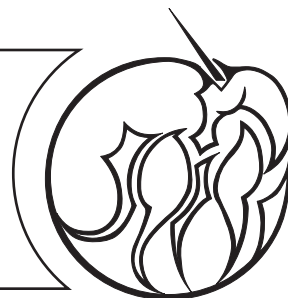


{ the avant-garde }

Katherine N. Crowley Fine Art & Design



PERIODIC JOURNAL VOLUME XIII No.7 JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2020

{anatomy of a painting: portrait of ralph and judith barrell}

by Katherine N. Crowley

I recently completed the commission *Portrait of Ralph and Judith Barrell*. The oil on linen painting was commissioned by their daughter Carol Barrell in the spring of 2020. Originally from Findlay, Ohio, the couple met while working for Ohio Bell. Ralph began his career as a lineman and later moved into the administrative office where he met Judy. They married and had seven children. Avid Ohio State Buckeye fans, Ralph and Judy have celebrated 68 years together. They have 16 grandchildren.

The composition depicts the couple in their home. Symbolic themes include the rotary telephone on the wall to represent their careers with Ohio Bell and the bouquet of seven flowers painted in scarlet and gray to represent their seven children and their enthusiasm for the Ohio State Buckeyes.

In painting this treasured piece, I took a traditional approach to oil painting and used some of the principles developed by Renaissance-era painters. This required a well-defined drawing as a starting point. Once the drawing was established, I painted in the dark and medium areas using burnt umber (brown) and viridian (green). From there I added thin layers of color glazes. Final touches were added in the hair, the engagement ring, the eye glasses, the telephone, and the bouquet of flowers.

The piece was painted using Winsor & Newton brand oil colors on stretched linen. It was finished with Dammar varnish to enhance the depth of the colors and protect the piece.





Ms. Barrell provided me several photographs for reference. I decided how I wanted the figures to be arranged, and how they would be portrayed in their home. We discussed her family history and decided to include some symbolic imagery such as the telephone and the vase of flowers to represent her parents' relationship.

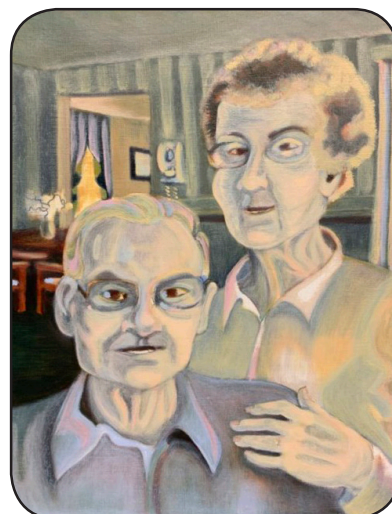
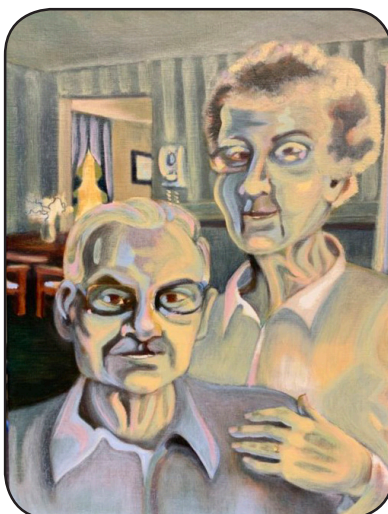
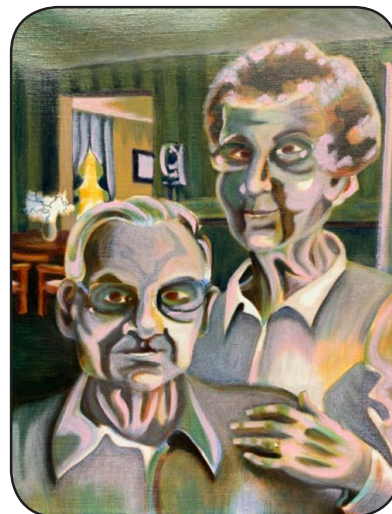
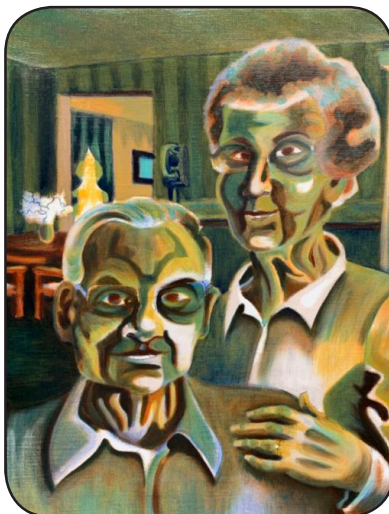
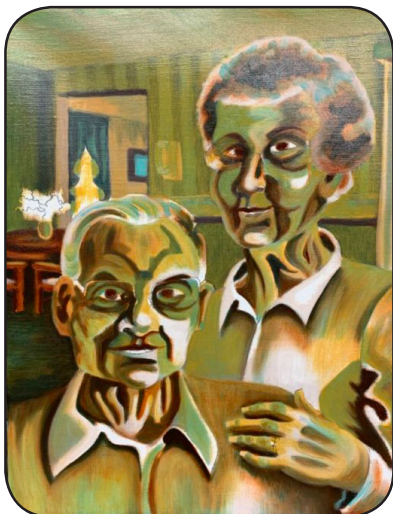
I spent a significant amount of time on the drawing. It was important that the drawing be detailed enough to act as a foundation for the painting. This included defining the perspective of the room and deciding on lighting

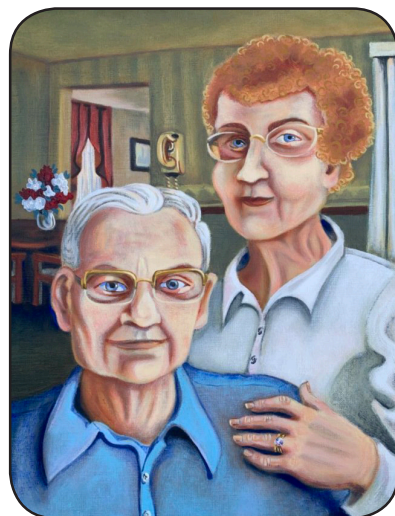
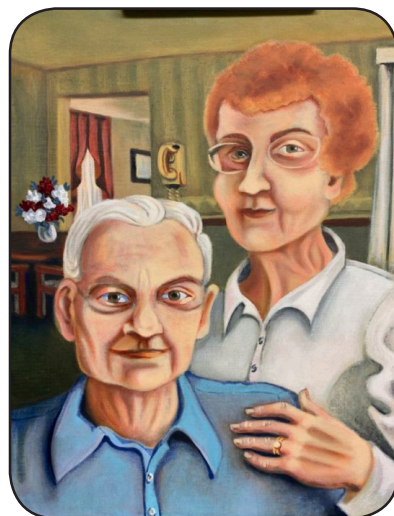
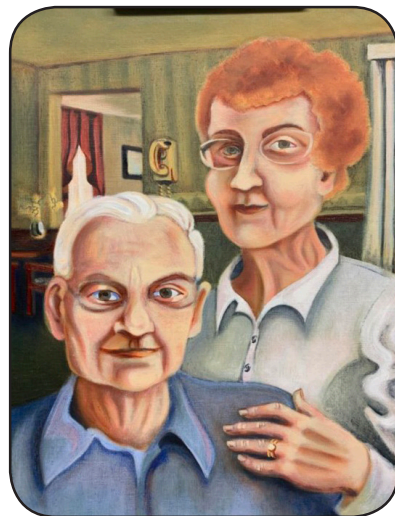
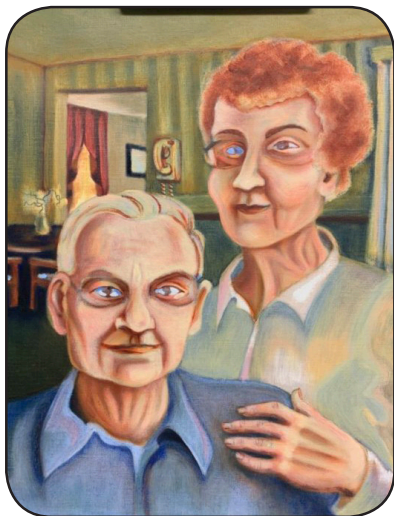
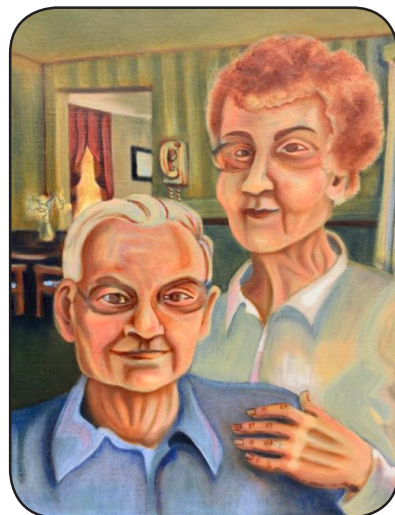
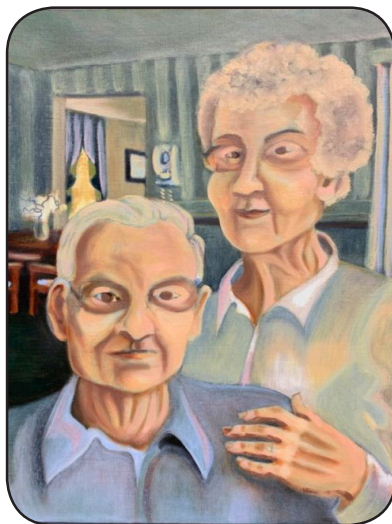
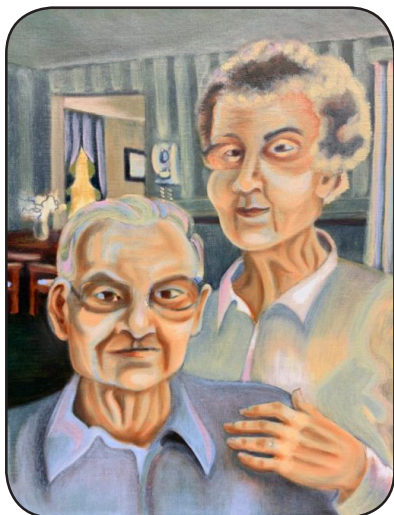
conditions. I also measured one inch from each edge to ensure that no important elements would be covered up by the frame.

I chose to work in a style that involves layers of thin colored glazes. I consulted a number of books including *Traditional Oil Painting* by Virgil Elliot, *Rembrandt in America*, an exhibit catalogue I purchased from the Cleveland Museum of Art, and *Vigée Le Brun*, an exhibit catalogue I purchased from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

I used the reference photographs to determine the lighting conditions and began to paint the dark and medium areas using burnt umber (brown) and viridian (green). From there I layered colors one by one as I interpreted them from the photographs and saw them in my mind's eye: French ultramarine (blue), alizarin crimson (red), burnt sienna (brown), yellow ochre, Davy's gray, Naples yellow, more burnt sienna, deep orange, Winsor yellow, and more alizarin crimson.

Each stage of the process can be seen on the following pages.





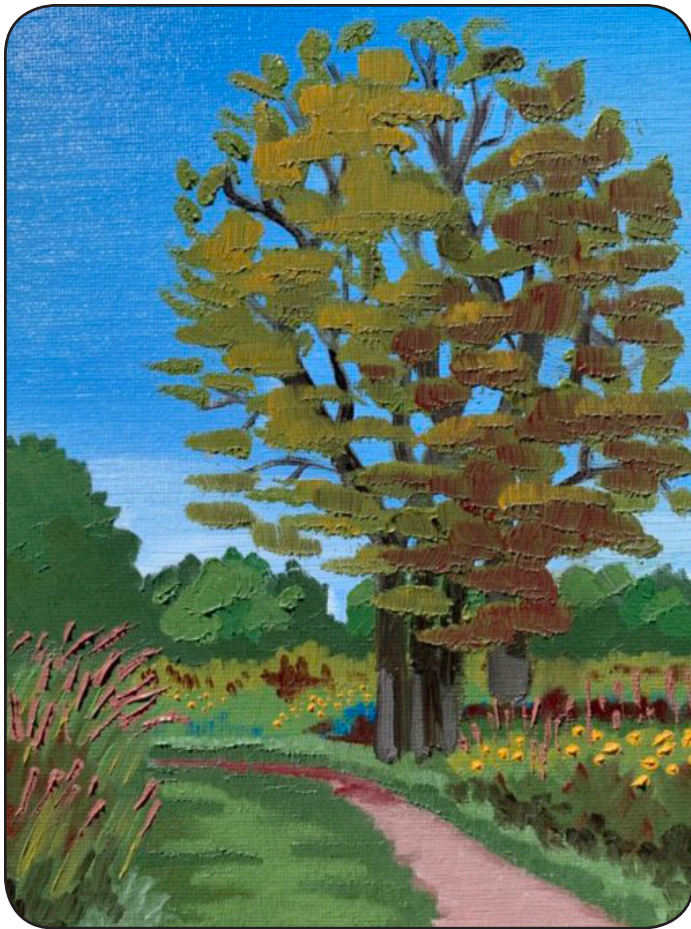


Portrait of Ralph and Judith Barrell, by Katherine N. Crowley, oil on linen, 14" x 11", 2020

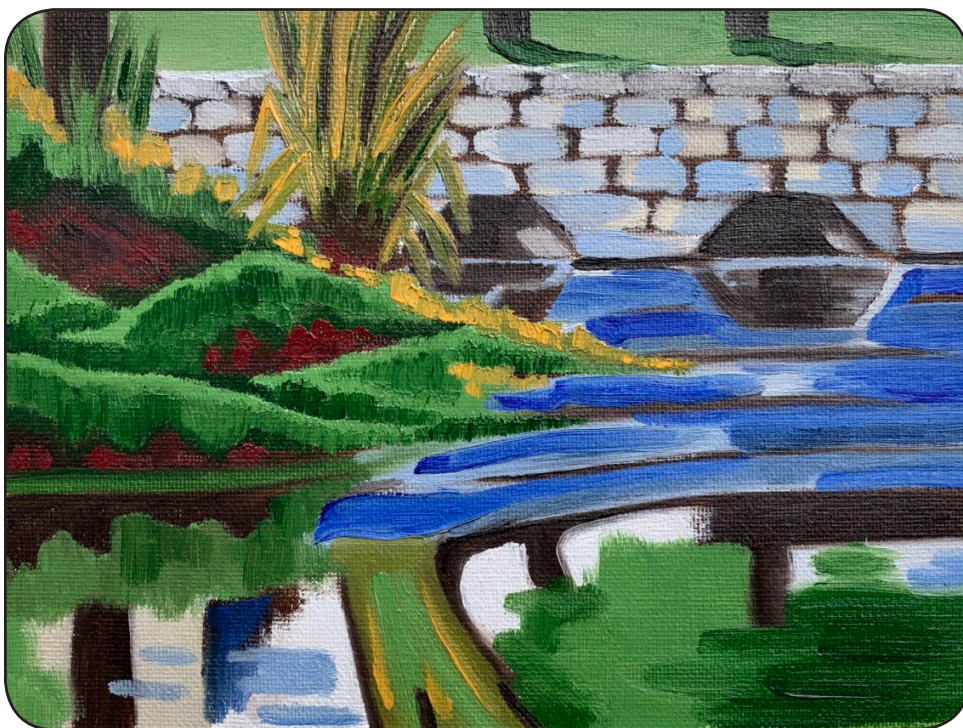
{recent work}

by Katherine N. Crowley

Throughout the warm weather months I join the members of Central Ohio Plein Air – a group of local artist who enjoy painting outdoors – where I spend between two and three hours creating a painting of a scene I select when I arrive. Here are two recent works I completed.

**Grove of Trees, oil on canvas panel, 8" x 6", 2020**

I spent the majority of my time painting the layers and textures of the foreground at the bottom of the panel. The trees, which dominate the composition, were the last elements I added. I painted in the trunks and branches and was dissatisfied with the shape of them. I added the leaves in a stamp or stencil fashion and was dissatisfied with the effect. I reverted to my usual approach and used heavy brush strokes to re-form the leaves to be more painterly. I was again dissatisfied because the color looked flat so I added yellows and browns to give the trees dimension. I am satisfied with the final painting.

**Stone Causeway, oil on canvas panel, 6" x 8", 2020**

I selected a scene that looked toward the rising sun because I enjoyed the backlit vegetation on the shoreline. I started by painting the dark areas of the picture first and began adding color. The reflection in the water changed as the sun rose. I initially painted the reflection to match the color of the stone causeway but the painting lacked dimension and was visually confusing. I painted a brighter blue in this area to call attention to the reflection and balance the color palette of the painting.

{madam president: the worthington area art league}

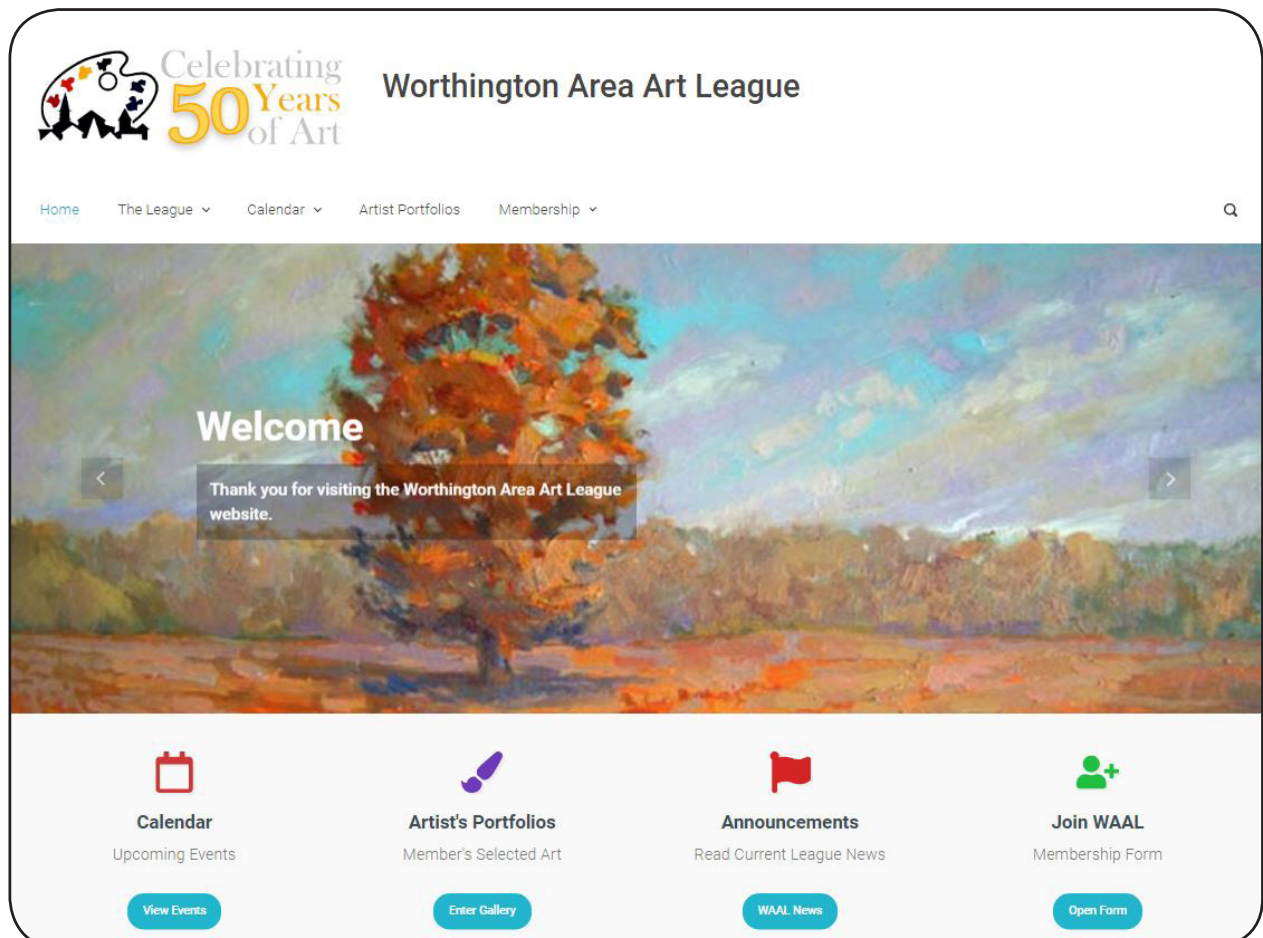
by Katherine N. Crowley

I have been a member of the Worthington Area Art League since 2003. I joined the group to meet new people, and participate in opportunities to exhibit my work. The organization hosts meetings once a month with featuring a variety of programming including guest speakers who share their work, artists who give demonstrations, drawing workshops, and a host of other presentations. I served as Vice President from 2013-2014 and as President from 2014-2015 and this August was elected President to serve during the 2020-2021 season.

This year will be different. The League moved to online-only meetings in April and to ensure the safety of our members we will continue to provide engagement remotely for the foreseeable future. Our first meeting of the season was our members' favorite: Show & Tell. 16 of our artists shared their recent work and their process at our September.

Our Board of Directors is working hard to make sure staying at home does not mean being out of touch. We have a variety of interesting programs and engagement opportunities on the horizon. I am proud to serve as this year's President and look forward to the new ways we can connect and share our love of art.

To learn more about the Worthington Area Art League, please visit our website: [http://](http://www.waala.org)



{all around the town}

The Columbus Cultural Arts Center<http://www.culturalartscenteronline.org>

"Campfire Stories: Textile Art in Our Public Lands", Through October 24th
 "Distance", mixed media installation by Nicole "Cole" Garlando in collaboration with Ariana Linden-Felser, Through November 28

The Columbus Museum of Art (<http://www.columbusmuseum.org>)

"Art After Stonewall", Through October 4, 2020
 "Tara Booth: 2020 Columbus Comics Residency Exhibition", Ongoing
 "No Mere Button Pushers: The Newark Camera Club", Through December 13
 "Twentieth Century Hustlers", Through January 10, 2021

COSI (<http://www.cosi.org>)

"iCuba!", Ongoing

The Decorative Arts Center of Ohio (<http://www.decartsOhio.org/>)

"2 + 3 x 18: Diptychs and Triptychs by 18 Contemporary Ohio Artists"
 Through October 25

Dublin Arts Council (<http://www.dublinarts.org>)

"Christine D'Epiro Abbott: Shelter (Our) Place", Through October 30

The High Road Gallery and Studios (<http://www.highroadgallery.com>)

"Coming Back Big", Through October 31

The King Arts Complex (<https://kingartscomplex.com>)

"She Knows Who She Is: April Sunami and David Butler", Ongoing

McConnell Arts Center (<http://www.mcconnellarts.org>)

The gallery is now open with limited hours
 "Yasue Sakaoka: Old and New", Ongoing

OSU Urban Arts Space (<http://www.uas.osu.edu>)

Online art exhibits & engagement

"Hybrid Arts Lab: Rapid Fire Text", Through October 9
 "Tappyness", Through October 9
 "Making Lemonade", Through October 26

The Riffe Gallery (<http://www.oac.ohio.gov/Riffe-Gallery/Exhibitions>)

"Paper Routes: Women to Watch 2020 - Ohio", Through October 17
 "Collage of Women Artists", Lobby Exhibit, Through October 17

The Wexner Center (<http://www.wexarts.org>), All through December 27

"Free Space"
 "Gretchen Bender: Aggressive Witness—Active Participant"
 "Tomashi Jackson: Love Rollercoaster"
 "Steve McQueen: Remember Me"
 "Taryn Simon: Assembled Audience"
 "Antoni Muntadas and Marshall Reese: Political Advertisement X 1952–2020"

{performing arts}

CAPA (<https://www.capa.com>)

"Magic for Humans (@ Home)" with Justin Willman, October 4
 VIRTUAL EVENT

CATCO (<http://www.catco.org/>)

"Short Plays Toward an Antiracist Tomorrow", October 24, VIRTUAL EVENT
 CATCO is Kids in conjunction with CATCO is thrilled to present a series of four short plays for multi-generational audiences, designed to spark conversations about race in America, and to serve as a catalyst for action.

Columbus Symphony Orchestra (<http://www.columbussymphony.com>)

"Beethoven 250 Cycle: Symphony No. 7", Free to stream on October 9 at 7:30 pm

{and beyond}

The Akron Art Museum (<http://www.akronartmuseum.org>)

"Akron Art Mail", October 15, 2020 - February 21, 2021

The Museum of Fine Arts Boston (<http://www.mfa.org>)

"Women Take the Floor", Through May 3, 2021

ICA Boston (<http://www.icaboston.org>)

"Sterling Ruby", Through October 12

The Cincinnati Art Museum (<http://www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org>)

"Hank Willis Thomas: All Things Being Equal...", Through November 8

Contemporary Arts Center (<http://www.contemporaryartscenter.org>)

"Vhils: Haze", Through February 28, 2021

The Cleveland Museum of Art (<http://www.clevelandart.org>)

"Spotlight on a New Generation: Contemporary Chinese Artists",
 Through November 1

The Art Institute of Chicago (<http://www.artic.edu>)

"El Greco: Ambition and Defiance", Through October 19, 2020

Dayton Art Institute (<http://www.daytonartinstitute.org>)

The Collection

Detroit Institute of Art (<http://www.dia.org>)

"Guests of Honor: Frida Kahlo and Salvador Dalí",
 Through January 3, 2021

Indianapolis Museum of Art (<http://www.imamuseum.org>)

"Edward Hopper and the American Hotel", Through October 25

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (<http://www.lacma.org>)

LACMA @ Home

Minneapolis Institute of Art (<http://www.artsmia.org>)

"Under the Influence: Early Works by Frank Gaard",
 Through November 29

Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC (<http://www.metmuseum.org>)

5th Ave: "Jacob Lawrence: The American Struggle", Through November 1
 The Met Breuer: The Met150, Online

Museum of Modern Art, New York (<http://www.moma.org>)

"Judd", Through January 9, 2021
 "Félix Fénéon: The Anarchist and the Avant-Garde—From Signac to Matisse and Beyond", Through January 2, 2021

New Orleans Museum of Art (<http://www.noma.org>)

"Tina Freeman: Lamentations", Through October 11

Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (<http://www.cmoa.org>)

"Trevor Paglen: Opposing Geometries", Through March 14, 2021

The Warhol, Pittsburgh (<http://www.warhol.org>)

"Femme Touch", Through January 3, 2021

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (<http://www.sfmoma.org>)

"Dawoud Bey: An American Project", Through October 12

The Toledo Museum of Art (<http://www.toledomuseum.org>)

"Yayoi Kusama: Fireflies on the Water", Through January 3

The National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. (<http://www.nga.gov>)

"Tribute to David C. Driskell: Virtual Events", Ongoing

The Smithsonian American Art Museum & The Renwick Gallery,

Washington, D.C. (<https://americanart.si.edu/>)
 "Alexander von Humboldt & the U.S.: Art, Nature & Culture",
 Through January 21

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