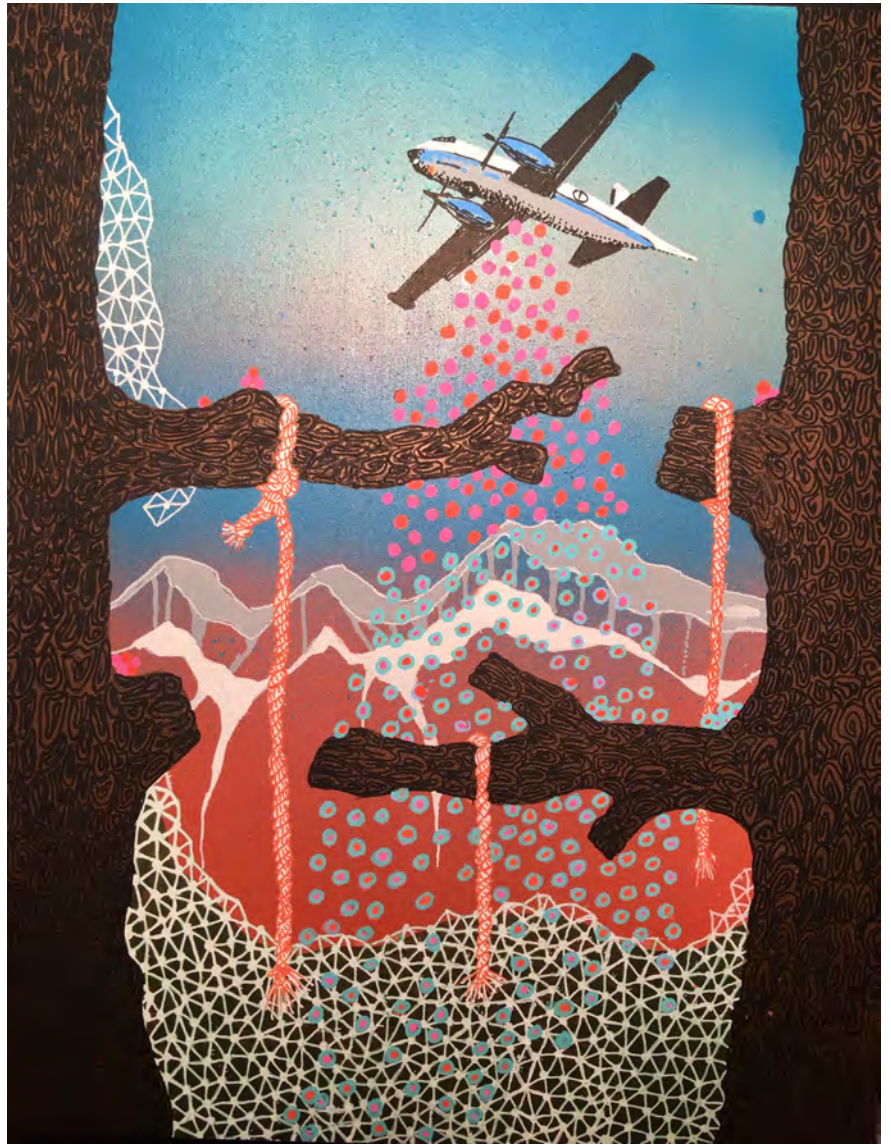
Art in the Time of Covid

February, 2021

IT'S A NEW YEAR, filled with a complex mix of hope, fear, uncertainty, and joy. Are you stuck? Are you inspired? Are you hopeful? Most of all, what are you working on? If your creative work has been inspired by these times, we hope you'll share with your community.

As you've seen in the course of [this newsletter](#), our sharing takes a variety of forms. 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.

Rosabel Goodman-Everard



"I was presenting this painting to my Zoom critique group: a mountain landscape in an eerie orange glow, between two tree shapes and an airplane dropping pink and orange balls seemingly freezing in midair. Frazzled

ropes hang from dead branches; a white net is suspended in which the balls are caught. I had titled it: "The Liberators Sent By The Great Leader Dropped Orange And Pink Candies Onto The Cheering Crowds". It came out of a series named "Doodling In The Dark". A dear friend saw it and loved it and bought it.

But I didn't know what it meant. I didn't know I didn't know until this Zoom gathering; a serious faux pas. What you're making cannot be just a pretty picture or just weird.

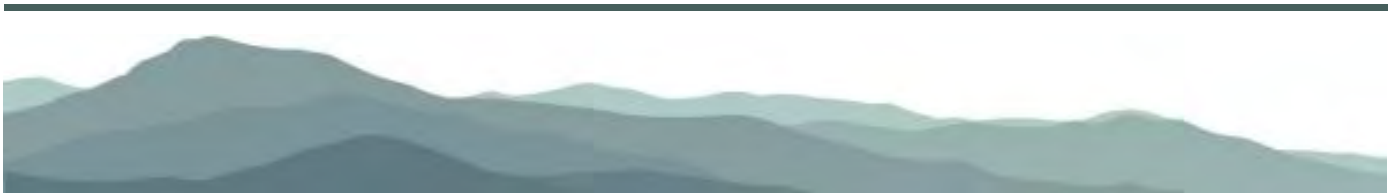
In the past I had bought Anthony Stevens' "Ariadne's Clue - A Guide To The Symbols Of Humankind" and then Carl Jung's "Man And His Symbols". I had learned a lot about myself. I tried to teleport Stevens and Jung but in vain. They pulled their dust jackets tighter and remained on their shelf. I blurted out, "I'm really drawn to tree shapes, mountains and airplanes!" Guru said, "What are those ropes hanging from the branches?"

Oh man! How about, "I just thought they looked cool"? It had been a liberating exercise in automatic painting, in free association. Then someone in the Zoom wall said, "I think it's about Covid and China - China has a 'Great Leader', China throws unwanted pastel-colored baubles all over us. And Covid was discovered by the Chinese." Good grief. A moment like that is magical, even if it exposes you as an ignorant idiot. You pick yourself up from the floor, and realize you are learning something: I had made Covid art. It's inescapable. Covid is in everybody's subconscious. We think about it, dream of it, are afraid of it and it floats in the air we breathe ... in more than one way."

Janet Brome



"In this time of distancing, there are few opportunities to exhibit. In a way, this is freeing. I'm just trying various media with no thought of where the work might be shown, and I am creating work only when the mood strikes. The emotions I felt in response to the January 6th insurrection were very strong. They needed to be expressed. This painting is the result."



The views and artwork published here do not necessarily reflect the views of RAAC and its Board.

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Questions, thoughts: email covidart@raac.org