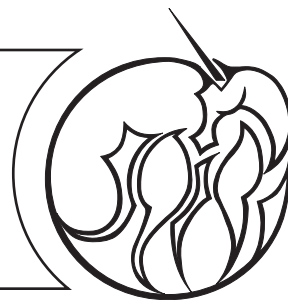


# { the avant-garde }

Katherine N. Crowley Fine Art & Design



PERIODIC JOURNAL VOLUME XIV No.4 APRIL 2021



by Katherine N. Crowley

For 25 years, the Wexner Center for the Arts has hosted a short film series called *Ohio Shorts*. Showcasing Ohio's vibrant and diverse filmmaking culture, *Ohio Shorts* was curated by Cincinnati-based artist and Ohio Shorts alumna Prentiss Haney, who also selected the recipient of the \$500 Jury Award. The program includes 20 works that were selected out of 122 submissions from around the state.

*Being a part of Ohio Shorts was pivotal in my journey and development as an artist. It was one of the first times I saw my artistry amplified and celebrated publicly. Ohio Shorts creates space for artists to be celebrated for who they are and for the important stories they need to tell. This year's entries are no exception. I curated a show that reflected the energy and themes of 2020: isolation, connection, caring for one another, and social uprising. My creative audacity grew because of Ohio Shorts. I hope this event will inspire these artists to continue to reflect the times and tell powerful stories.*

This year *Ohio Shorts* was made available to stream online. I watched each film and posted a brief synopsis / reaction to each on my Twitter page. The following pages display a still from each film accompanied by my Tweets.

I am personally acquainted with two of the entrants and was impressed by the diversity of approaches to similar themes. *We're Home Alone* was submitted by a friend's two daughters who have been producing a series of stop-motion animations using their dolls and toys. As a *Matter of Black* is a documentary by an acquaintance Donte Woods-Spikes that investigates different perspectives on social justice.

*Wilderness Days* by Jason Younkman impressed me the most: a walking tour of New York City that is a compilation of audio-visual stimuli.



*Wilderness Days*

Jason Younkman, 2021, 11:11 mins.

Columbus, OH | Adult Division

"Wilderness Days" presents a frenetic tour of NYC consumed by texture, graffiti messages & constant police sirens. Street art, chalk writing & posters mix with glimpses of trees. Torn paper moves across the screen like waves on the seashore.

With "Wilderness Days" Younkman gives a true sense of the sights & sounds of NYC from pedestrian level, whether its a 1st visit or a jaded day-in-the-life. The pedestrian encounters homeless, commuters & rioters & returns home to a pulsing apt.



*Spring Outbreak*

Andrew Sanchez, 2020, 1:05 mins.

Tustin, CA/Columbus | Adult Division

"Spring Outbreak" is a slow pan around a digital classroom. Audio documents the trajectory of COVID-19 from Mar-Aug 2020, when schools were closed. The empty 3D animated classroom presents a metaphor for the digital classrooms that followed.

*The Roaring 20s*

Skylar Moreau and Veronica Baldrige, 2021, 3:46 mins.  
Dublin Coffman High School | Youth Division

Ironically titled, "The Roaring 20s" chronicles 2 high school students lives during COVID-19 quarantine & their longing to return to their old lives. Phone conversations & online meetings mix with memories.

*A Day in Monotony*

Andrew Collins, 2020, 4:32 mins.  
Dublin Coffman High School | Youth Division

"A Day in Monotony" is a view of a young man who is exasperated by his daily routine. The alarm goes off, he gets ready, sits in front of a computer, eats lunch, takes a walk, watches TV, goes to bed & starts all over again

*#FASHION2020*

Kyung Hoon "Steven" Lee, 2020, 3:30 mins.  
Macedonia, OH | Adult Division

"#FASHION2020" is a day-in-the-life view of a sophisticated young woman living within the confines of the COVID-19 pandemic. Working from home, cooking at home & talking to Mom on the phone culminate in our heroine answering the door unprepared.

*Bleeding on the Blank Page*

Michael McDermott, 2020, 3:24 mins.  
Columbus, OH | Adult Division

"Bleeding on the Blank Page" is a music video for Watershed's new EP. As an homage to pandemic working, the band created their video using meeting software complete with a young child barging in on Dad & demanding attention.



*Frog with Nipples*

Michelle Ellerman, 2020, 1:56 mins.  
Lancaster, OH | Adult Division

“Frog with Nipples” is an animation about a frog living his best life. Our hero wakes up (per tradition) to Edvard Grieg, expresses a frog-crush for Kermit The Frog & gets dressed in a unique way. He would feel at home on Adult Swim.

*Sona VS*

Mackenzie Bigley, 2021, 2:40 mins.  
Columbus, OH | Adult Division

“Sona VS” is a deconstructivist cartoon about a girl who is torn over her need to capture a bird. It has a lot of nice Tex Avery style elements. I can’t help but think there is deeper meaning in the story; but more context is needed.

*“We’re Home Alone!”*

Lila Allen and Elsa Allen, 2020, 3:31 mins.  
Our Lady of Peace Elementart School | Youth Division

“We’re Home Alone!” is a stop-motion/live action hybrid about 2 dolls who have the run of the house while their “parents” are away. Frame by frame they eat crackers, jump on the sofa, draw pictures & sneak back into bed.

*Family Tree*

Kylie Anna Logan, 2020, 7:17 mins.  
Columbus, OH | Adult Division

“Family Tree” is a performance art piece using a variety of camera techniques and some layering of imagery. The theme addresses compounding loss in the context of home as a framework. The film is driven by music, choreography, costume & props.



*love.*

Maya Neyman, 2020, 3:28 mins.  
Beachwood, OH | Adult Division

“love.” is a compilation of 50 interviews, conducted in multiple languages. Each speaker is asked what love means to them. Typography is interspersed with photos, & video clips. 2 children act out simple acts of kindness to illustrate the audio.



*Uncle Zsiga*

Edit Jakab, 2020, 10:48 mins.  
Athens, OH | Adult Division

“Uncle Zsiga” is a pensive glimpse at a father-daughter relationship in the face of alcoholism & abuse. A Hungarian father attempts to reconcile with his daughter on her birthday. The music is thoughtful, the depth-of field-deliberate & effective.



*Slushie*

Ben Evory, 2019, 14:26 mins.  
Dayton, OH | Adult Division

“Slushie” is reminiscent of Napoleon Dynamite in its awkward view of a rural Christian band hoping to hit the big time in LA. Themes of “questioning” (religious beliefs, sexuality, truth) underlie the primary narrative.



*Push Forward*

A. J. Almy, 2020, 19:57 mins.  
Mantua, OH | Adult Division

“Push Forward” is a nicely constructed story of a young man in search of his roots. In trying to fill a void in his own life, he develops a program to fulfill the needs of others while reconnecting with his family. The photography enhances the story.





*Caregiving*

Eva Arnold, 2021, 1:46 mins.

Stivers School for the Arts | Youth Division

“Caregiving” is a brief look at a man caring for his mother. The film highlights the value of small moments during the daily routine & the reward the man feels in learning about his mother on a more intimate level.



*Sound Spring Seq. #6: The School and The Home*

Catalina Alvarez, 2020, 11:02 mins.

Columbus, OH | Adult Division

“Sound Spring Seq. #6: The School & The Home”, a thoughtful depiction of a reading of an interview by #JalynRoe by a 2 young residents of Yellow Springs. Rooms & clay illustrates the story. The closing scene brings to mind.



*Áine*

Alexandria Cree and Kristen Hilkert, 2020, 5:25 mins.

Columbus, OH and Akron, OH | Adult Division

“Áine” is a portrait of a #DownsSyndrome through a mother’s eyes. It is a lover letter. “To me, having a child with Downs Syndrome means going farther than you knew you could... she is on her own singular path”.



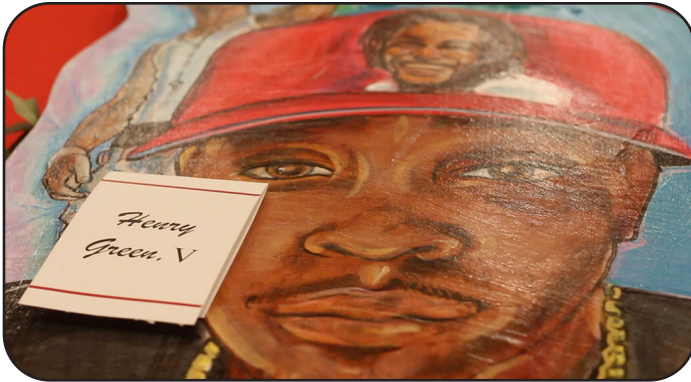
*J20*

Sonya Kapoor, 2021, 1:11 mins.

Columbus, OH | Adult Division

“J20” This piece asks the viewer to focus on the audio. A single scene moves slowly & shakily toward the Ohio Statehouse which outfit with barriers & guarded by security. The audio is a compilation of chants & protests.





*As a Matter of Black*  
Donte Woods-Spikes, 2021, 8:21 mins.  
Columbus, OH | Adult Division

“As a Matter of Black” is a peaceful look at peaceful protest & art activism. The film documents art campaigns, marches & demonstrations in Columbus Ohio in response to police involved killings of black citizens.

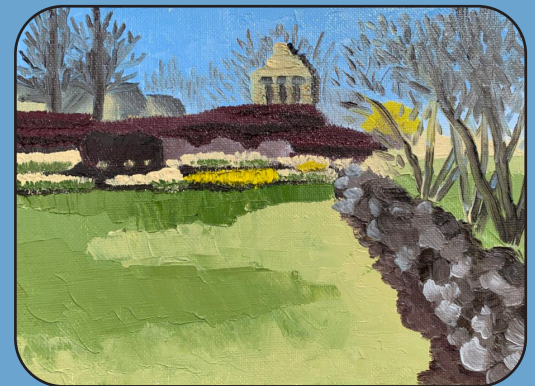
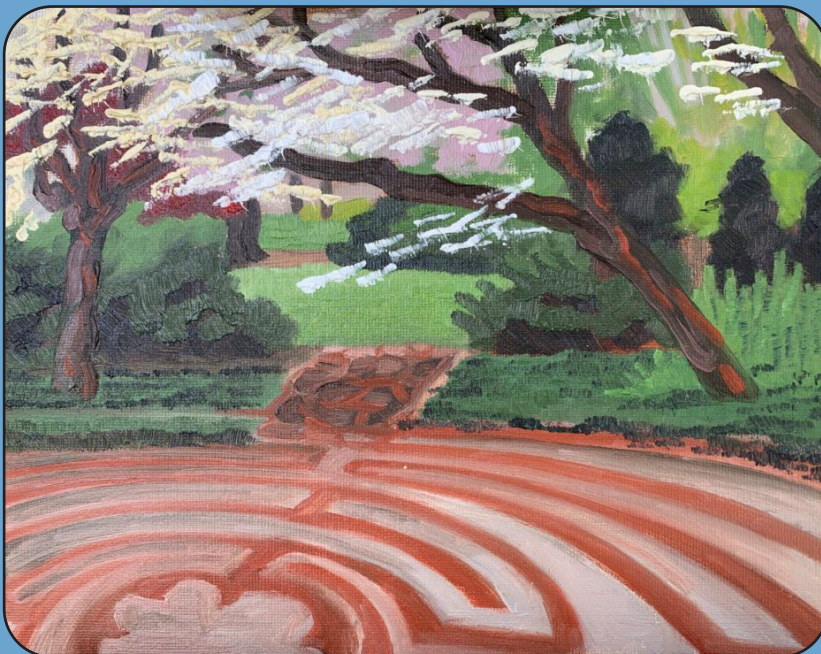


*Standing in the Blink of a Night: For Casey Goodson Jr.*  
John Landry, 2020, 5:49 mins.  
Columbus, OH | Adult Division

“Standing in the Blink of a Night: For Casey Goodson Jr.” A documentary of the community’s response to the killing of Casey Goodson Jr at the hands of law enforcement. The film ends with a plea for 2nd Amendment rights by attorney Sean L. Walton.

### {recent work}

My involvement with Central Ohio Plein Air started anew in 2021 as soon as the weather became nice enough to paint outside. So far I have joined the group in excursions to Ballantrae Park in Dublin, Ohio; Inniswood Gardens in Westerville, Ohio; and Chadwick Arboretum at The Ohio State University.



Clockwise from left: *Labyrinth at Chadwick Arboretum*, oil on canvas panel, 8 in. x 10 in.; *Wall at Ballantrae Park*, oil on canvas panel, 6 in. x 8 in.; *Redbud at Inniswood Gardens* oil on canvas panel, 7 in. x 5 in.

## {all around the town}

*The Columbus Cultural Arts Center*

(<http://www.culturalartscenteronline.org>)

"Central Ohio Watercolor Society", Through May 29

"Marvin Daniels: Transitions", Coming Soon

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

"Raggin' On: The Art of Aminah Robinson's House and Journals", Through October 3

"Tara Booth Columbus Comics Residency Exhibition" Through September 26

"Queer / Modern", Ongoing

"Photography in Context: Two Works by Deana Lawson", Ongoing

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

"iCuba!", Ongoing

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

"Distinctly Paramount: Fashion & Costume from the Paramount Pictures Archive", June 5, 2021-January 2, 2022

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

"Aida Garrity: Dublin Golfscapes", Through June 7

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

"Richard Ferguson", April 2-May 29th

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

"2021 M(art)in Unites Virtual Exhibition", Ongoing

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

The gallery is now open by appointment only

"Family Colors: Betsy DeFusco and Derek DeFusco", Through May 13

*Ohio Craft Museum* (<https://ohiocraft.org/>)

"The Best of 2020-2021", May 10-July 11

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

Online art exhibits & engagement

"Blackout Poetry", Through-May 16

"Be Well", Through May 23

"Spring 2021 Senior Projects Exhibition: Department of Art BFA", Through May 7

"Inside/Out", Through May 30

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

"After Hours: Artwork by State of Ohio Employees 2021", Through July 10

*The Wexner Center* (<http://www.wexarts.org>)

"Climate Changing: On Artists, Institutions, and the Social Environment", Through August 15

## {performing arts}

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

"La Bohème", May 20-30, Opera Columbus at 400 W Rich

"Jerome Jennings: Solidarity", May 13, Lincoln Theater

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

"Working: A Musical", April 29-May 9

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

"Haydn Festival", May 21-22, Ohio Theater

## {and beyond}

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

"Totally Radical: Art and Politics in the 1980s", Through September 19

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

"Writing the Future: Basquiat & the Hip-Hop Generation", Through May 16

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

"I'm yours: Encounters with Art in Our Times", Through May 23

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

"American Painting: The Eighties Revisited", Through July 11

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

"Joan Tanner: FLAW", Through August 8

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

"Stories from Storage", Through May 16

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

"Monet and Chicago", Through June 14

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

"Bukang Y. Kim: Journey to the East", Through August 15

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

"Experience & Expression", Through October 3

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

"Indiana Artists Club Annual Juried Exhibition", Through May 29

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

"Yoshitomo Nara", April 1-July 5

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

"Todd Webb in Africa: Outside the Frame", Through June 13

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

5th Ave: "Alice Neel: People Come First", Through August 1

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

"Alexander Calder: Modern from the Start", Through August 7

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

"New Photography: Create, Collect, Compile", Through June 6

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

"Controlling the Chaos", Through June 27

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

"Fantasy America", Through August 30

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

"Future Histories: Theaster Gates and Cauleen Smith", Through May 23

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

"The Art of Conservation", Through August 29

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

The West Building Reopens May 14

*The Smithsonian American Art Museum & The Renwick Gallery,*

Washington, D.C. (<https://americanart.si.edu/>)

The American Art Museum & The Renwick Gallery Reopens May 14

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