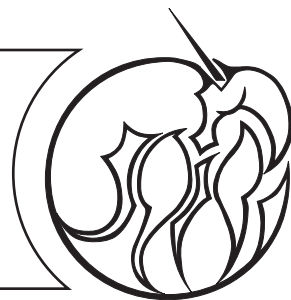


# { the avant-garde }

Katherine N. Crowley Fine Art & Design



PERIODIC JOURNAL VOLUME XIII No.8 OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2020

## {mother's roses no. 2}

by Katherine N. Crowley Oil, acrylic, and watercolor and mixed media assemblage on cradled gesso board, 6" x 6' x 2", 2020.

The second work in a series to honor my mother's memory, Mother's Roses No. 2 is a collection of five paintings in one, that also hides a secret. The largest painting of Flamingo Kolorscape roses, appears on the front panel in vibrant complementary colors. The painting is based on photographs I made of the flower bed at the Whetstone Park of Roses in Columbus, Ohio.

Each side of the cradled gesso board is painted with scenes from the park. By using watercolor I allow the maple wood grain to show through the painting.



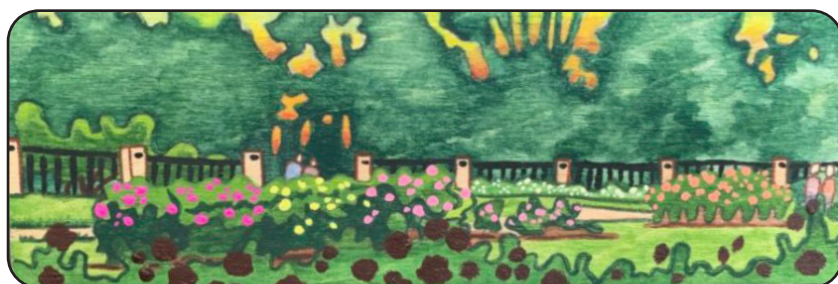
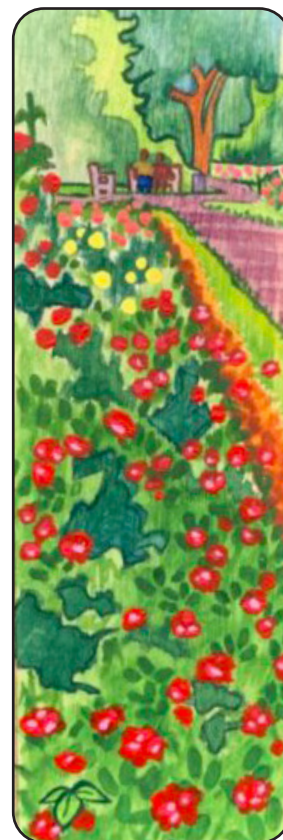
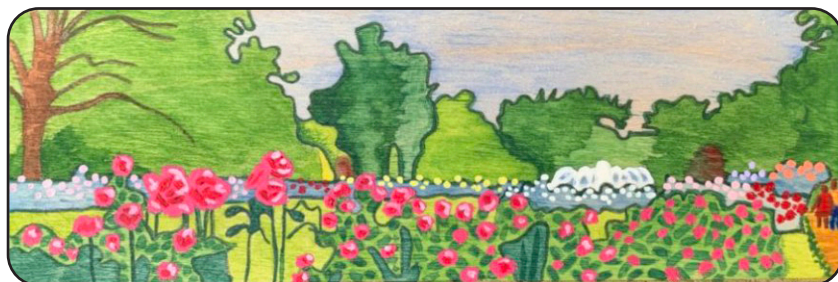
The secret is the hand-crank music box in the reverse cavity of the painting which plays The Beatles' *Let It Be*, one of my mother's favorite songs.



The painting is small. A lovely jewel box with a musical component that adds a unique dimension.







The left side features a family enjoying music being performed at the gazebo.

The top illustrates a couple walking along a path with pink flowers in the foreground and the central fountain in the background.  
The bottom depicts visitors wandering among the flower beds, with Flamingo Kolorscape in the middle-ground to the left.

The right side depicts a couple relaxing on a distant bench, with flower beds in the foreground.



## {virtual exhibit}

If you have not visited my website recently, there is a new reason to stop by. A Virtual Exhibit has been added to the site where you can tour a virtual gallery filled with my work.

Click the *Virtual Exhibit* button below

**VIRTUAL EXHIBIT**

Click on “Enter Exhibition” to wander freely using the mouse and/or arrow keys on your keyboard, or by using your finger on your tablet. The “Guided Tour” option will show you each work individually. Click on each piece to see an enlarged image and additional information.

The *Holiday Exhibit* features select works that just might make the perfect gift.

## {holiday fun}



This year, three households in our neighborhood decided to decorate our front yards the story of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Using inspiration from the Dr. Seuss book from 1957 and the Chuck Jones cartoon from 1966, we illustrated large panels of plywood and used a router to cut out the scenes. To complete the experience we set up a website and short range radio station to play music from the TV movie.

## {subscribe to the avant-garde}

If you have not been receiving email notifications about the latest issue of *The Avant-Garde*, become a subscriber at: <http://www.KatherineCrowley.com/The-Avant-Garde> to sign up. You will receive an email that requires you to confirm your request.



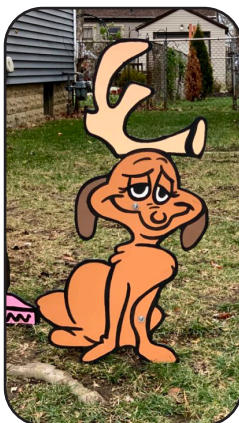


Every Who down in Whoville  
liked Christmas a lot...  
But the Grinch, who lived just north of  
Whoville, did NOT!  
The Grinch hated Christmas!  
The whole Christmas season!  
Now, please don't ask why.  
No one quite knows the reason.

Every Who down in  
Whoville, the tall  
and the small,  
Would stand close  
together, with  
Christmas bells ringing.  
They'd stand  
hand-in-hand. And the  
Whos would start singing!



"All I need is a reindeer..."  
The Grinch looked around.  
But, since reindeer are scarce,  
there was none to be found.  
Did that stop the old Grinch?  
No! The Grinch simply said,  
"If I can't find a reindeer,  
I'll make one instead!"  
So he called his dog, Max.  
Then he took some red thread,  
And he tied a big horn  
on the top of his head.



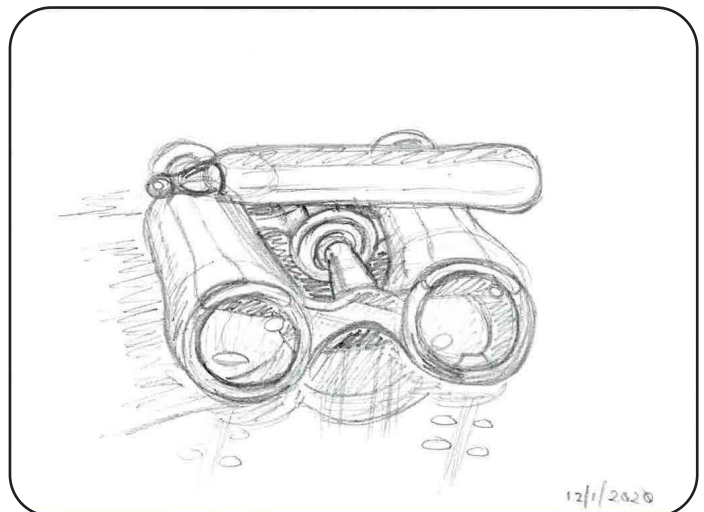
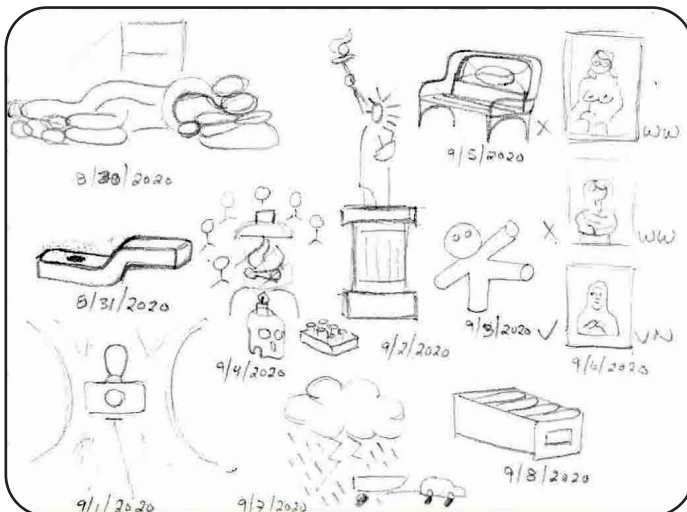
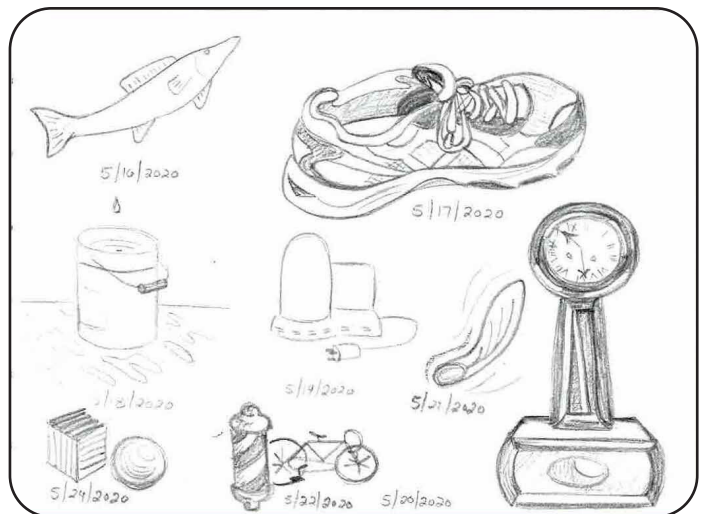
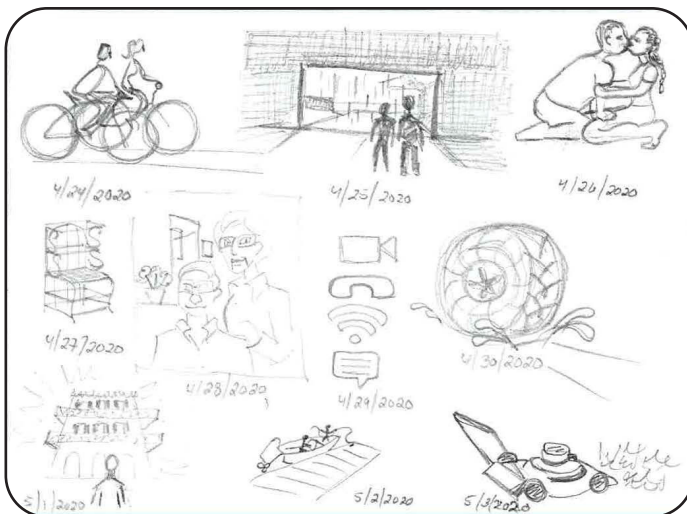
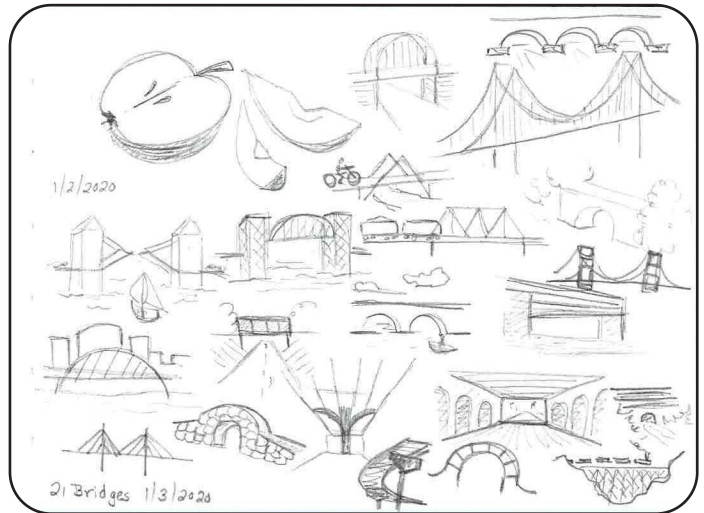
Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before!  
"Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store."  
"Maybe Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"  
And what happened then? Well...in Whoville they say,  
That the Grinch's small heart Grew three sizes that day!

from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*  
by Dr. Seuss, 1957



## {daily sketchbook}

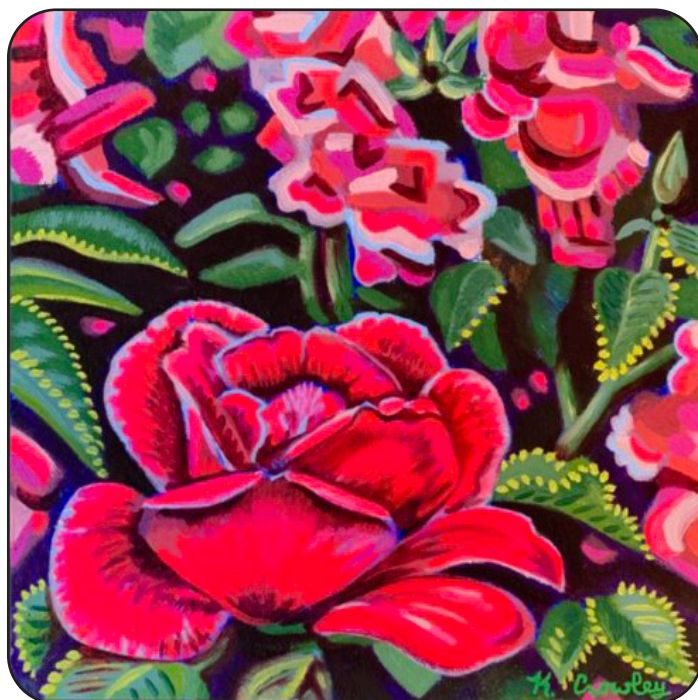
I created a challenge for myself at the beginning of 2020. Little did I know, I would not be in need of any additional challenges than what life would present on its own – BUT with the help of a small sketchbook, I set out to make one drawing each day. Nothing fancy, nothing formal, just a drawing of anything. It soon turned into a visual diary, chronicling everything from what I ate that day, to whatever project I was working on at the time, to some ridiculous thing that had happened on TV or in real life. This page features excerpts from the sketchbook. I plan to continue the project into 2021.





# {2020}

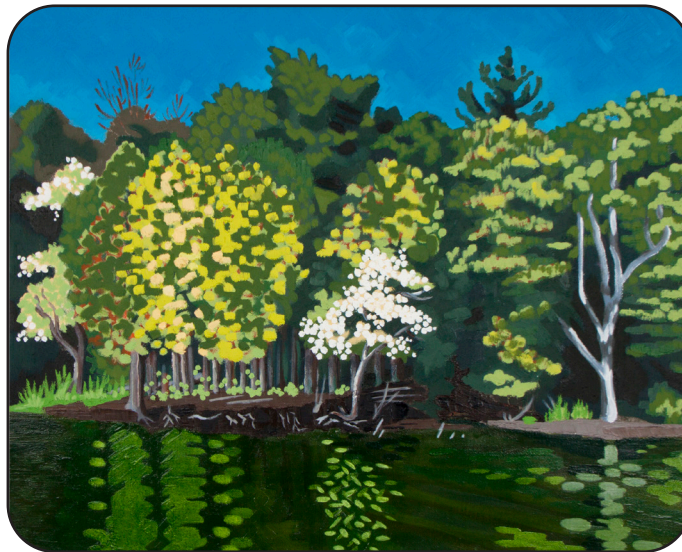
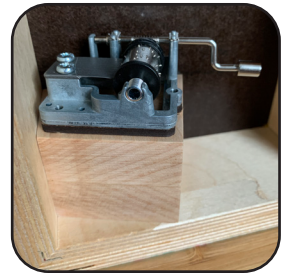
the year in review



All by Katherine N. Crowley, top: *Portrait of Ralph and Judith Barrell*, oil on linen, 14" x 11, private collection; bottom left to right: *Mother's Roses No. 1* and *Mother's Roses No. 2*, oil, acrylic, and watercolor on cradled gesso board with music box (reverse), 6" x 6" x 2".



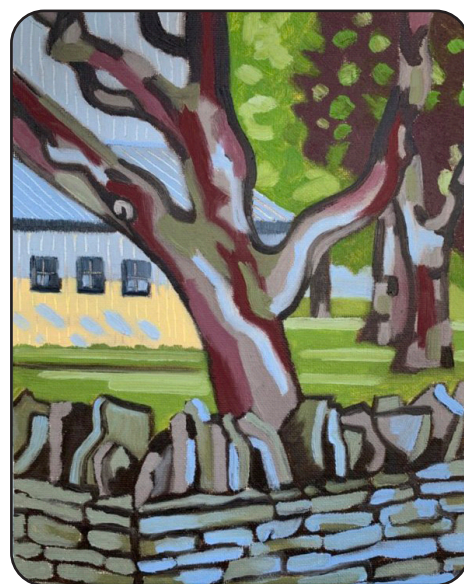
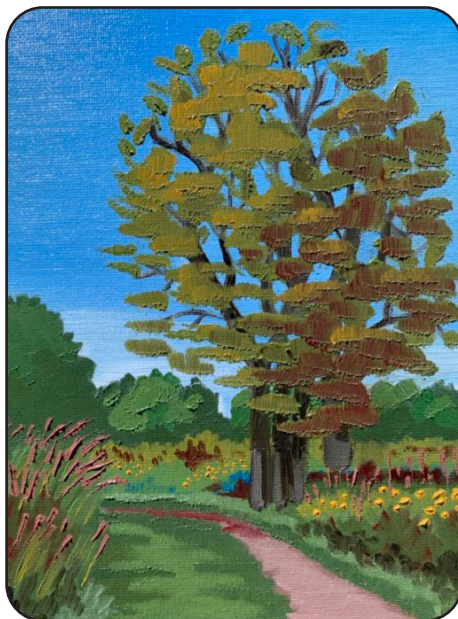
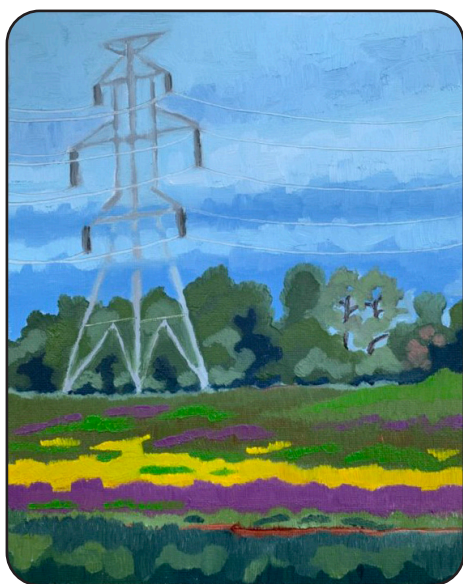
{2020}  
the year in review



All by Katherine N. Crowley, top: *Mother's Roses No. 1* (detail) and *Mother's Roses No. 2* (detail); middle and bottom rows: *A Day at the Lake*, oil on canvas with mixed media assemblage (reverse), 20" x 16" x 2".



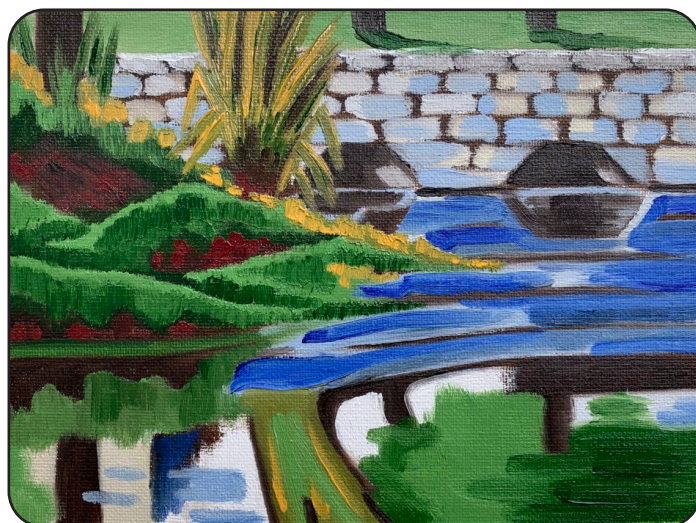
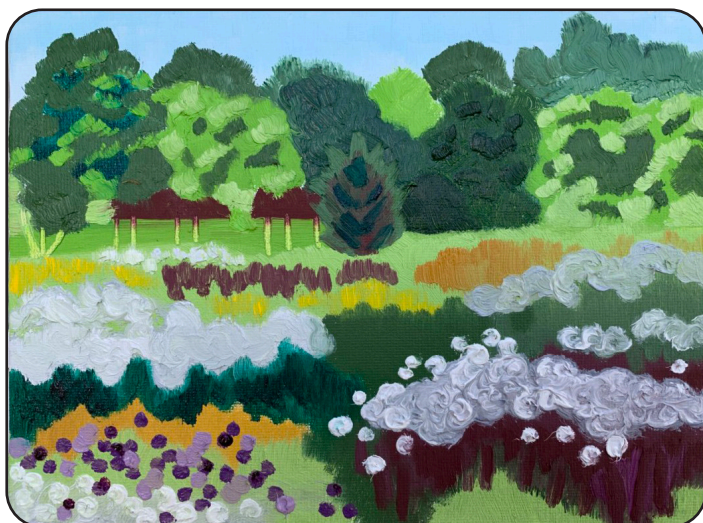
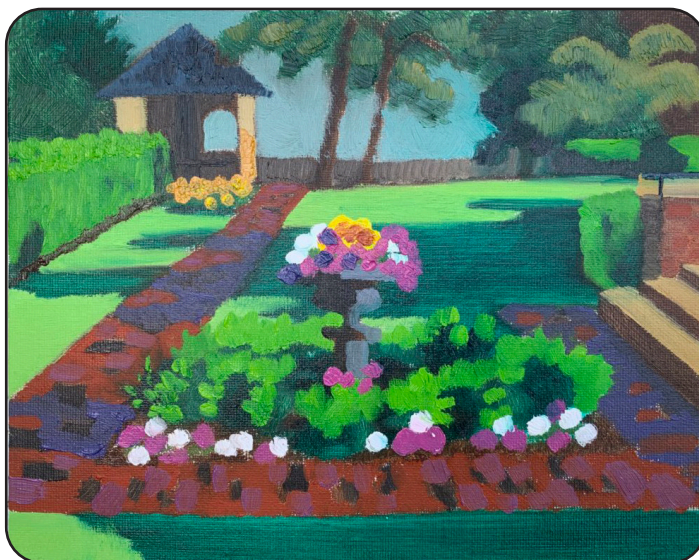
{2020}  
the year in review



All by Katherine N. Crowley, top: *The Passing Storm*, oil on canvas, 24" x 12"; bottom left to right: *High Voltage Tower*, oil on canvas panel, 8" x 10"; *Grove of Trees*, oil on canvas panel, 8" x 6"; *Tree with Dry Stacked Wall*, oil on canvas panel, 8" x 10".



# {2020} the year in review



All by Katherine N. Crowley, top: *Jeffrey Mansion Courtyard*, oil on canvas panel, 10" x 8"; bottom right to left: *Study with Greens*, *Highbanks Park*, oil on canvas panel, 8" x 6"; *Stone Causeway*, oil on canvas panel, 8" x 6".

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