# PROXIMITY 10

A virtual exhibit of work in various mediums by Lynda Knisley

## **THEME**

I've traveled and taken pictures across the country but realized, as Browning put it, I'd "forgotten to see" what is distinctive within ten miles of home.



## **BIOGRAPHY**

There were no art classes in my schools during childhood. I was the kid who volunteered to make all the posters. I had a bottomless curiosity about materials and how things were made. In due course, my B.A. in English and Education from Houghton College, and my M.A. in Art Education from Goddard led me into decades of teaching Art History and Studio Art with an avocation of curriculum design. While teaching in Florida, a vigorous Crafts Renaissance of the



late 1970s expanded my program for adolescents. I returned to Vermont in the late 1990s to broaden my classroom experience in public, private, and home schools. Fletcher Farm School asked me to develop and teach their children's classes, and I worked with the adult education program at the University of Vermont. The various ways in which Kindergarten – college-aged

students worked with materials stoked my huge appetite for experimentation which has never waned. To simultaneously study art, teach art, and make art is a perfect career for me.

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

I've been enriched by so many invitations to display in large, formal settings and in smaller venues like hospitals, libraries, and cafes. My favorite stories following displays come from people who walk into an eatery for pancakes and walk out with a piece of art. It explains why I celebrate "PROXIMITY 10" as my 25th exhibit; it's such a satisfying way to share ideas. Some



of the places where my work has been exhibited include two shows in Burlington's Fletcher Free Library: "From Easels of Grace" (1993) and "Coming to Terms" (2006). Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) exhibited my work twice in shows in the Rotunda, which included "Sharing My Toys" (2013) and "Thoughts on Home" during the Pandemic of 2020. In 2017, the Norman Williams Public Library exhibited my work, "If Memory Serves" and "Proximity 10" in 2020.

## **MEDIUMS**

I attend to specific themes and the materials they suggest. 3-D Assemblages, Water Color, Relief Prints have all come into play at times. "Proximity 10" suggested Pastels, which are fascinating for their sequence of colors and the way they gradually cohere, but messy, inefficient combinations of paint, fabric, and paper scrappage have won my heart; "Mixed Media" Collage is my medium of choice.

## **PROCESS**

I used my old Pentax with prized 100 ASA film to document our neighborhoods. A quiet celebration of art making possibilities continued in my head for two years as I sketched and

planned. Someone said that to carefully arrange shapes and colors in honor of natural beauty is to "think God's thoughts after Him" and I like that.

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