

THE PORTALS

THE TALP DECK

ANNE FRANK

AMBULAN

MY JOURN

BE Kind

We can win if we work together

NEVER DIES

LOVE IS THE ANSWER

LOVE

LOVE IS THE ANSWER

LOVE IS Creativity

VIOLENCE IS NOT Love



WHAT IS DONE IN LOVE IS DONE WELL

-Vincent van Gogh

Spread Love Everywhere
Let No One Ever Leave Without Happiness

"Spread Love Everywhere you go"

ART IS HOW WE GET THERE

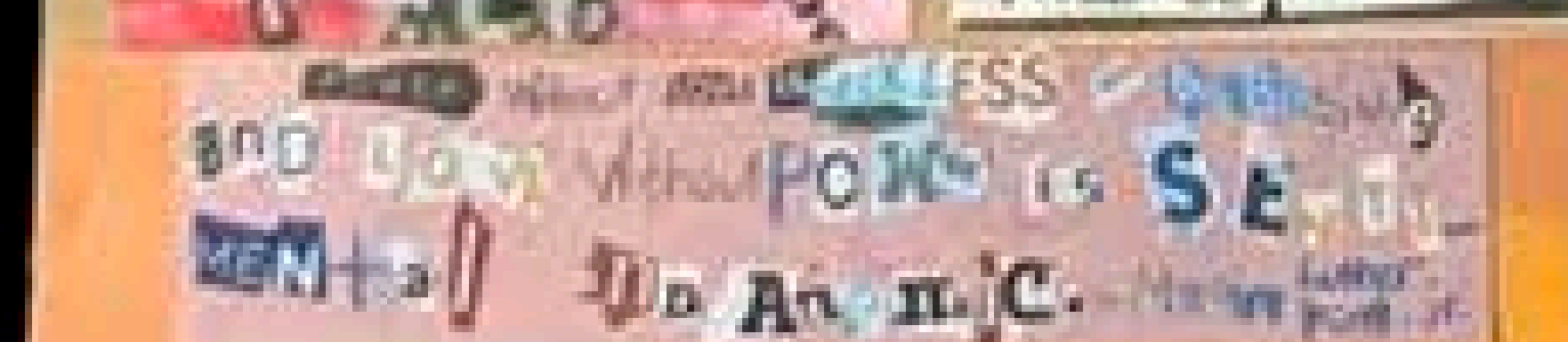
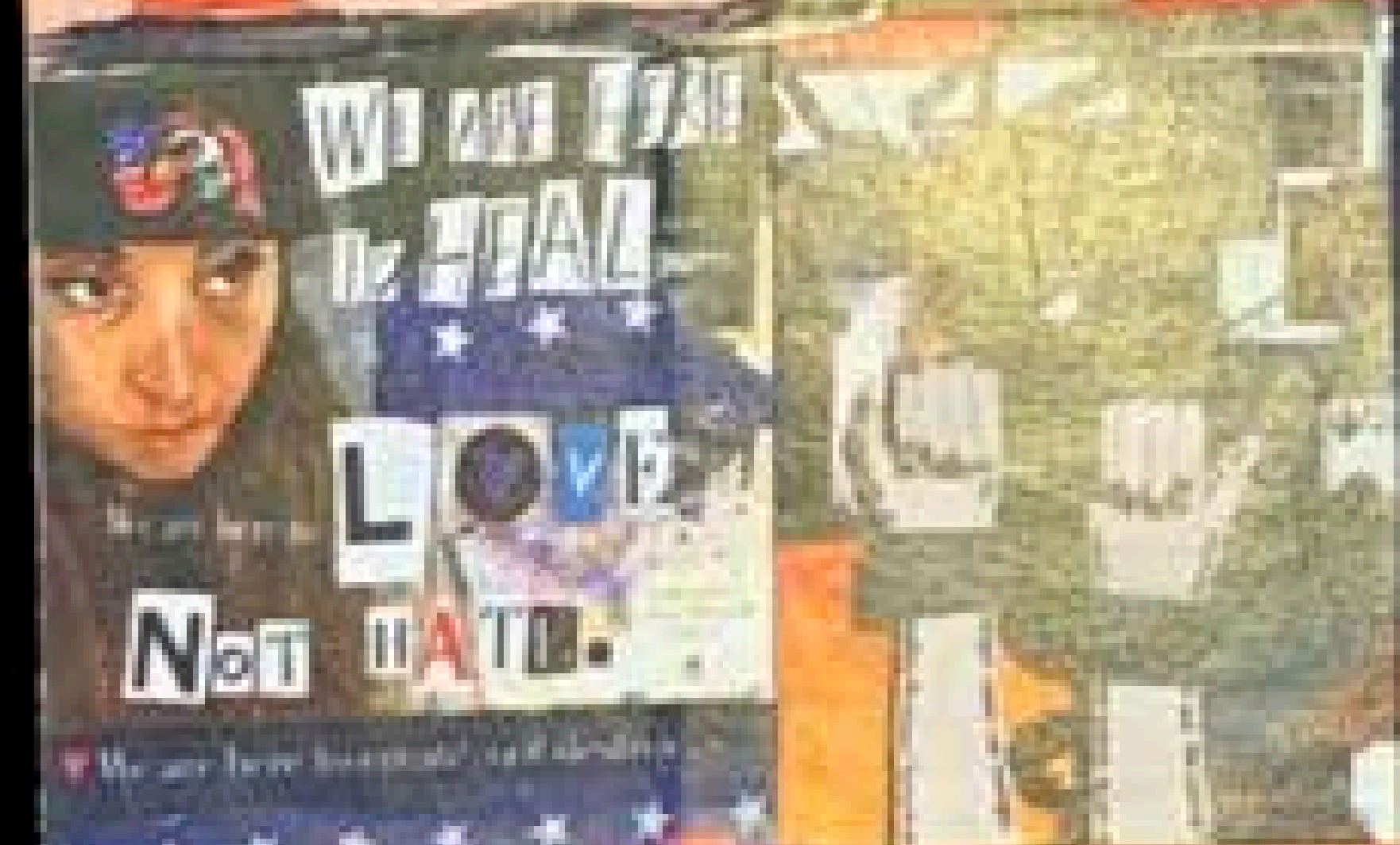
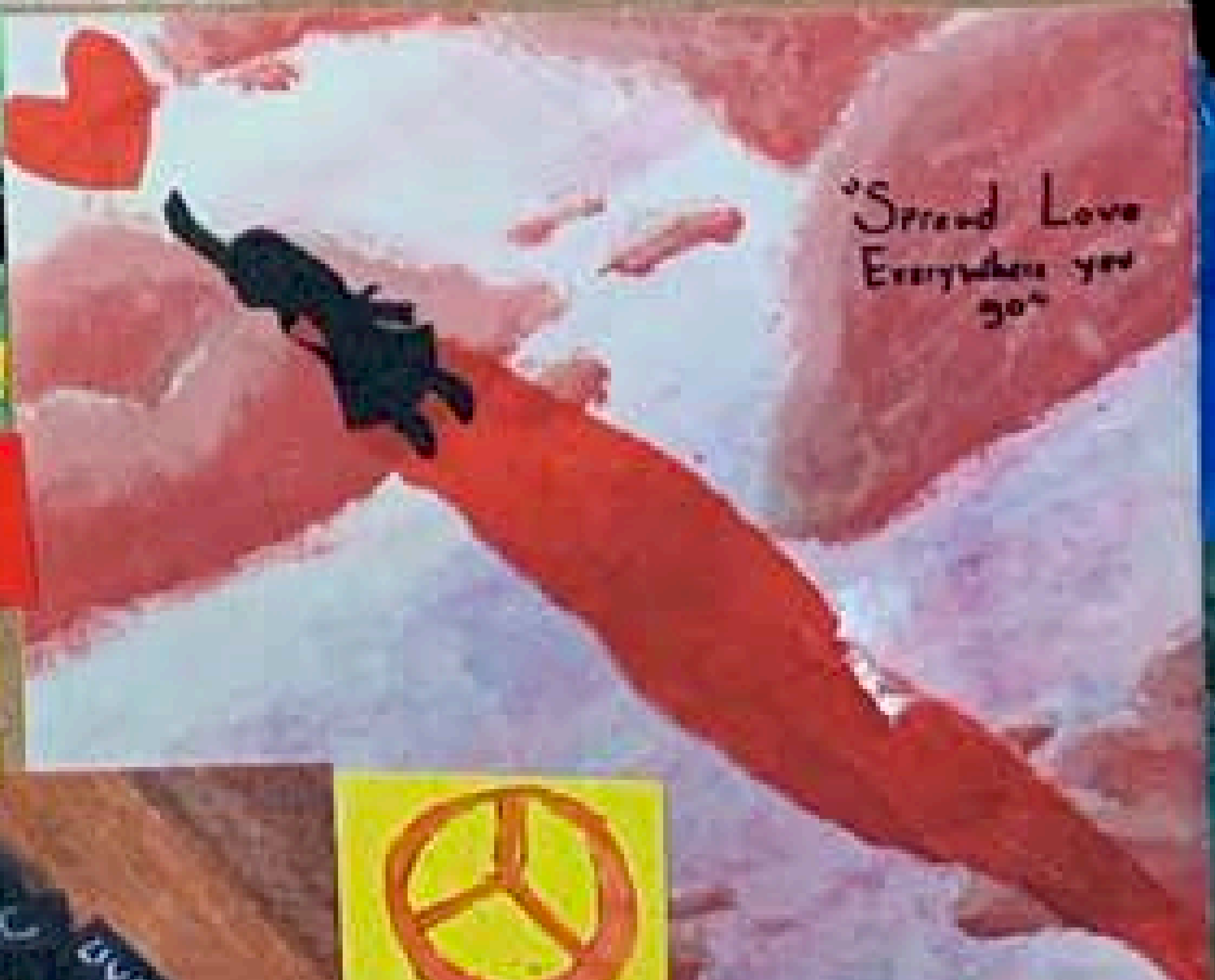
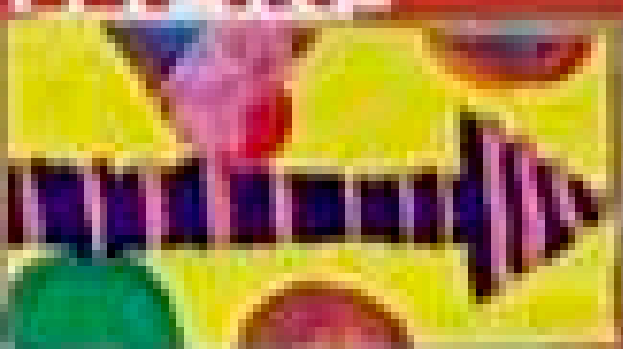
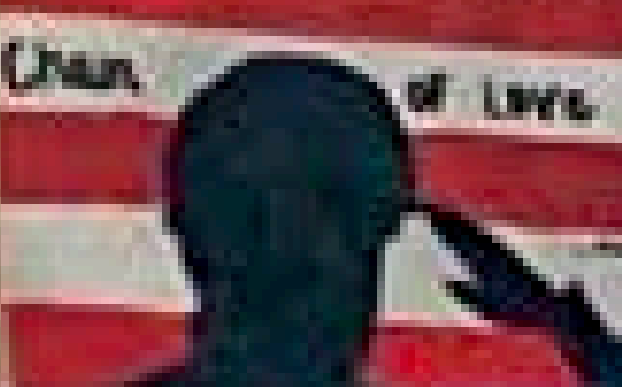
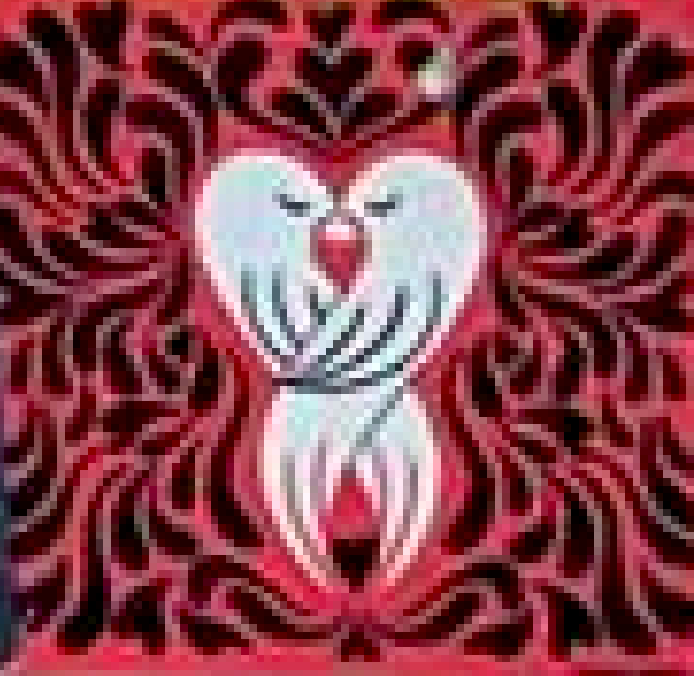
LOVE

Conquers ALL

LOVE IS THE ANSWER

Hate Cannot drive out Love

Send it every Where

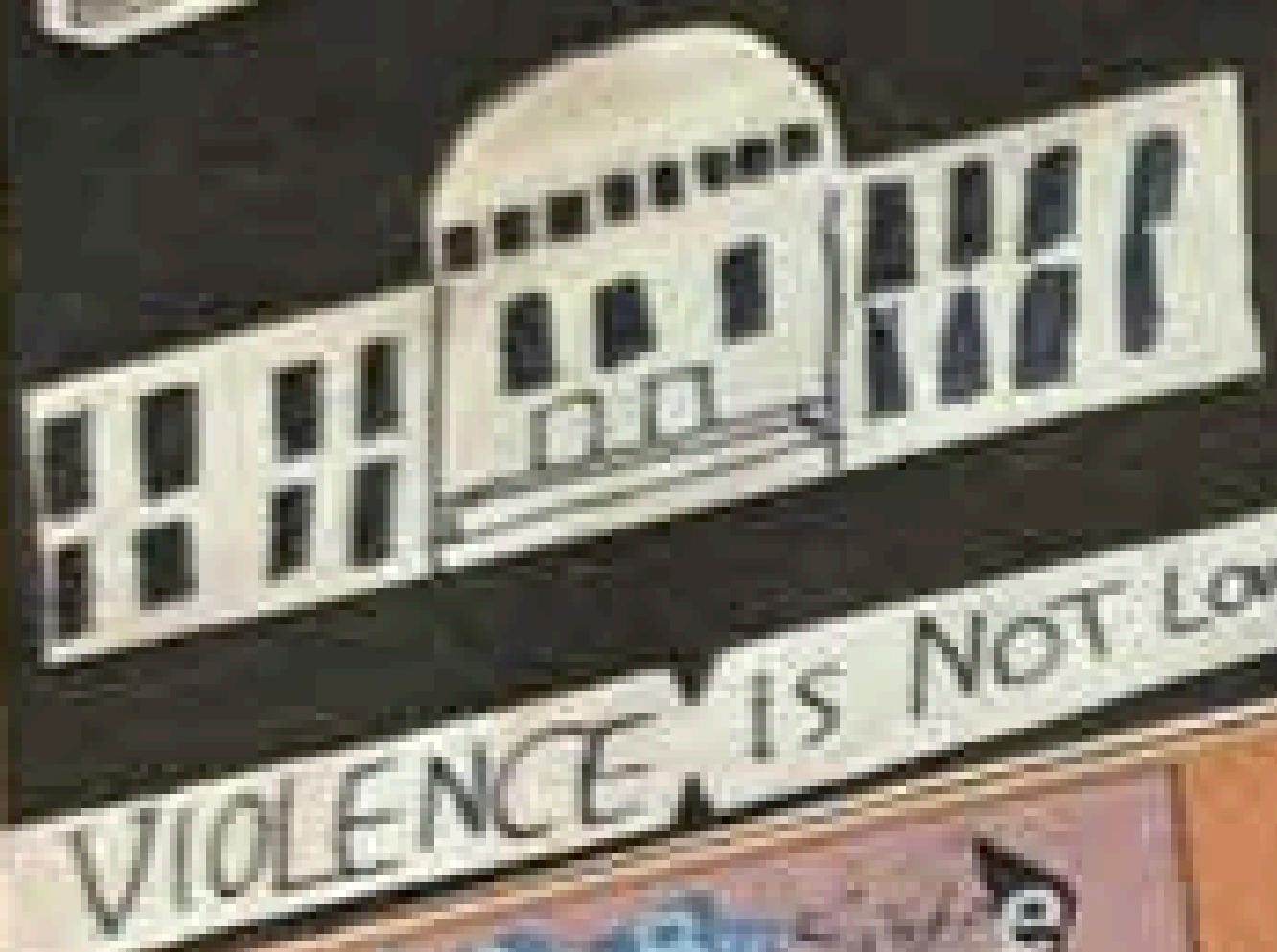


LOVE IS THE ANSWER



IS THE ANSWER
LOVE IS CREATIVITY

ANSWER
LOVES IS Gratitude



VIOLENCE IS NOT LOVE

VIOLENCE
...LESS - Positive
POWER IS SENT
- Martin Luther King Jr.
Amen.

WHAT IS DONE
IS DONE

Spread
Everywhere
but No
Come T
With

Leaving

ART IS HOW WE GET THERE

LOVE

HOW
LOVE

Hate Cannot
Drive Out HATE

Only Love

onquers

ALL

our nation's founding ideals

+

the power of art

+

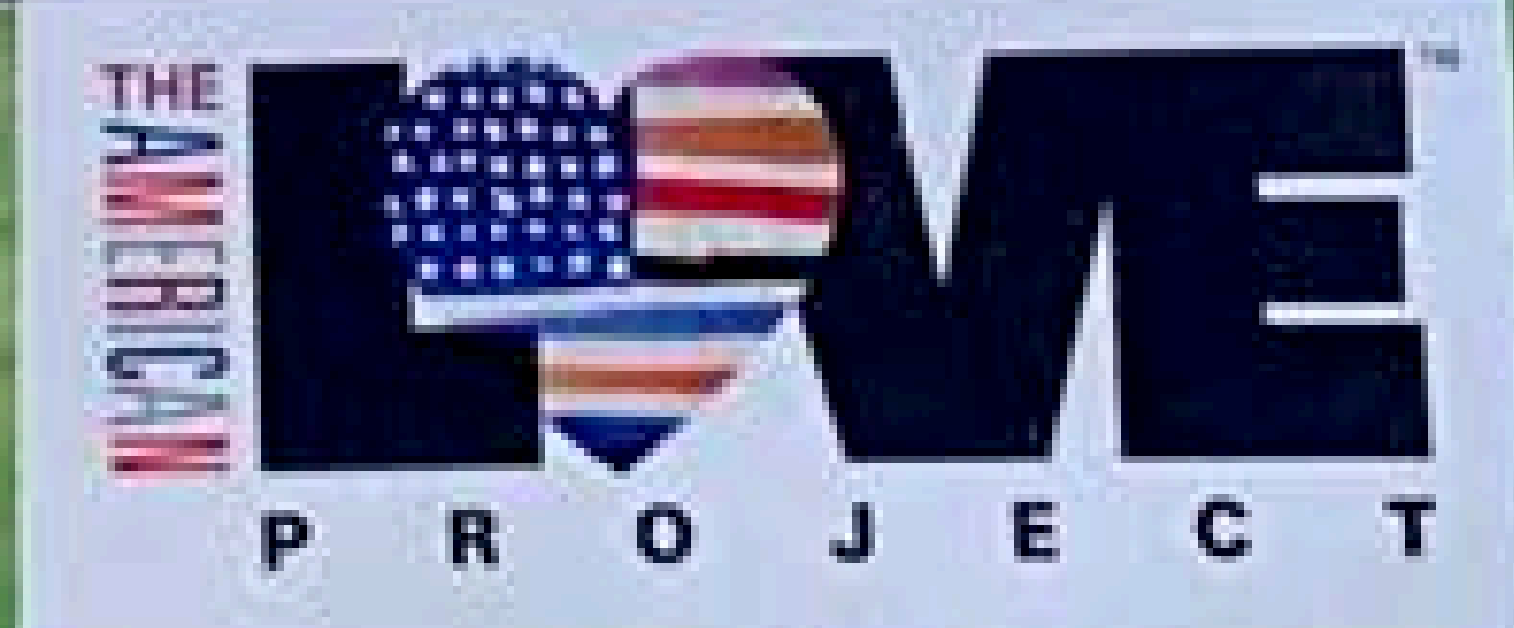
words that inspire love

+

the creativity of teachers, artists & students

=

American healing



THE PORTALS

THE TALP DECK

MY JOUR

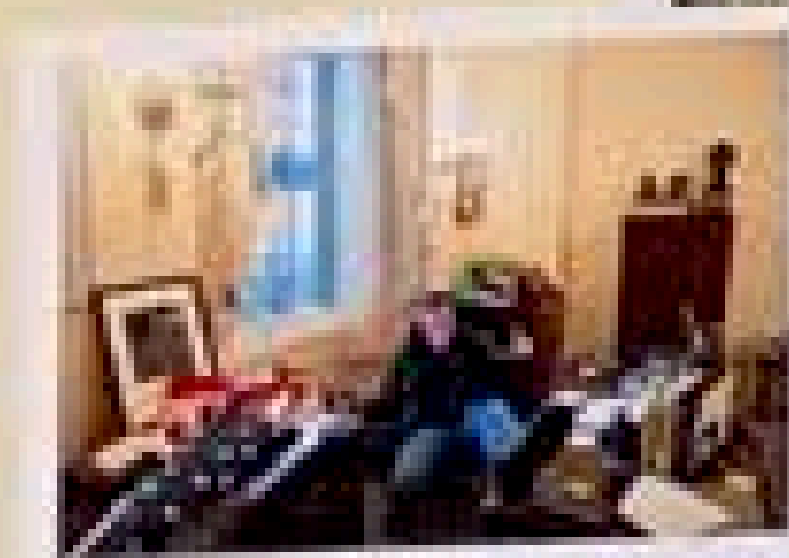
ANNE FRANK

AMBULA

The Context. 2021.

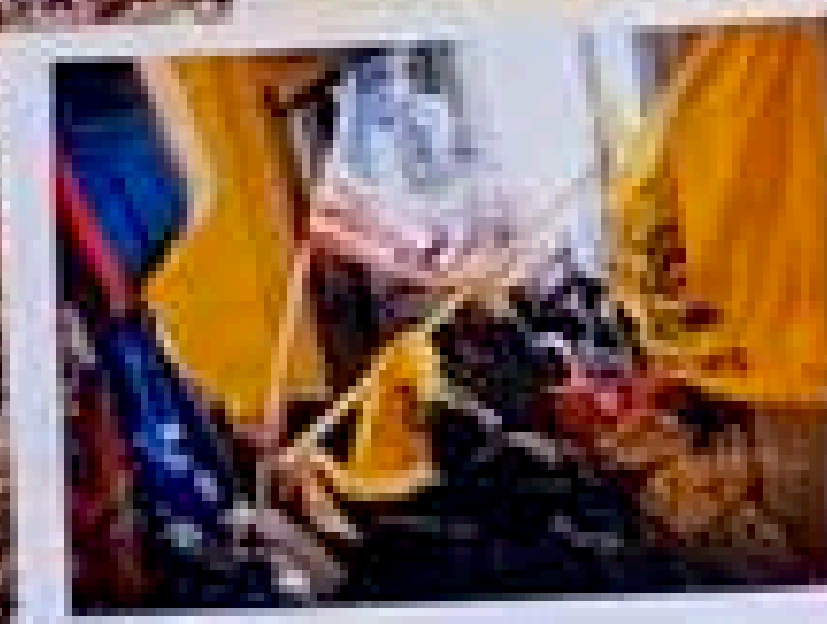


The New York Times
**TRUMP
IMPEACHED
AGAIN**
Charge is 'incitement of
insurrection'; 49 Republicans
Break With President



**These Are the Rioters
Who Stormed the Nation's
Capitol**

The mobs that rampaged the halls of
Congress included infamous white
supremacists and conspiracy theorists.



The Washington Post
Storming the Capitol

**A disastrous failure of security: Storming of
Capitol by mob prompts urgent questions about
police readiness**

Security and law enforcement officials must address the U.S. Capitol
before and after supporters storm the building, the White House and Congress
said. The rioters' actions were a 'disaster' and a 'failure'.

There'd been a historic freeze
here in February The Lady
Banksia rose in a hit hand.

insurrection.



**'Nothing can stop what's coming': Far-
right forums that fomented Capitol riots
voice glee in aftermath**

From right-wing forums to the streets, supporters of President Trump
celebrated the rioters' actions. 'We are
the revolution!' they wrote.



**As the country sits through the shreds
of what happened in Washington on
Wednesday, what comes into focus is
the storming of the Capitol in a twisted
celebration of hard-core Trump
supporters: a largely white crowd,
many of them armed with bats, shields
and chemical spray, some carried
Confederate flags and wore costumes
inspired by QAnon beliefs; they were
mostly men, many were white, too.**

Spring was brown, mono-
chromatic. Everything
looked dead or dying.

Biden Harris.

BIDEN TAKES
OFFICE



10 Spring Bouquet Viburnum - dead.



All pittosporum - dead.
Including this 7 ft. one
on the studio porch. I added
this pit when the studio was built.

Killing freeze in
Texas

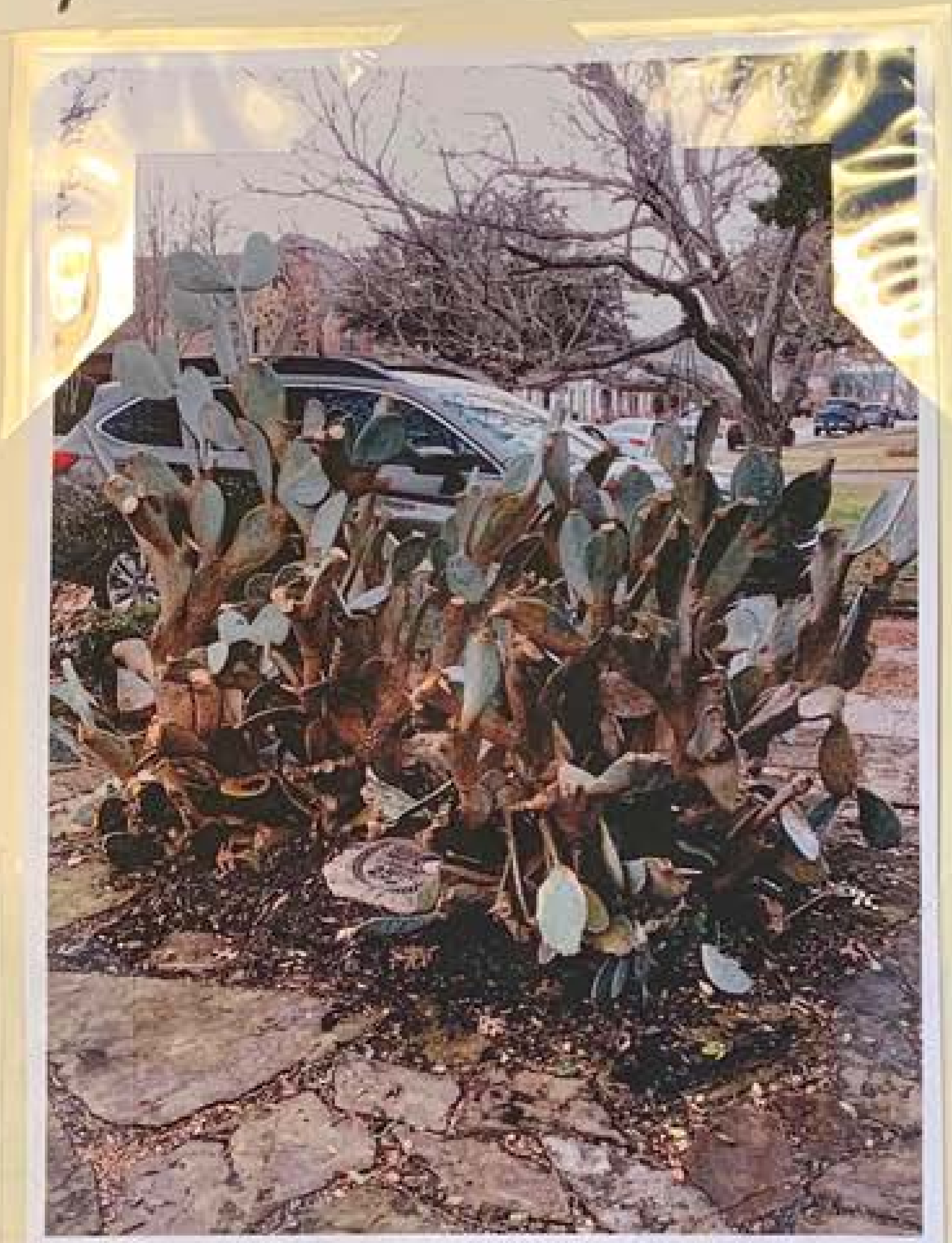


The pile of fatalities
in the garden from the
freeze of February 2021.

\$7,000 in lost.

The time to grow
these things to maturity -
Waaahhh. Such is the
impermanence of everything.

People. Plants. Animals.



Kelly's giant prickly pear —
a pile of smelly mush.

Deep Divisions.

MARCH 9, 2021

ALL THE TREES ARE BROWN
AND THE SKY IS GREY.
I'VE BEEN FOR A WALK
ON A SPRING DAY.

.....
Well, technically it is winter
but in a normal year, by March 9,
spring bulbs are in bloom, and
all the trees & shrubs are greening up.

Not this year. Post the big
freeze. Sidewalks & yards are
full of dead, fallen leaves.
We wait to see what will
survive.

.....
What is in full verdant growth?
The American LOVE Project.

FROM A FLAG I ORIGINALLY
DID FOR THE DMN
IN THE
80's.



MORE COLORS IN
THE SYMBOL

The journals from 2013-2014
tell a story of stress, fear,
fretting about the Dallas Love
Project.

This will be different.
We know how to do this.
I know how to do this.
I'm here to do this.

This time the journey will be joy.

MARCH 4, 2021
Tomorrow, Judy Stone-Nunneley and
I do a presentation on the
American Love Project to 50
art teachers. Online. This is
the first group who will see the
Lesson.

This blossoms as I mow the
frozen garden.

29
PIECES
Monumental Change
Monumental Art

WELCOME TO

THE
AMERICAN
LOVE
PROJECT

DREAM



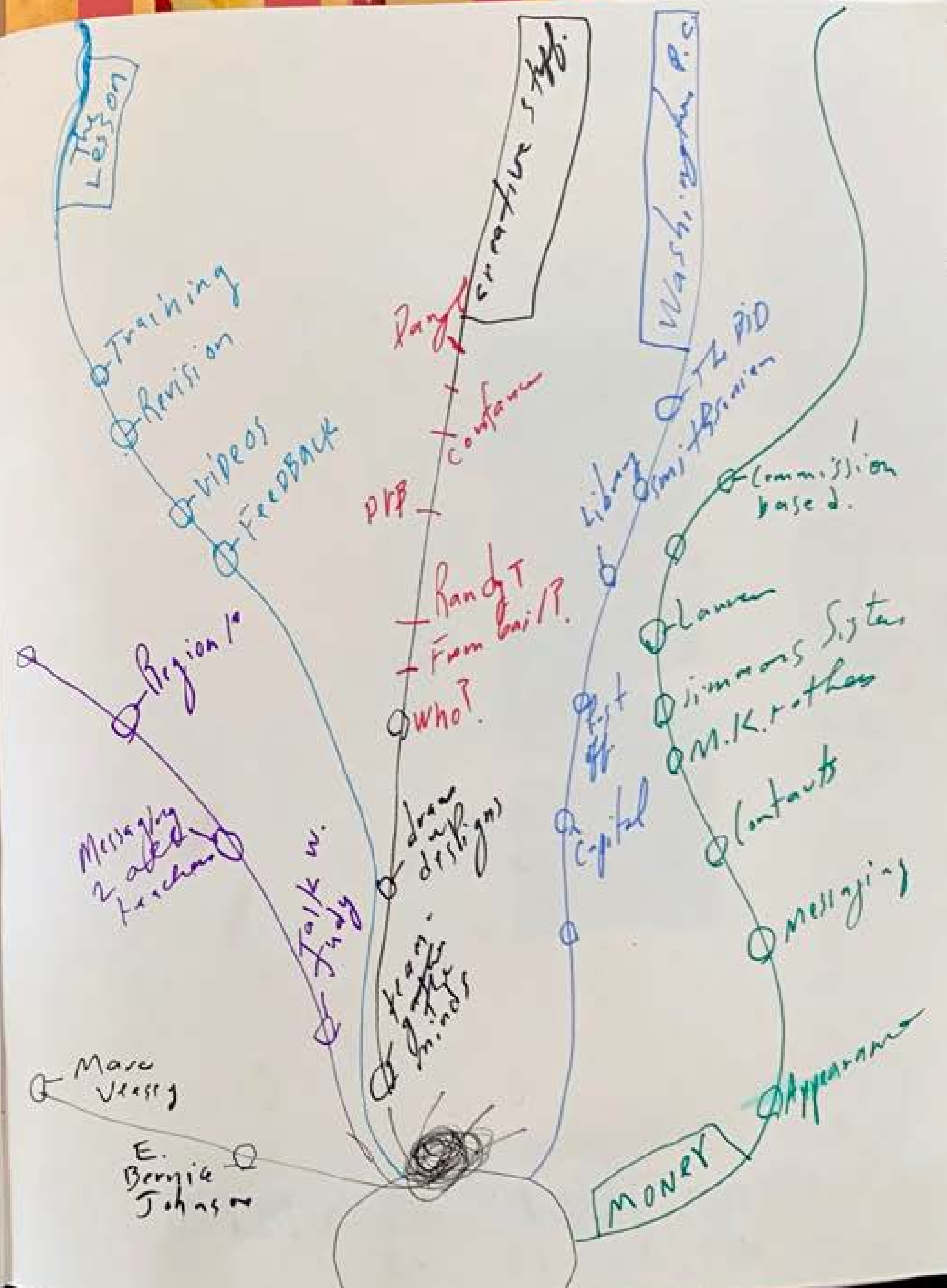
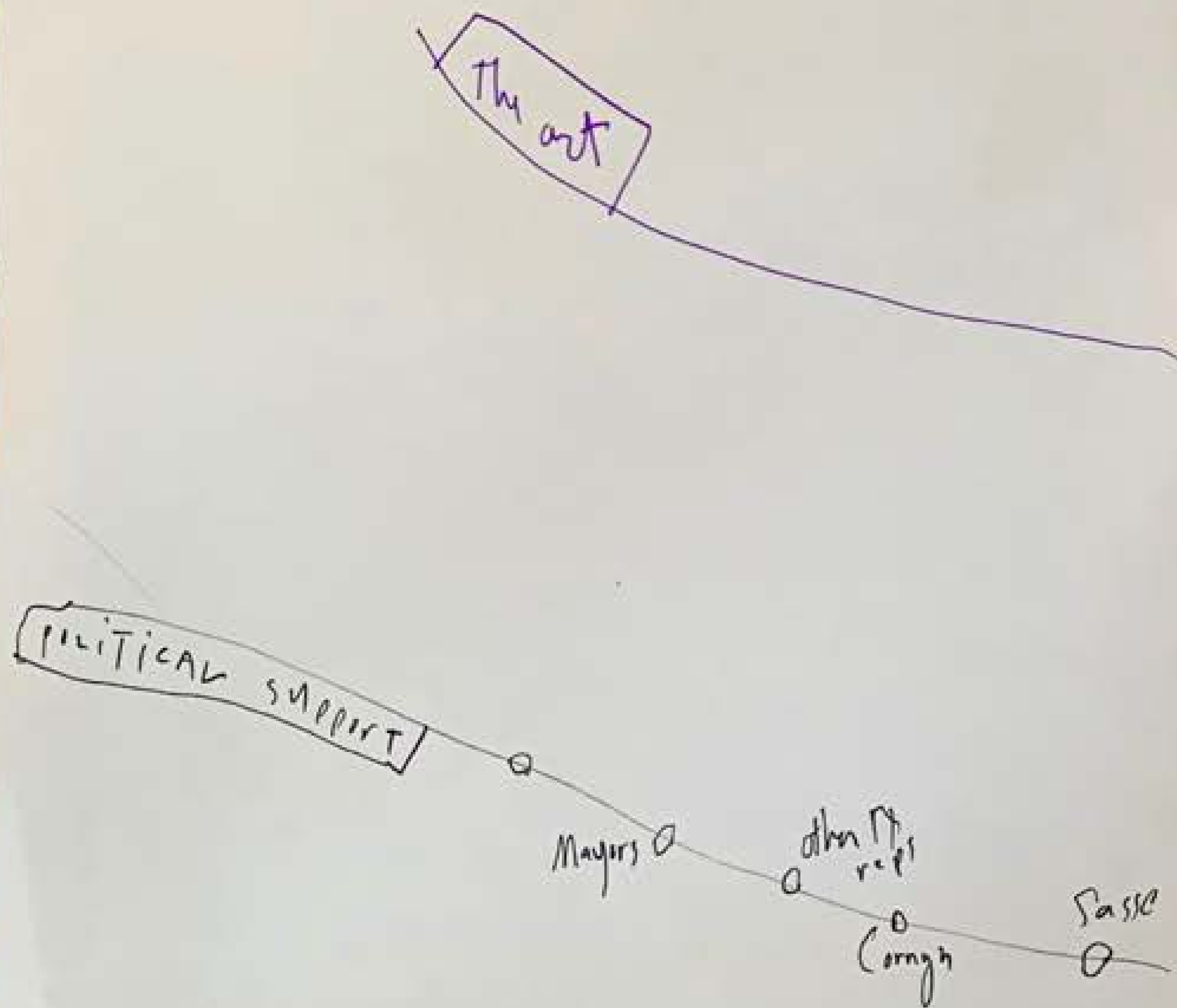
MARCH 9, 2021

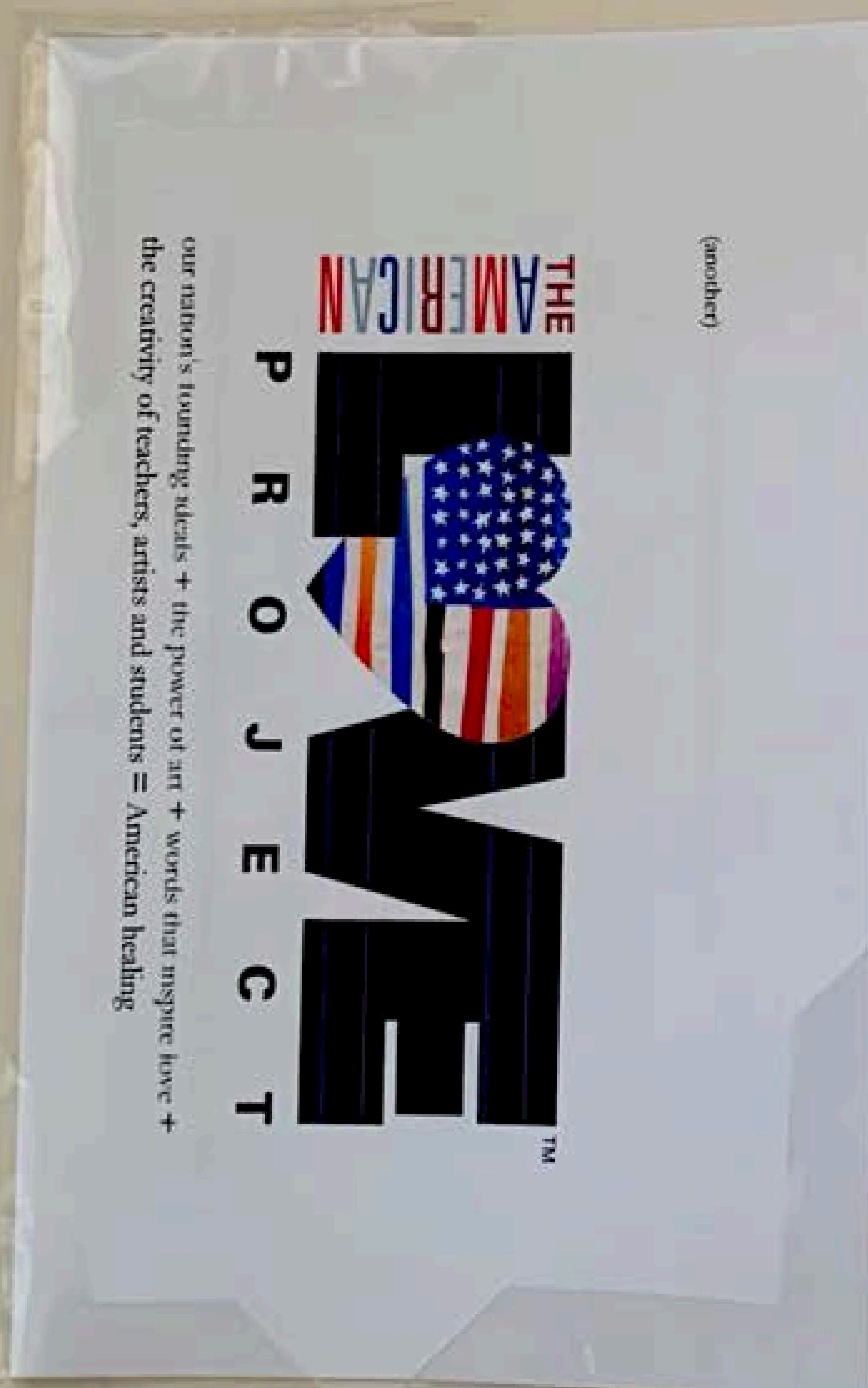
we watch the bodies.
Does life still stir?
The trees are in some voodoo state.
Suspended between here and there
I'm praying 'come back, come back!
And absolutely nothing we do but wait.
can

I'm supposed to do an intro
for the mailing for the
FORGIVENESS Lesson. On
forgiveness. online

Please join me at 5:30 ^{ant here} on March 18,
for an FREL training in our FORGIVENESS
Lesson, brought to you through Regio 10
ESC.
And what a tricky subject this is -
FORGIVENESS. — is very personal but can
be a collective voice.
I look forward to hearing from you
on this subject.

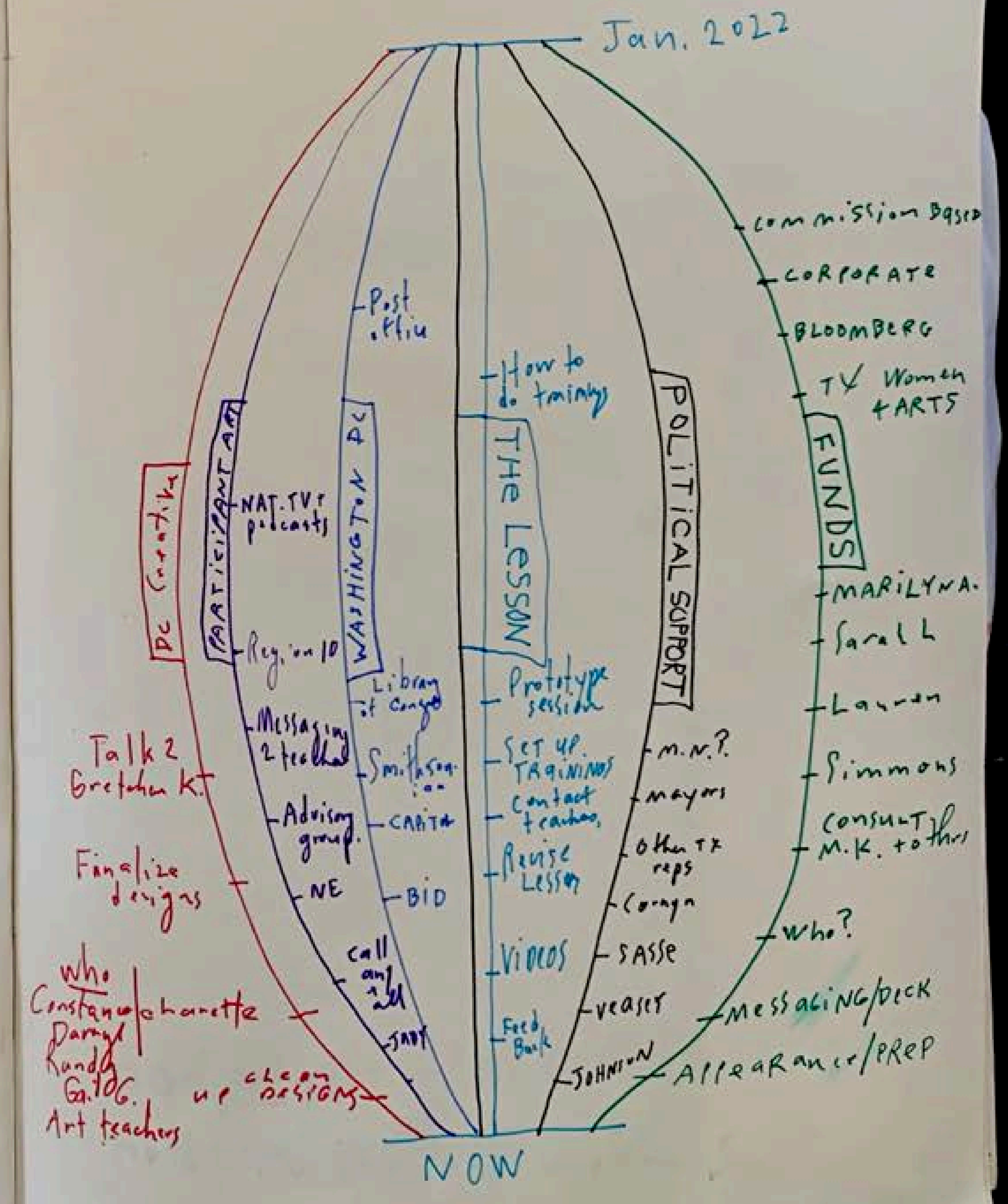
APRIL 10/2021
 Back from D.C.
 Planning in earnest begins.



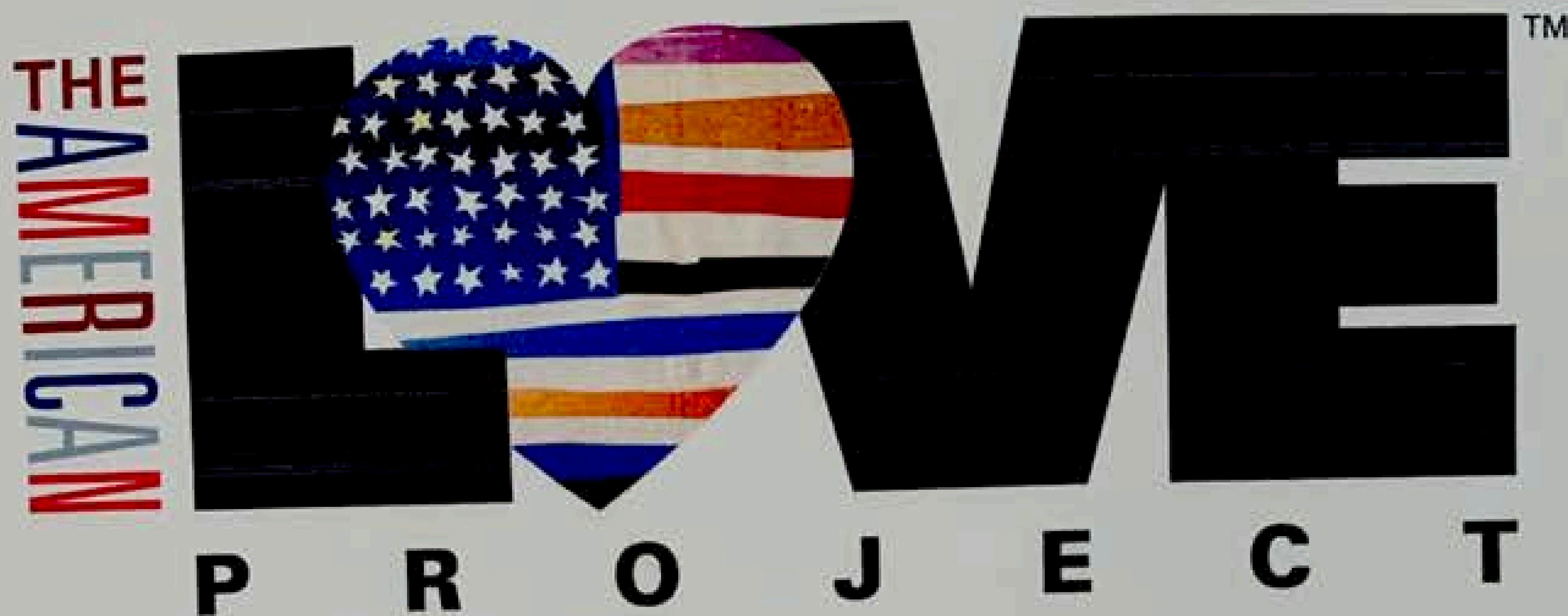


FROM POPPY SUNDEEN:
WHAT IT IS

- THE PORTALS
- THE TALP DECK
- MY JOURNALS
- ANNE FRANK
- AMBULANCE RIDE

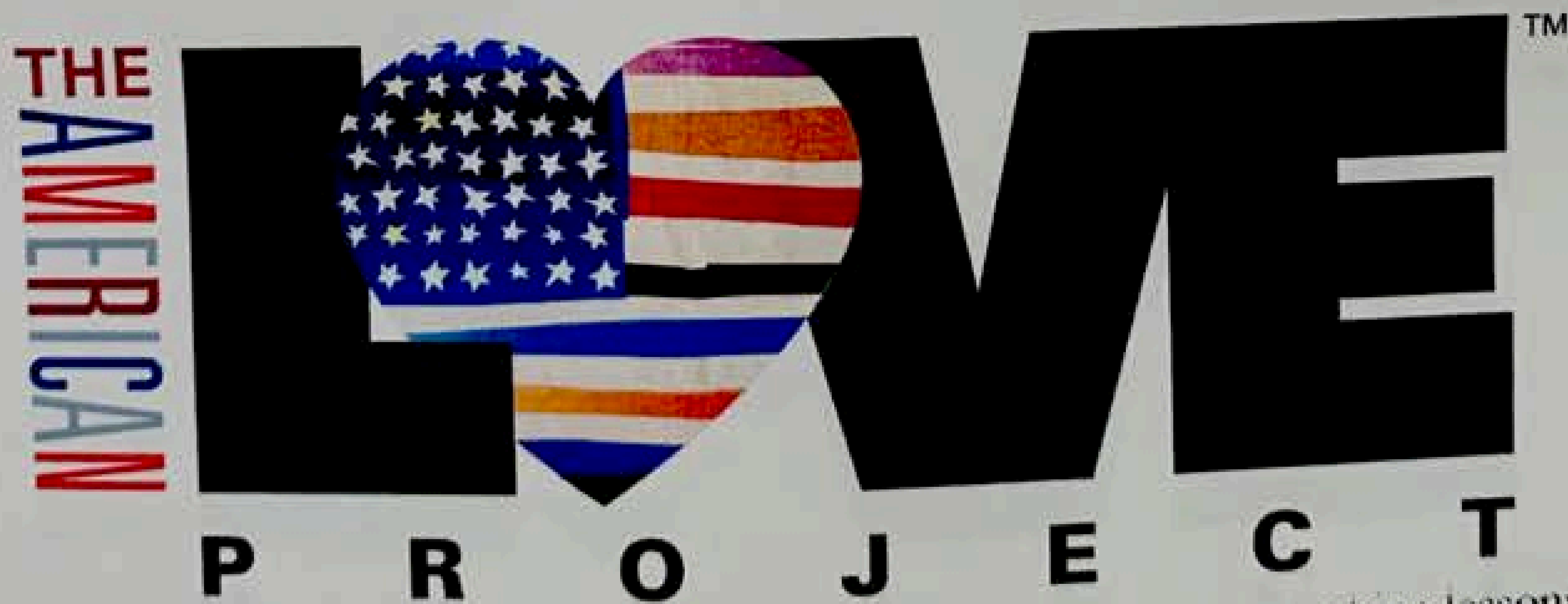


(another)



our nation's founding ideals + the power of art + words that inspire love +
the creativity of teachers, artists and students = American healing

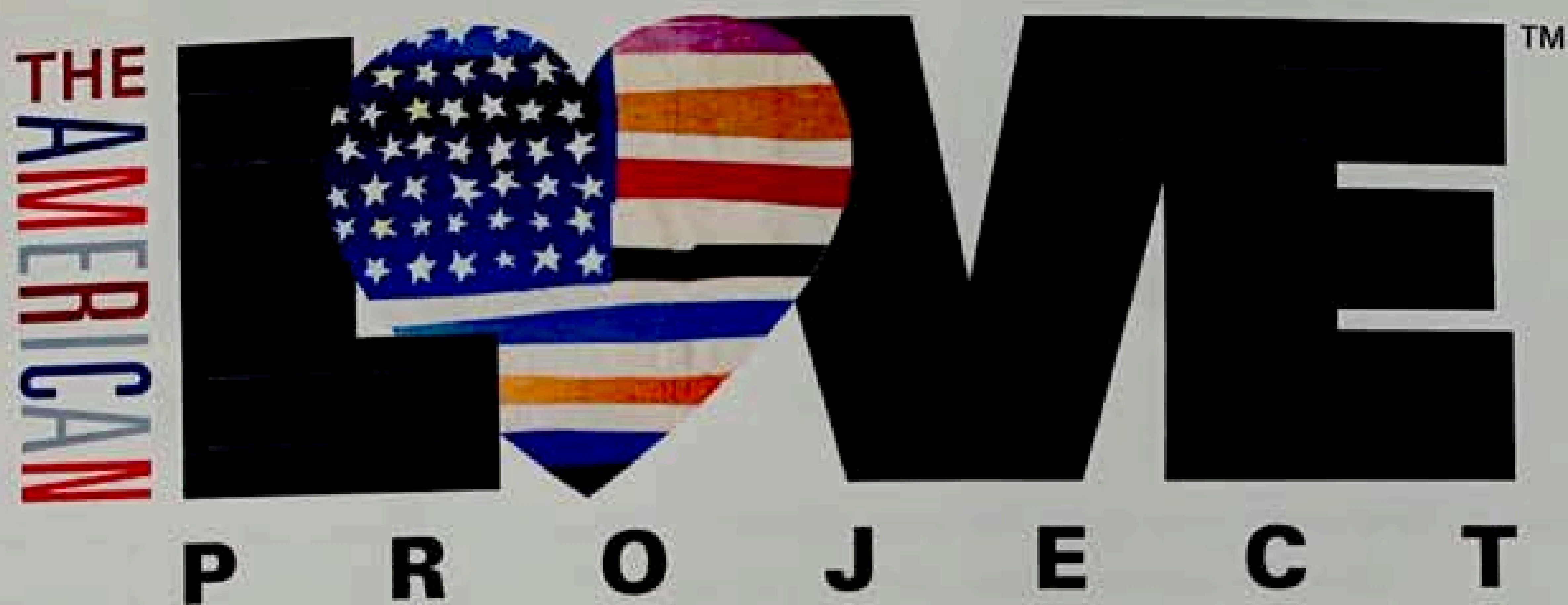
(and another)



What happens when artists, students and teachers in 50 states combine lessons
of love and mutual respect with powerful visuals and words to create and share
art?

You're about to find out.

COPY FROM POPPY SUNDEEN (shorter version of slide 14 copy)



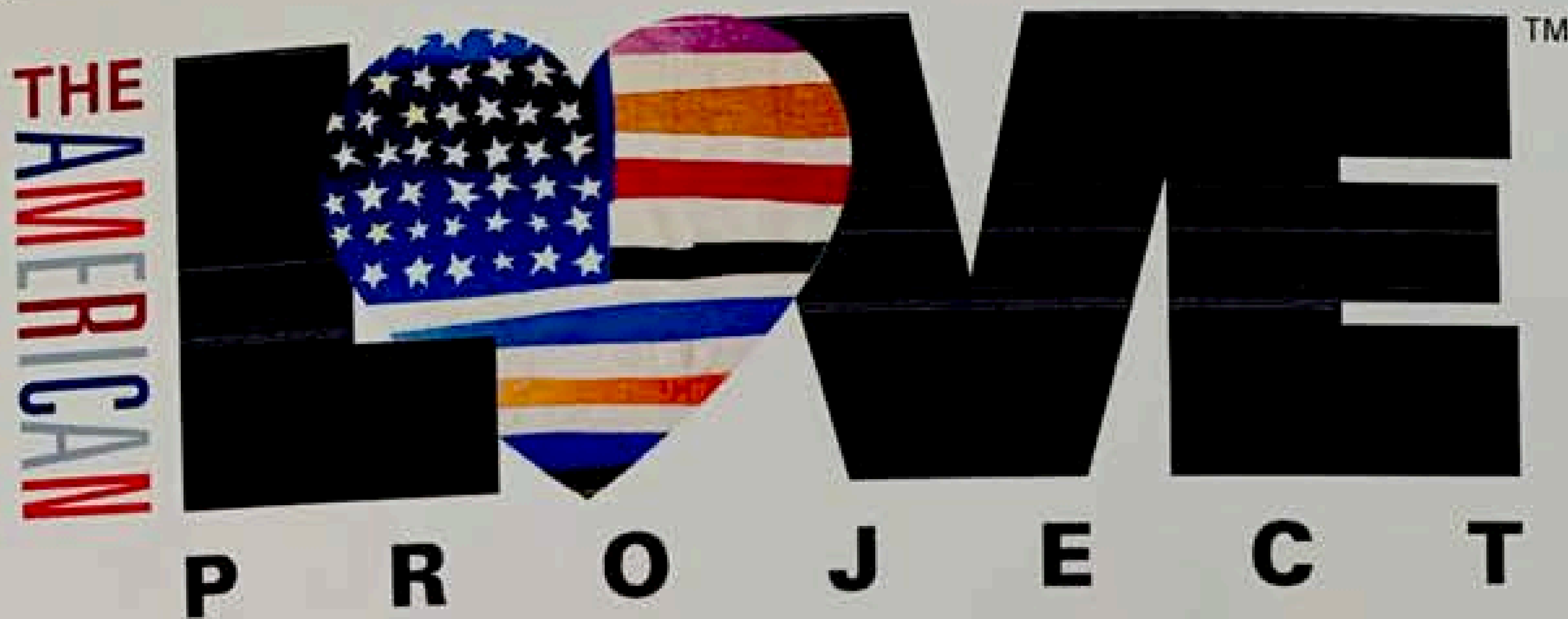
Creating and sharing art that inspires love and mutual respect to heal the divides in our country.

(alternate to above)



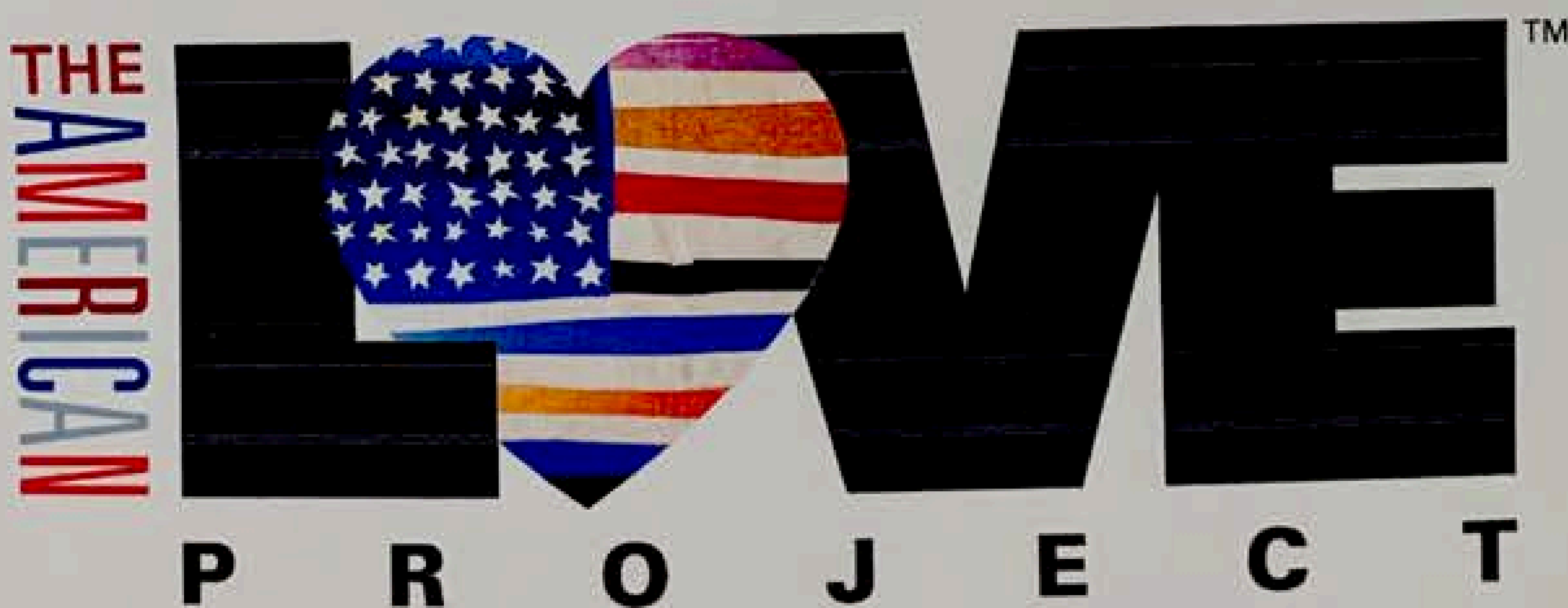
Healing our nation's divides by creating and sharing art that inspires love and mutual respect.

(alternate that incorporates pillar 2)



Healing our nation's divides by creating and sharing art grounded in our nation's founding goals and inspired by love and mutual respect.

(another thought)



We can heal America's wounds. Our nation's founding ideals provide the groundwork. Art and words serve as the tools. Love and creativity power the healing process.

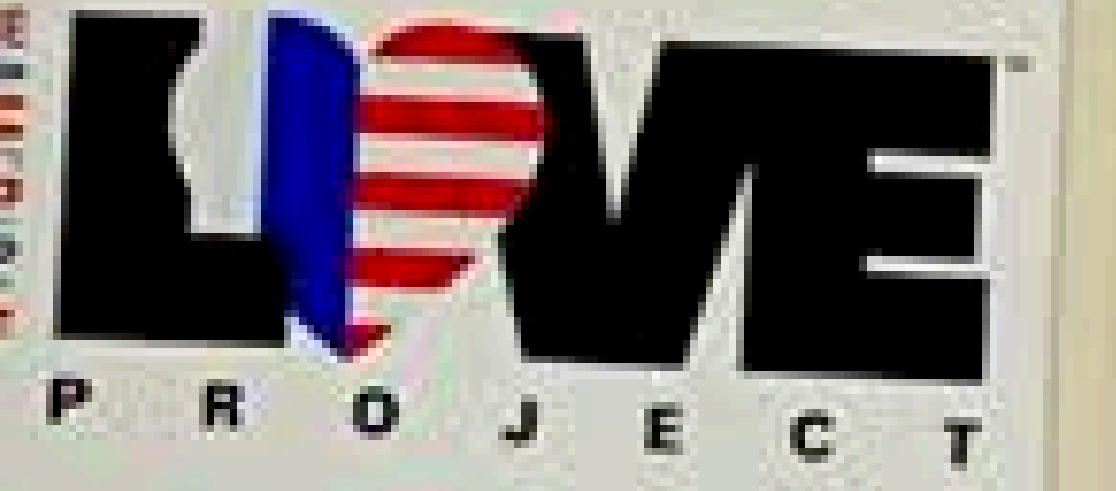
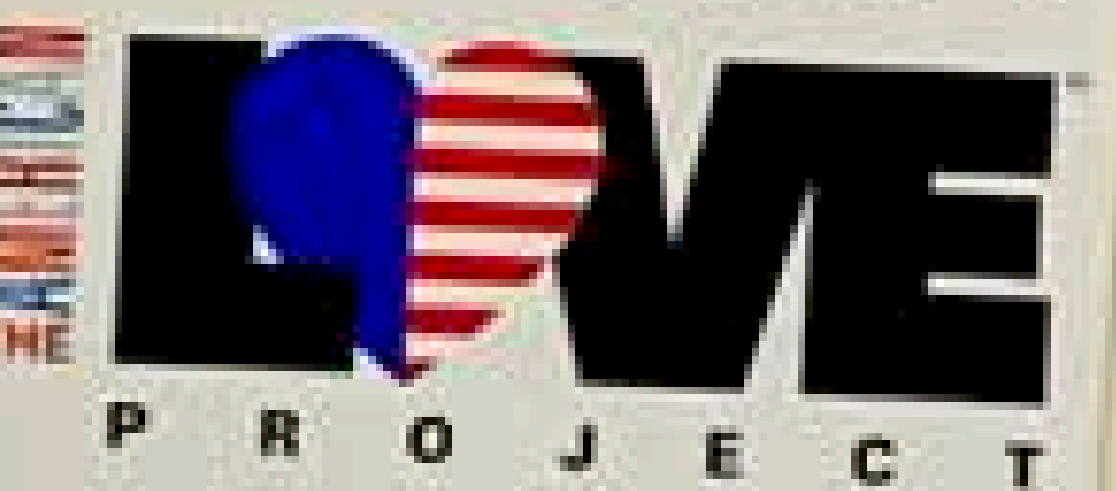
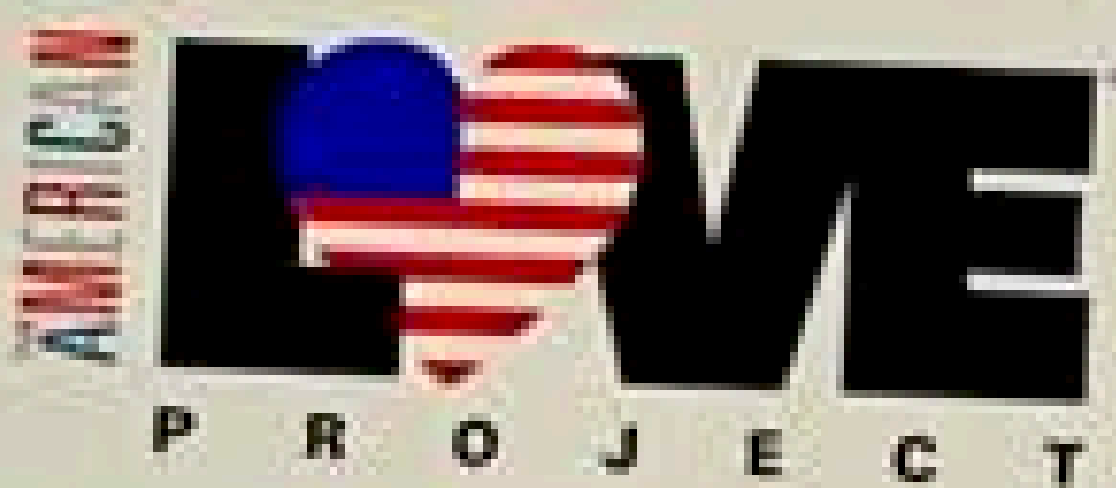
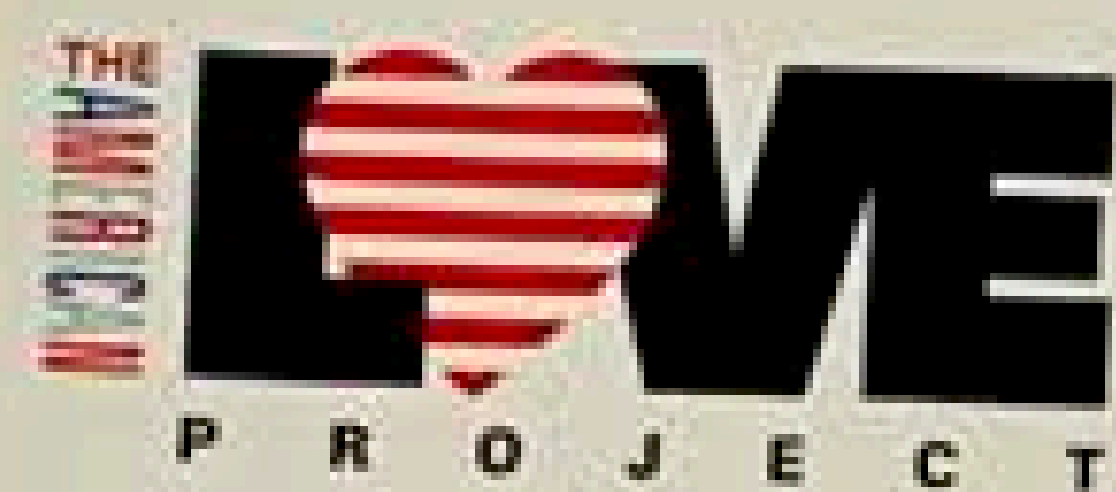
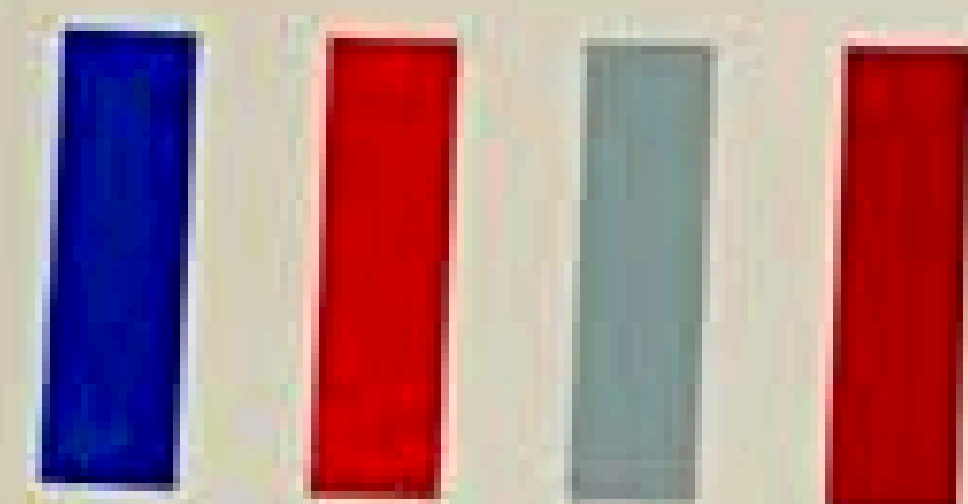
THE PORTALS

THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNAL

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RID



AMERICAN



P R O

What happens when artists in 50 states combine lessons of love and mutual respect with powerful visuals and words to create and share art?

You're about to find out.



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD

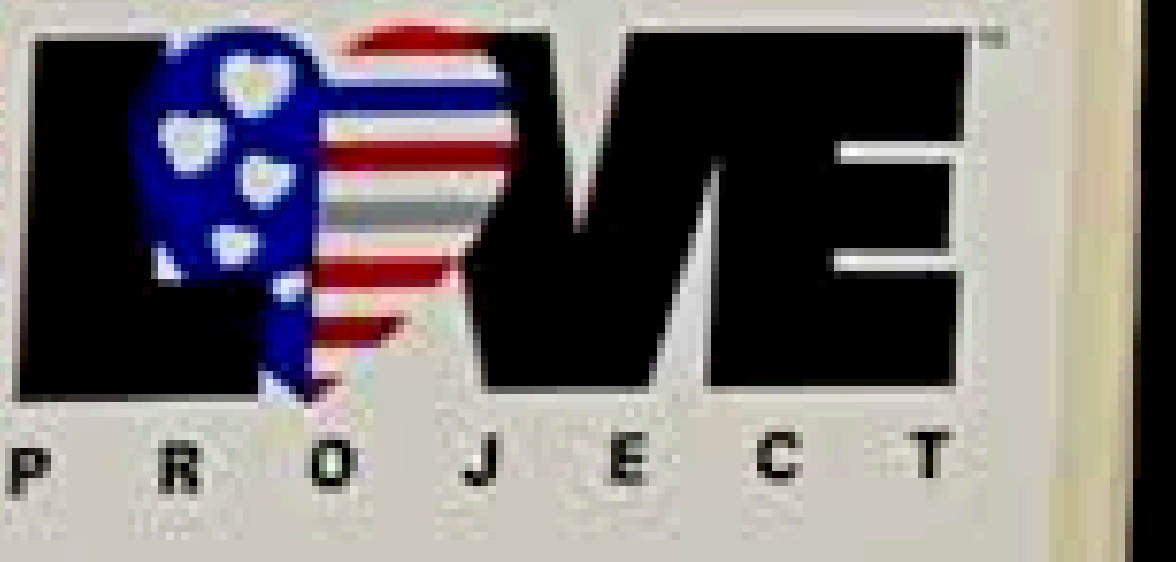
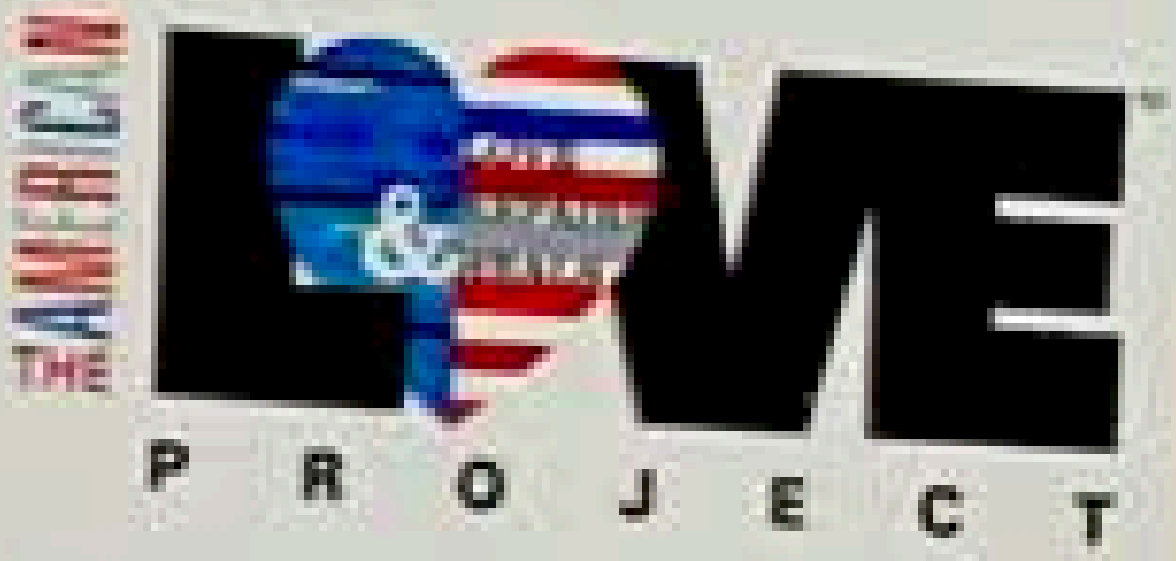
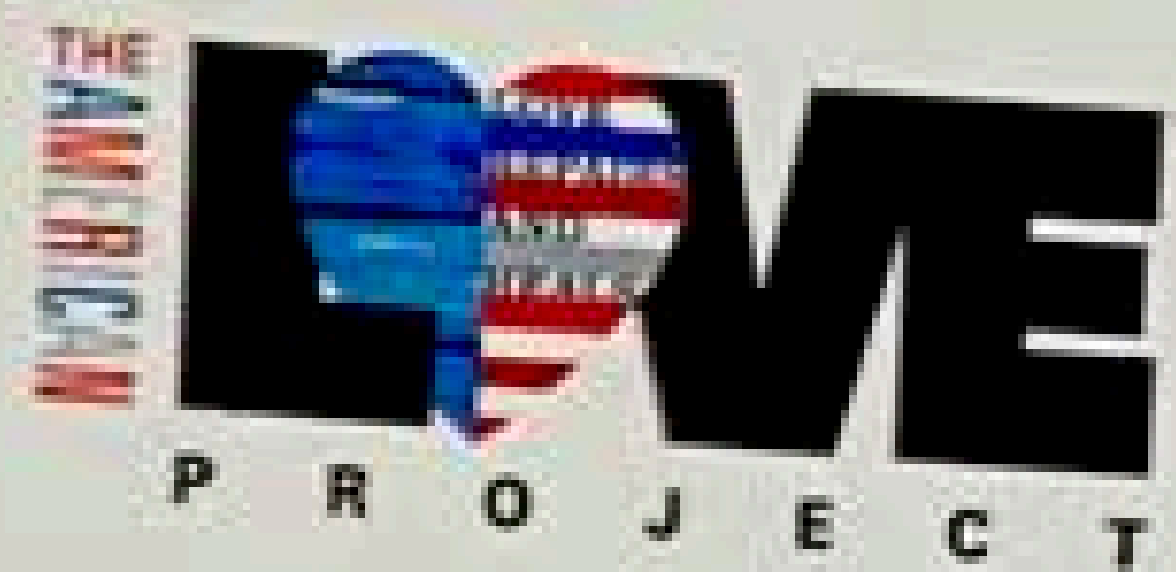
Funding in: \$125,000
FROM the HUDSON Fdn.



J E C T

DER WORLD

WORDS by POPPY
Logo: KLB.



THE PORTALS

THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNALS

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE



our nation's founding ideals + the power of art + words that inspire love of
all creation + the creativity of artists = American healing



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD

WORDS by POPPY

The Logo is
messaging
Starting with
the Dallas
Love Project
logo, we
added to
add the
messaging of
many colors—
together.
Poppy Sundeen
wrote the
messaging.

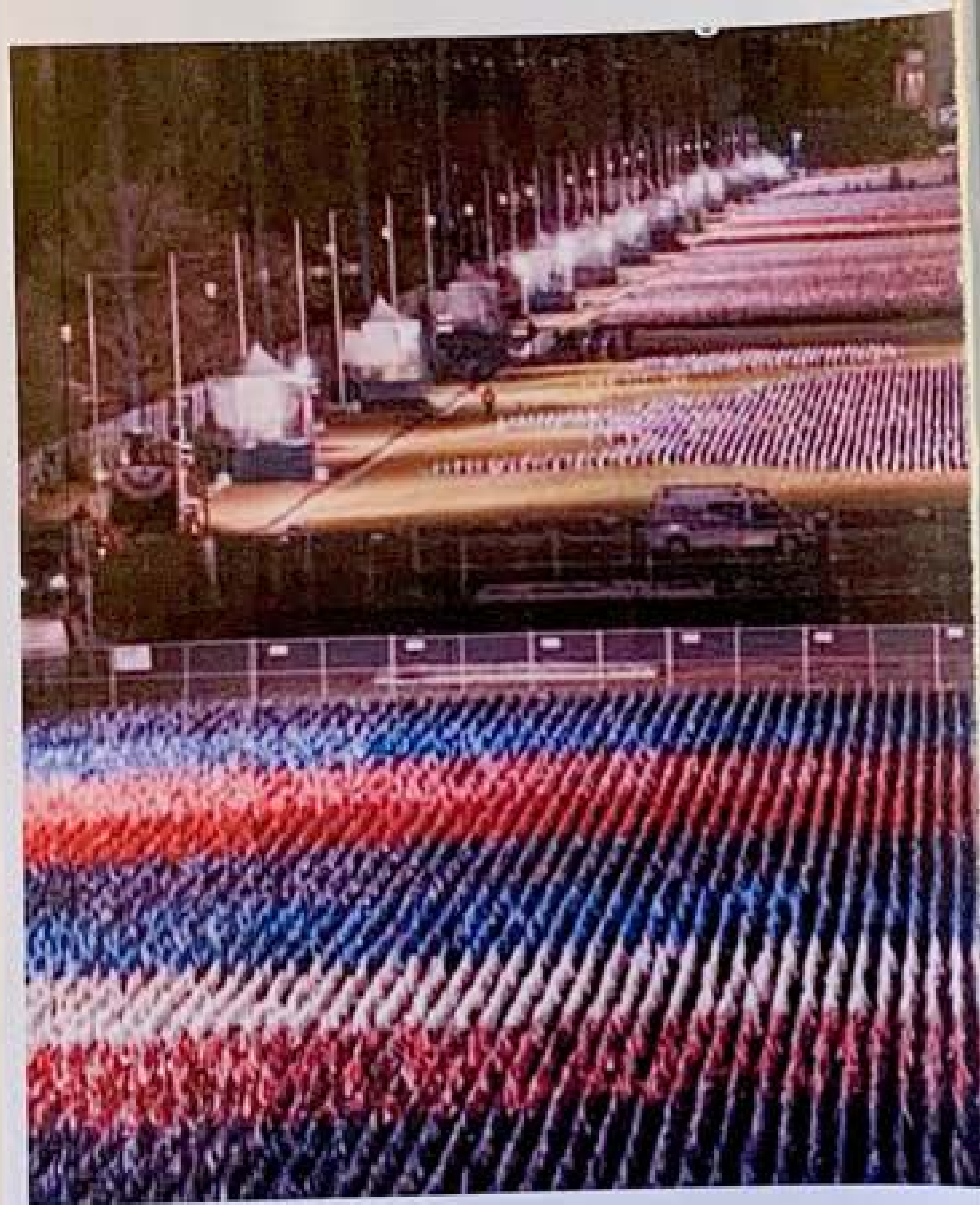


How can we make a

The National Mall



counter statement?



AMERICAN LOVE

ARTISTS MAKING A KIND



DER WORLD

I WAS TAKEN BY THIS
the BIDEN/HARRIS
I asked Peter Kohlmann who did

DISPLAY OF FLAGS for
INAUGURATION.

He found out & the conversation
with FRONTRUNNER PRODUCTIONS began.

I soon
found out
that this
was a
\$20 million
installation.



67 EXHIBIT VENUES



ARTISTS MAKING A KIN

DALLAS LOVE PROJECT

THE PORTALS

THE TALP DECK

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RID



DER WORLD

EXHIBIT SAMPLES.

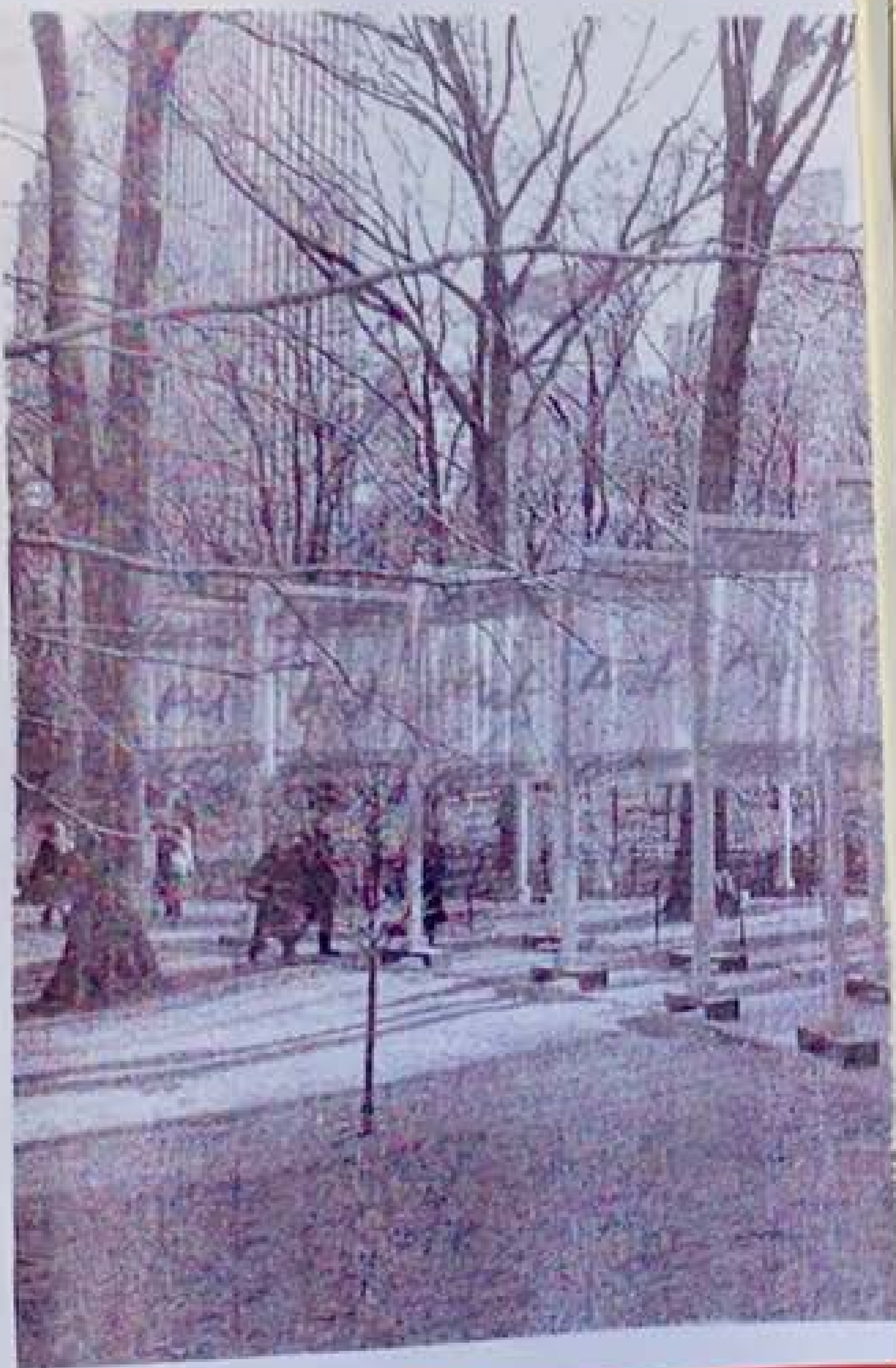
THE PORTALS

THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNALS

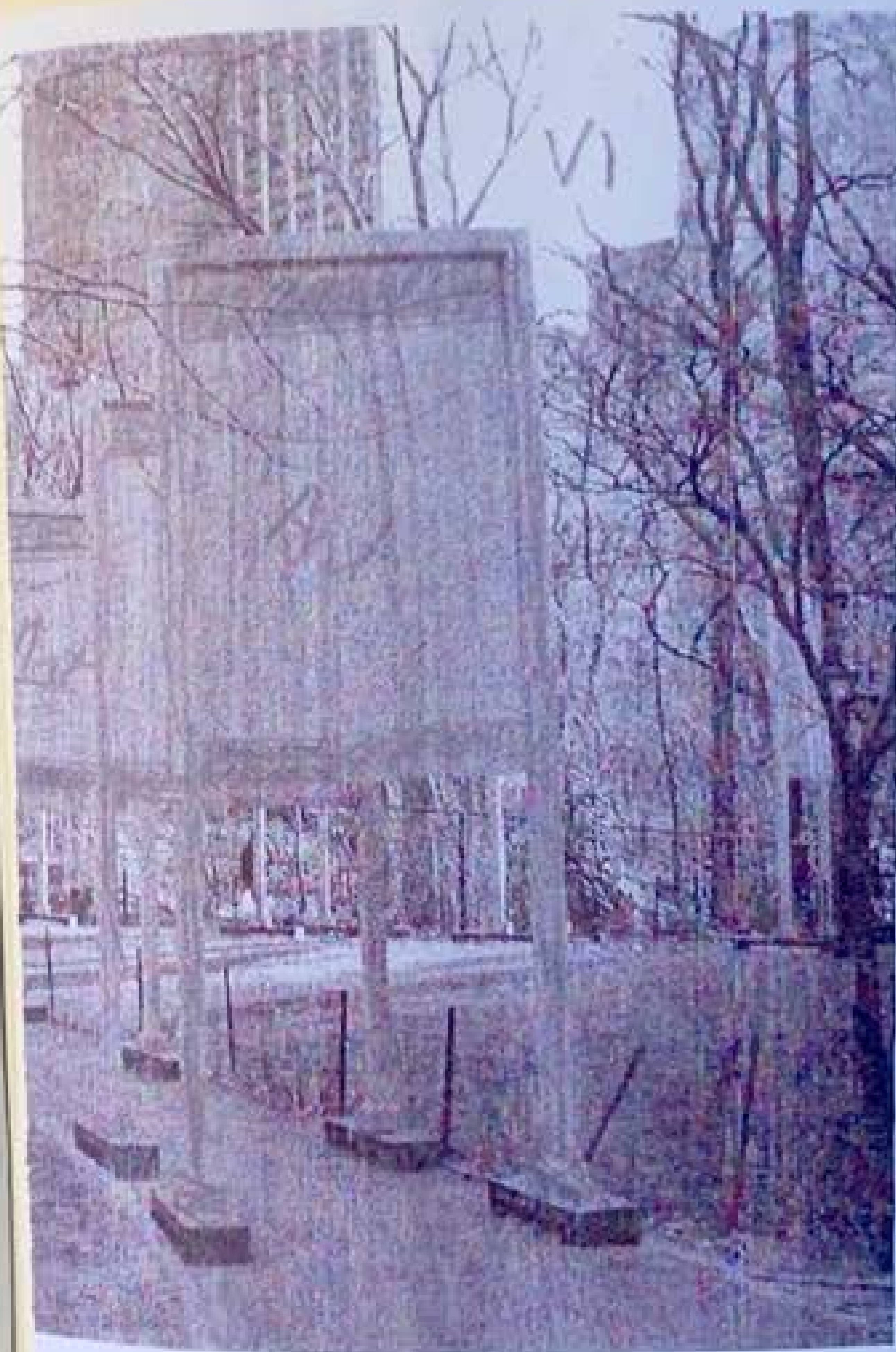
ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE



AMERICAN LOVE

ARTISTS MAKING A KIND



DER WORLD

Peter K. urged us to
installation. aka

consider an interactive
CHRISTO + JEAN CLAUDE

What do we want people to experience when they go through our gates?



ARTISTS MAKING A KIND

DER WORLD

These slides are from the
a conversation
that Covid will

first presentation —
starter. We hope
be under control. (P.S. 1.6.24
(It was not))

THE PORTALS

THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNAL

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RID

WHAT DO STUDENTS, ARTISTS, TEACHERS IDENTIFY WITH?
ASPIRE TO?
FIND JOY IN?



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD

How do we engage connect with teachers?

THE PORTALS

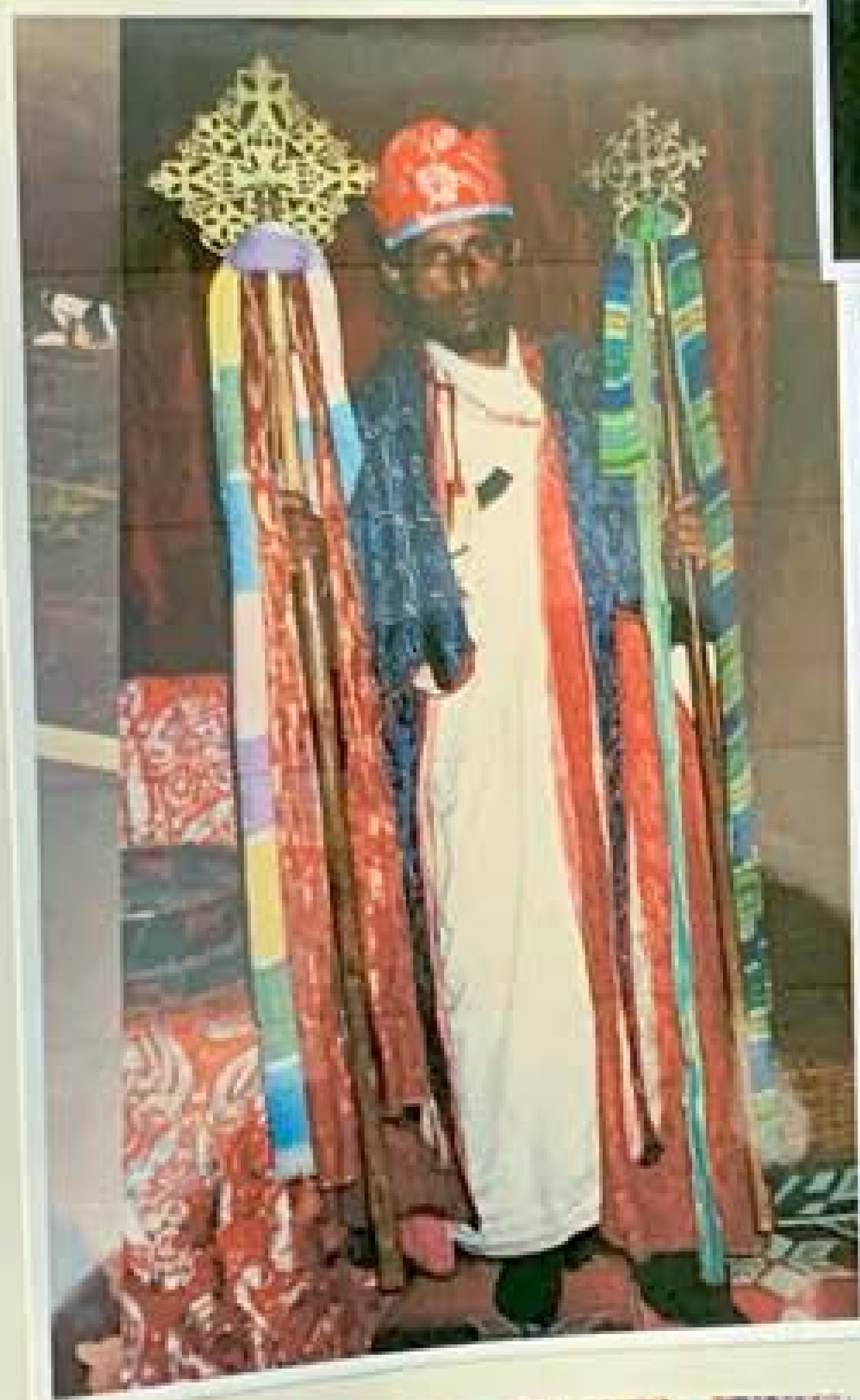
UKRAINE LIEKNE

THE TALP DECK

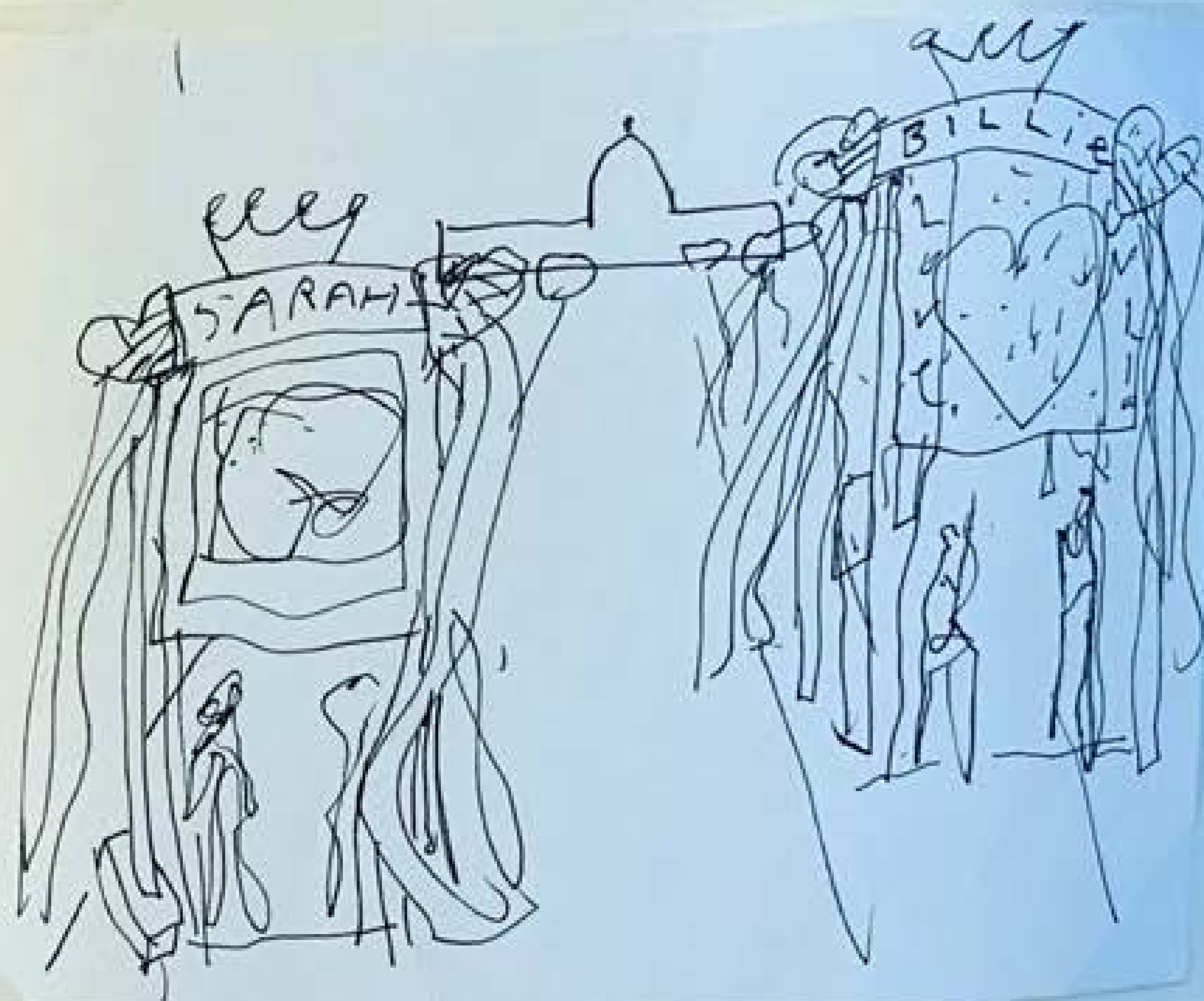
MY JOURNALS

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE



CROWNS/HEADRESSES

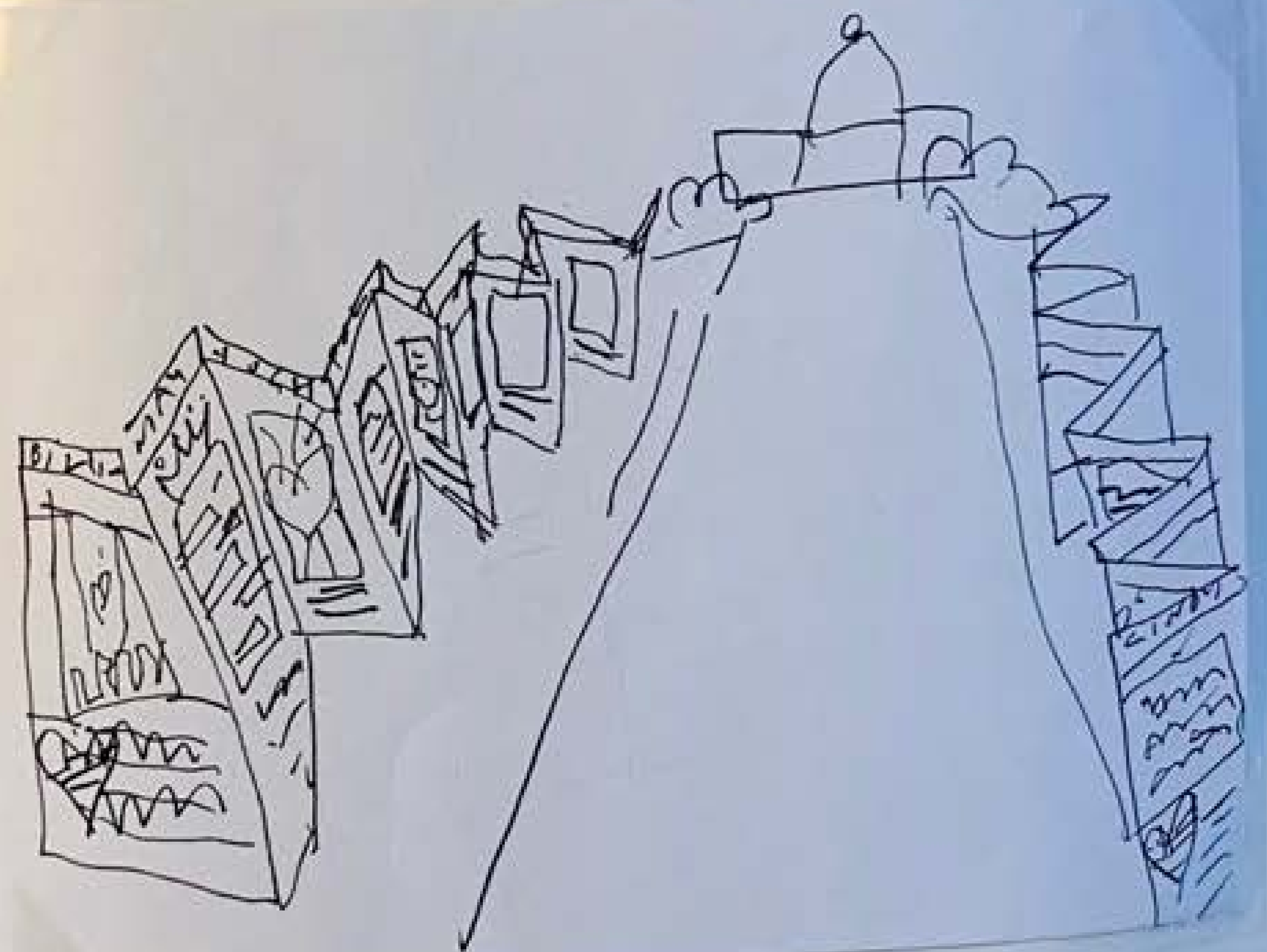


When we did Dallas
Teacher Speak, several teachers
asked to be photographed
wearing crowns.
Symbol of Royalty, ascension

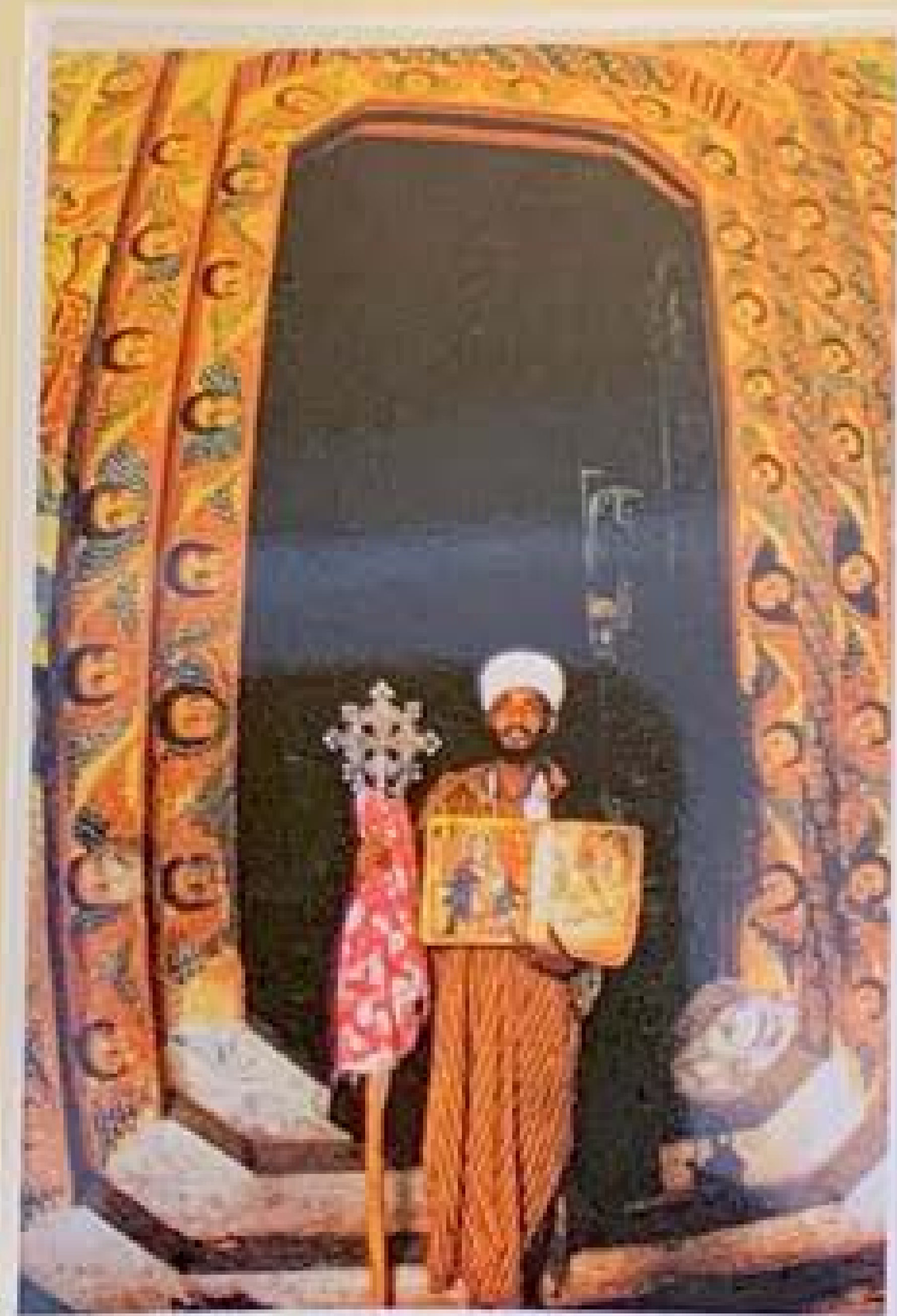


I photographed
this early book
at the Museum
of Anthropology
in Mexico City.
A book like
this is transporting.

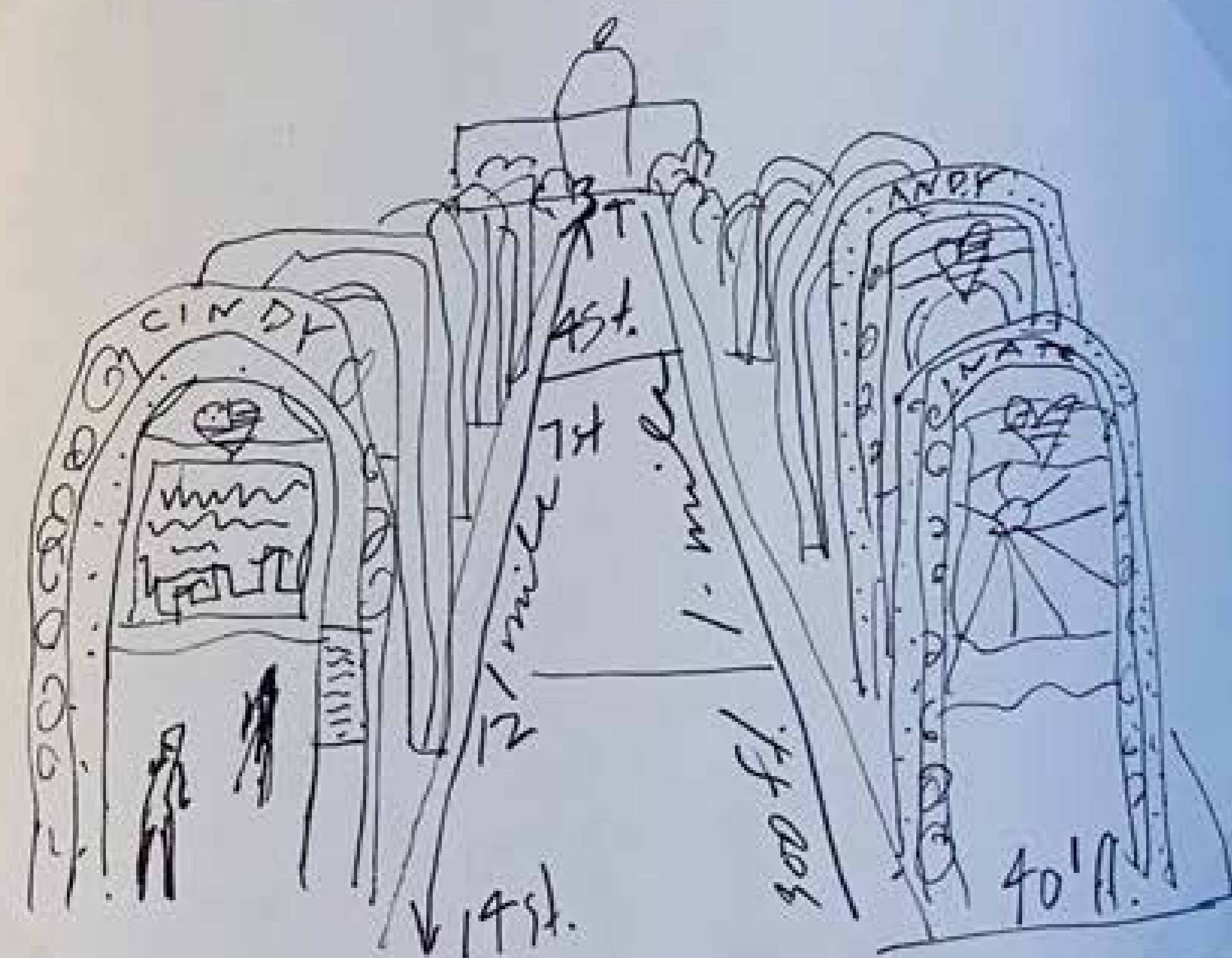
BOOKS /
ACCORDIAN FOLD BOOK



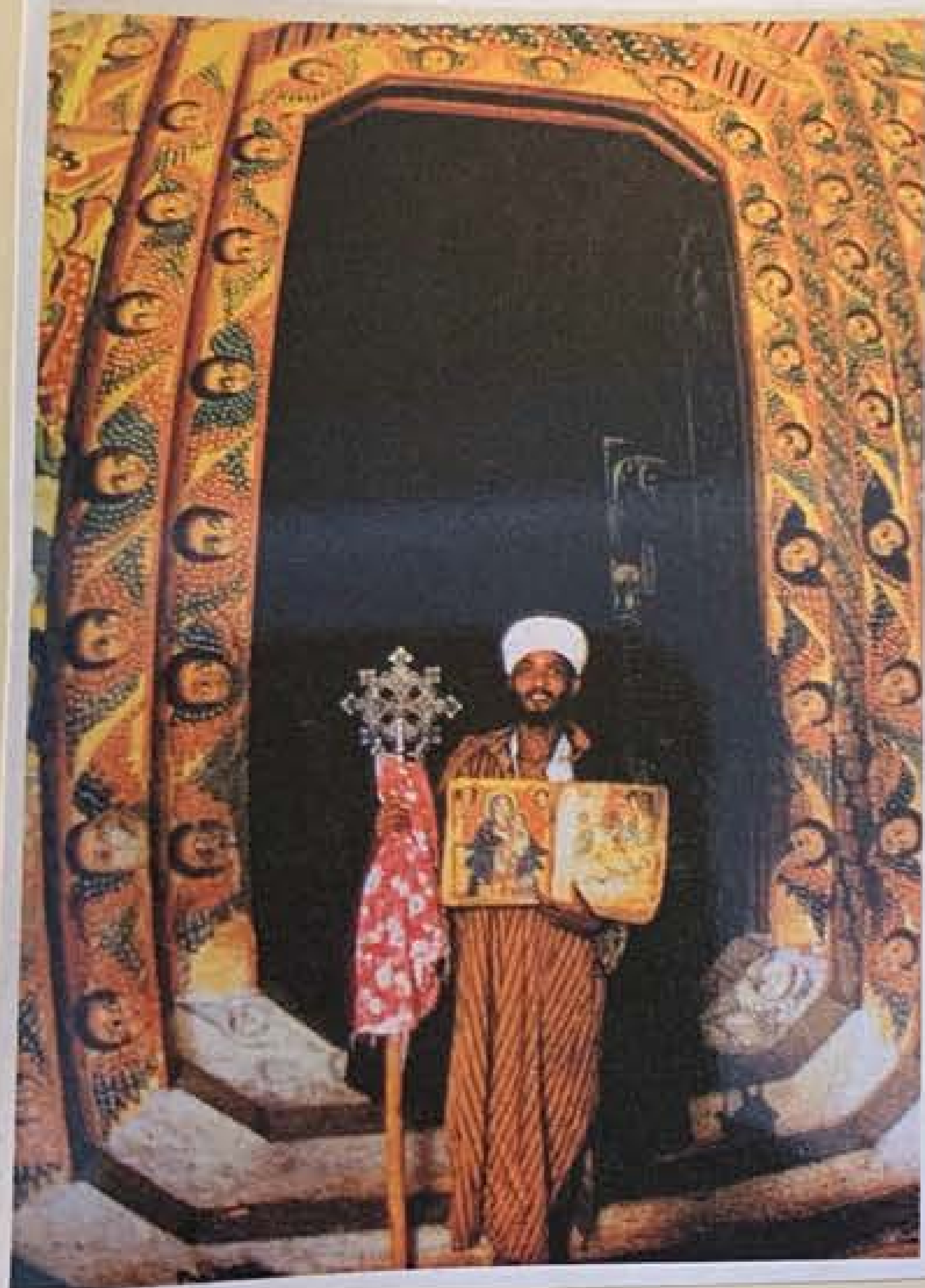
So: Can we do a
GIANT BOOK?



TEACHER'S DOORWAYS



INSPIRED BY teacher's
doorways — a portal* to
expanding one's world, joy,
learning, growth.
*the good teachers.



From Randy Twaddle

Hi Karen,

After further looking and consideration, I feel like the teacher's doorways idea is the strongest, having the most potential for reference and the experience of it. You really sparked my interest in it when you told me that in your experience the teacher's who were most impactful had decorated the doors to their classrooms. I suspect because it set up an expectation for the students that they were entering into a distinctive space, where expectations and activities in that space were different than the space from which they came. They formalized that transition, and I think that's one of the things you want to accomplish with this. I also think the structure allows for adornment in a way that could be visually arresting and take advantage of other senses. I love the idea of streamers being animated by a breeze, and as I said on the zoom, I think they would be a distinct feature in the midst of all that stone.

What I'd like to see out of this but have no ideas about how to accomplish it, is a way for the visitor to feel that transformation, particularly if it brought a sense of absolution or new life or new perspective. Something to acknowledge the shedding of whatever armor they might have been wearing before they walked through all those portals of love. I think it's possible the experience itself might have that effect, I just think if there was a way to formalize it, in a (secular) liturgical sense, it could really have an impact.

As for the aural component, it would be nice to have a mix of voices, music, recitations from our founding documents that highlight the promise vs. the reality.

That's all I got this morning. I'll keep thinking and in the unlikely event anything worthwhile comes to mind, I'll share it with you before noon tomorrow.

Good luck with it all. Please keep me in the loop as you go forward.

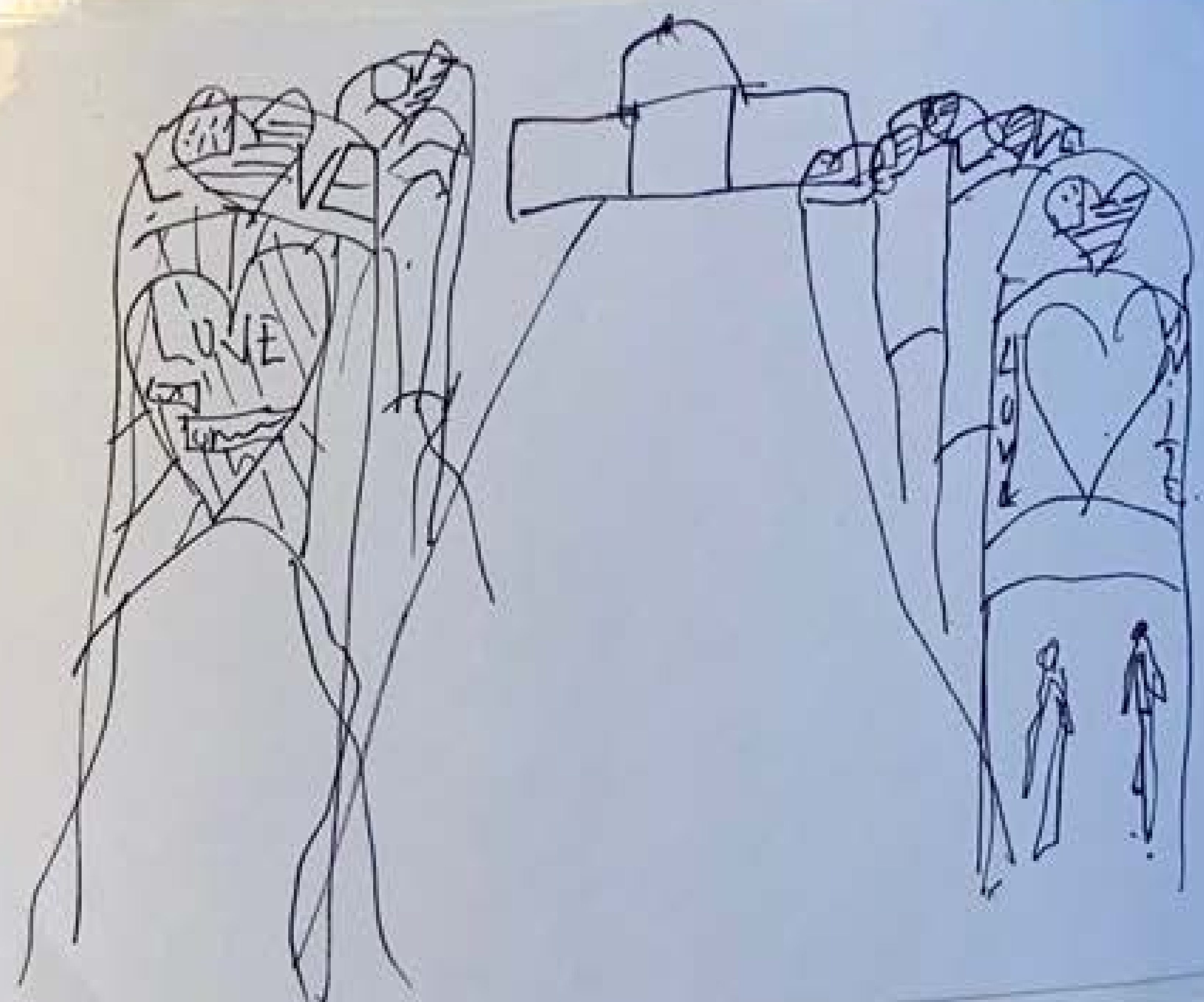
I've attached pics of the boy as requested - this xmas with me and Rebekah, and his MCC baseball pic.

INSPIRED By the
doorways — a
expanding one's wor
learning, growth
tea



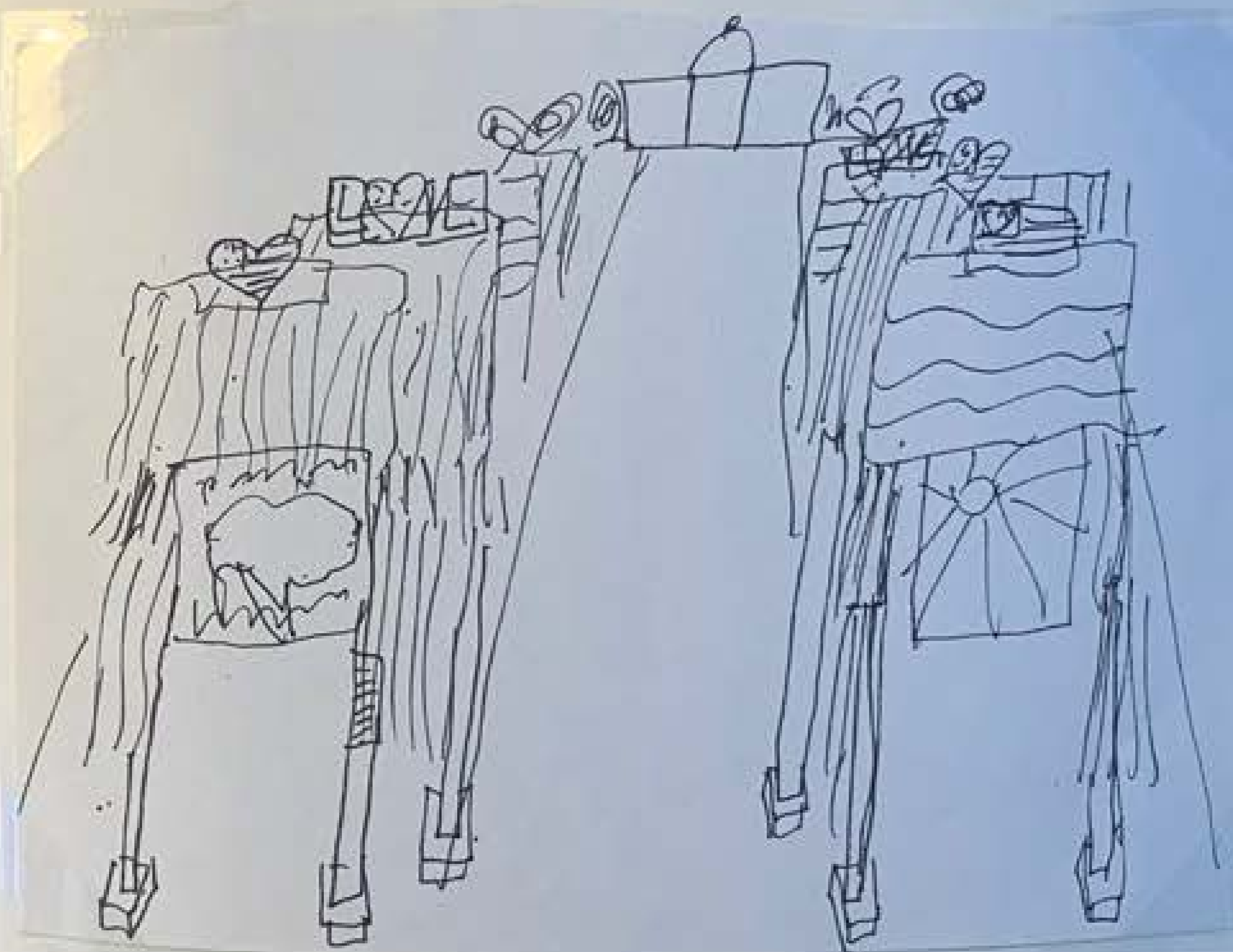
Oliverio Alvarado's plate metal child on

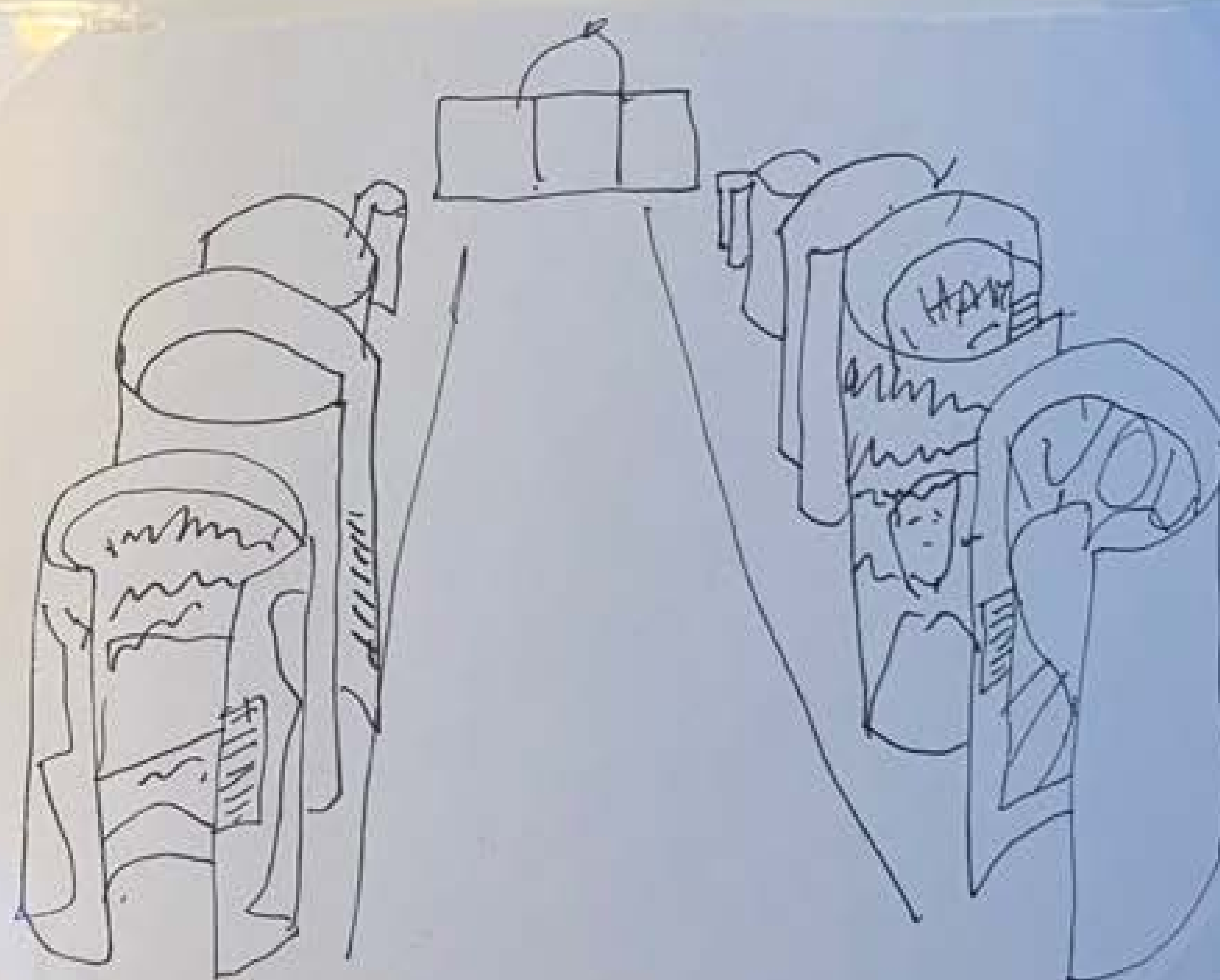
EASELS





SIGHT
SOUND
TOUCH





THE PORTALS

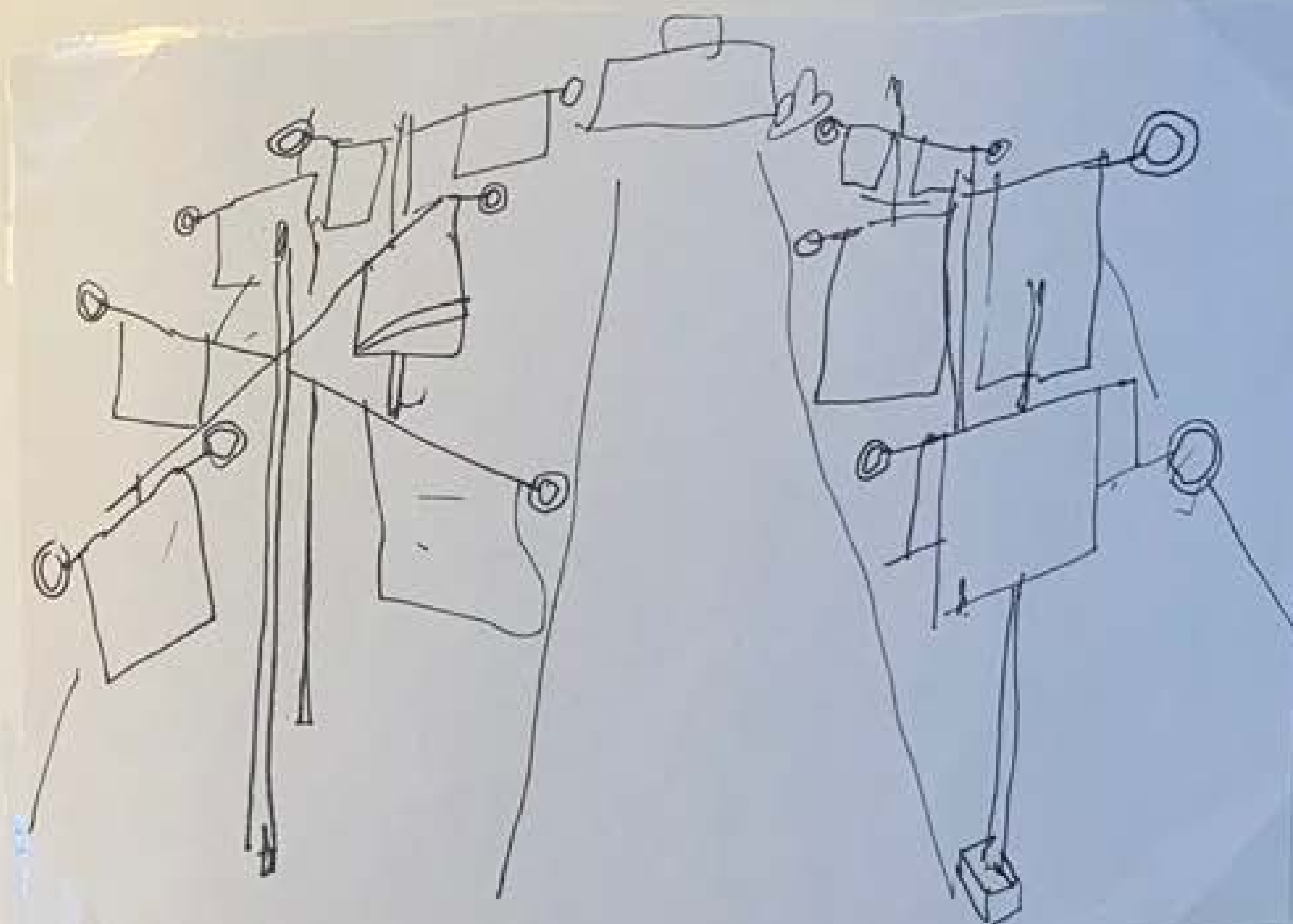
UKRAINE LIENEMAN

THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNAL

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE



THE PORTALS

SCORRAINE LIENEMA

THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNA

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE

- Faces
- wings
- Patterns
- The Flag
- Birds
- Flowers
- Apples
- words
- Super Heroes
- Stars + planets + clouds
- Food
- Fish
- Hearts

- Blackboard
- Rockets
- Music



Priest in doorway at Lalibela in Ethiopia.



ARTISTS MAKING A KIND

TEACHER'S DO



- Love
- Owls
- Art supplies

THE PORTALS

OKRAINE LIENEMAN

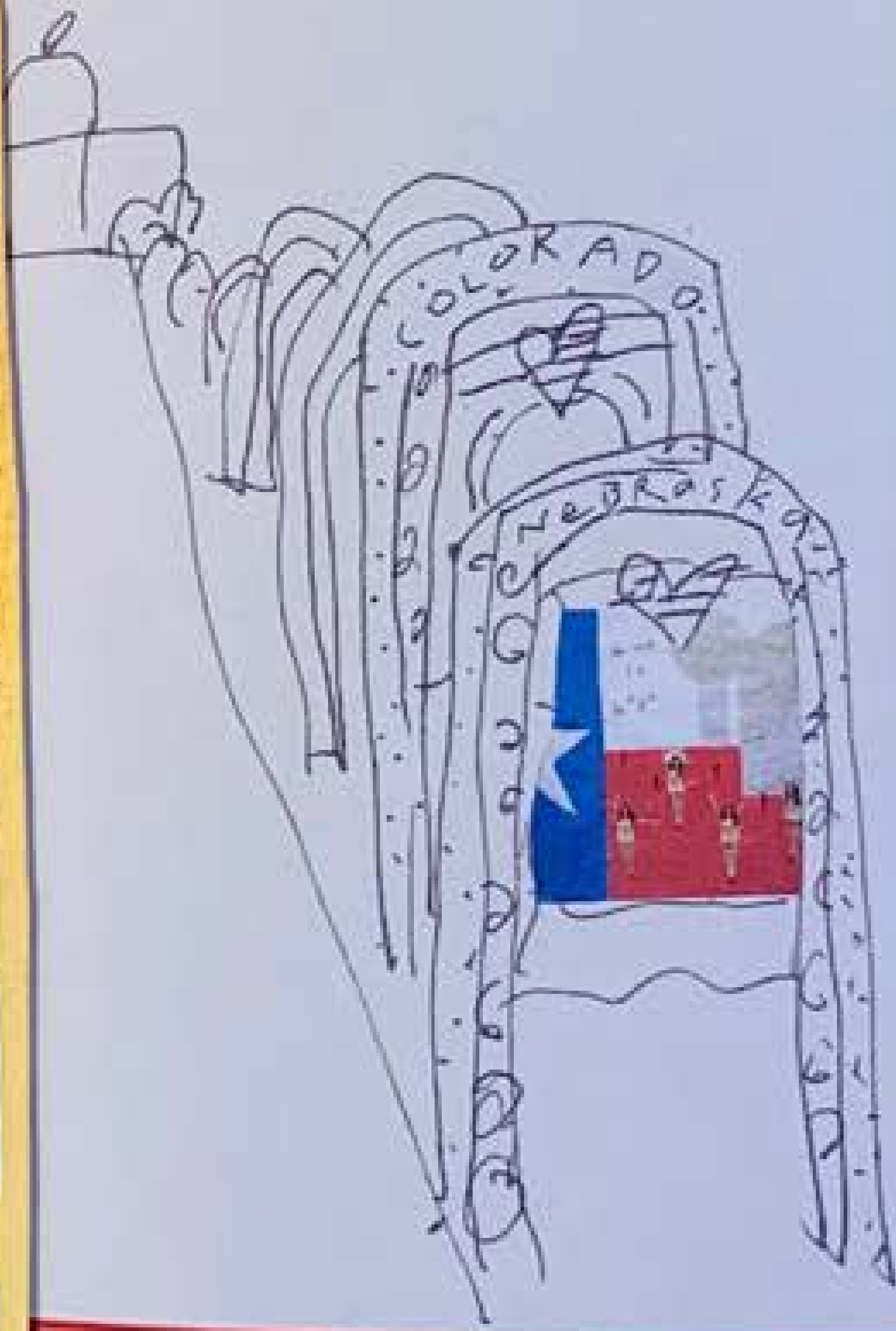
THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNALS

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RID

WAYS



Josée Bisailon
Beppe Giscobba
Elizabeth Rosen

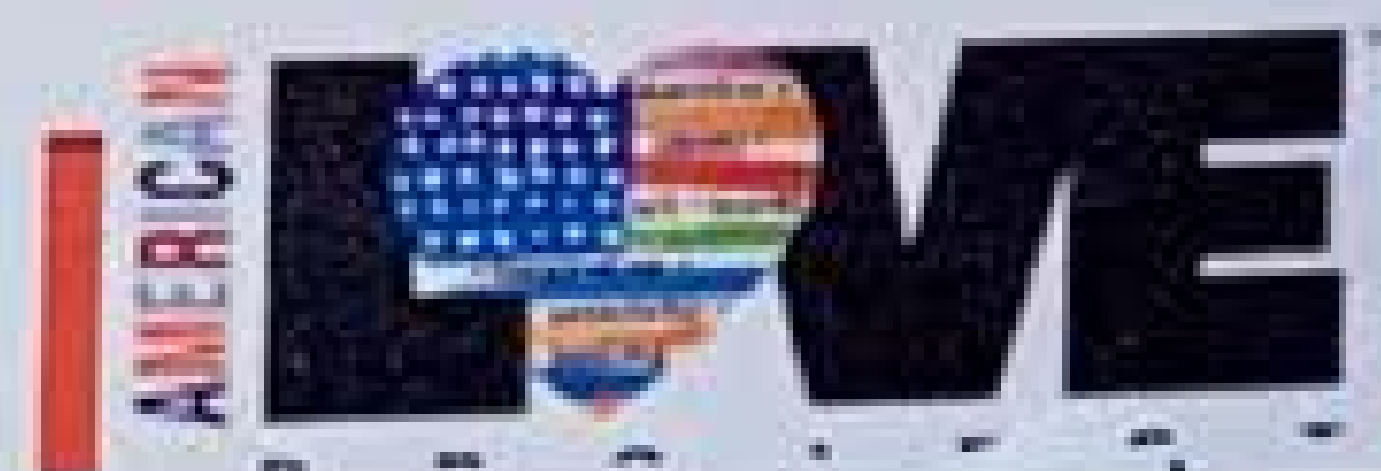
ARTISTS:

- Ari Brielle
- Billy Hassell
- Alexander C.
- Jorge G.
- Abi Salami
- Victor Ngai
- Riley Honey
- Jonathan
Bartlett
MGI
- Maria
Muller
- Douglas Smith
(Richard
Solomon)
- Lizzy Boyd
- Shelley Thomas
- Phoebe Little

- Faces
- Wings
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- The Flag
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- Words
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- Stars + planets + clouds
- Food
- Fish
- Hearts



Priest in doorway at Lalibela in Ethiopia.



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD

- Blackboard
- Rockets
- Music

- Love
- Owls
- Art supplies

TEACHER'S DOORWAYS



Josée Bisailon
Beppe Giacobbe
Elizabeth Rosen

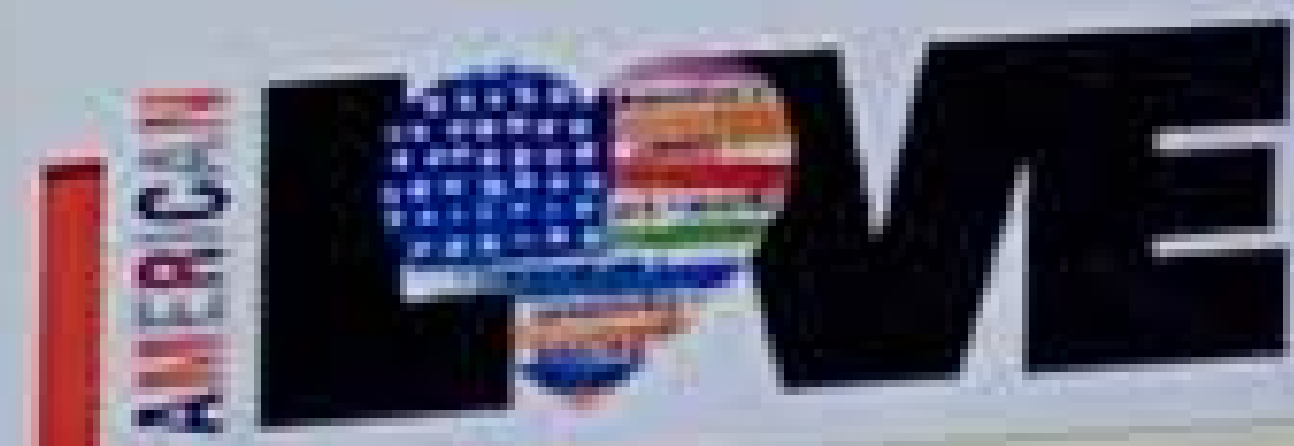
ARTISTS:

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- Billy Hassell
- Alejandro C.
- Jorge G.
- Abi Salami
- Victor Ngai
- Riley Holloway
- Jonathan Bartlett
MGI
- Maria Multeni
- Douglas Smith
(Richard Solomon)
- Lizi Boyd
- Shelley Thomas
- Phoebe Little

Books



Early accordion fold book at Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City.



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD

MORE
ACCURATE

THE TALP DECK

ANNE FRANK

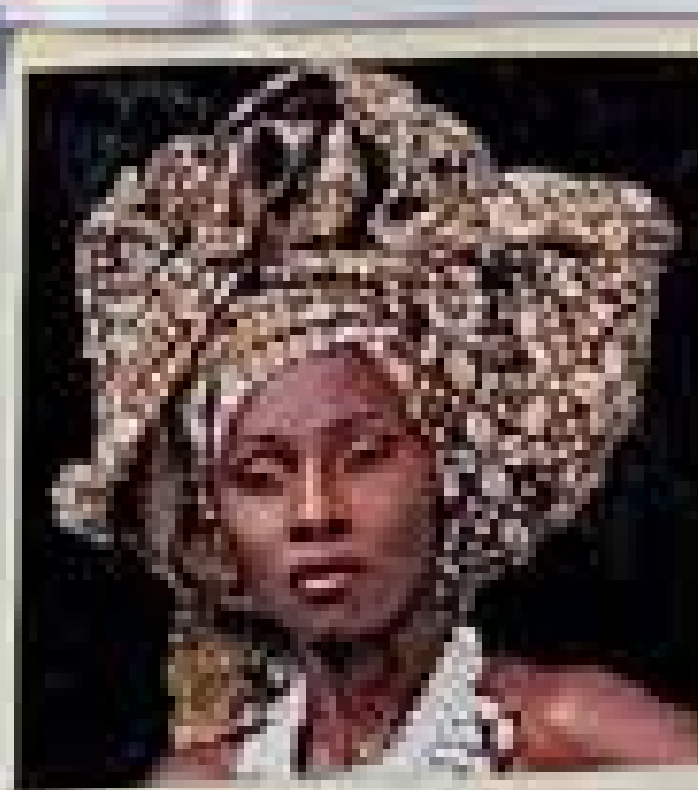
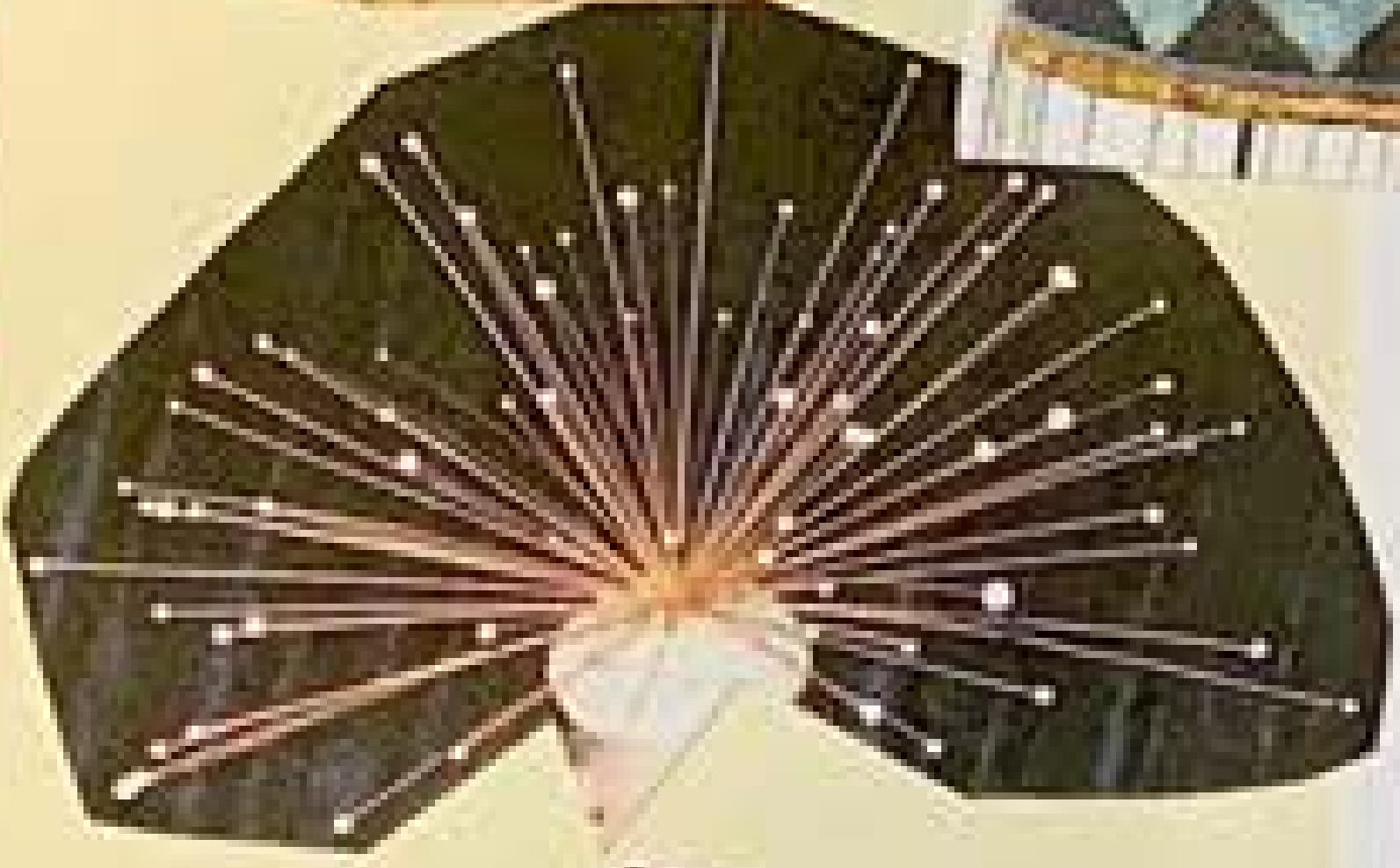
AMBULANCE RID

MY JOURNALS

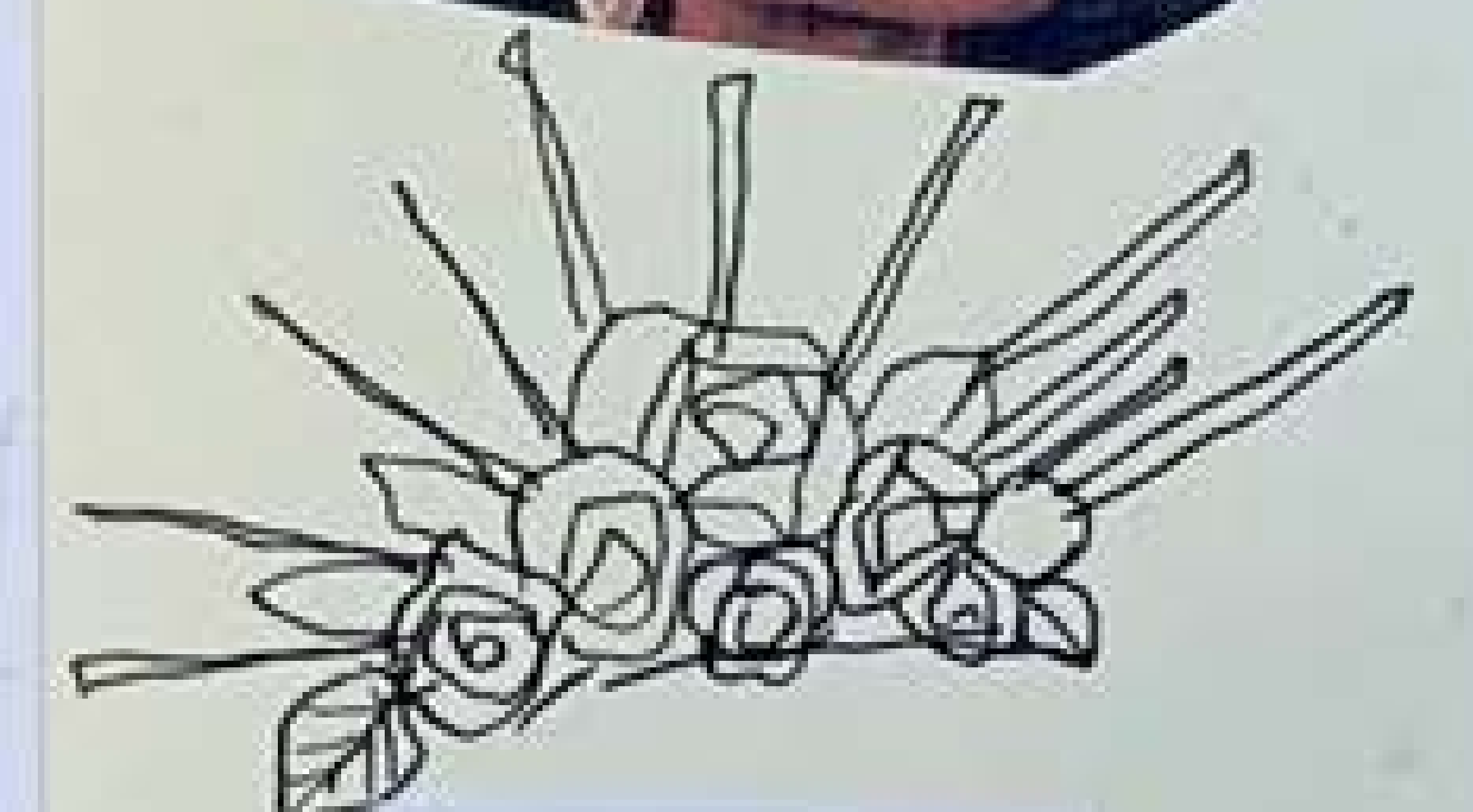
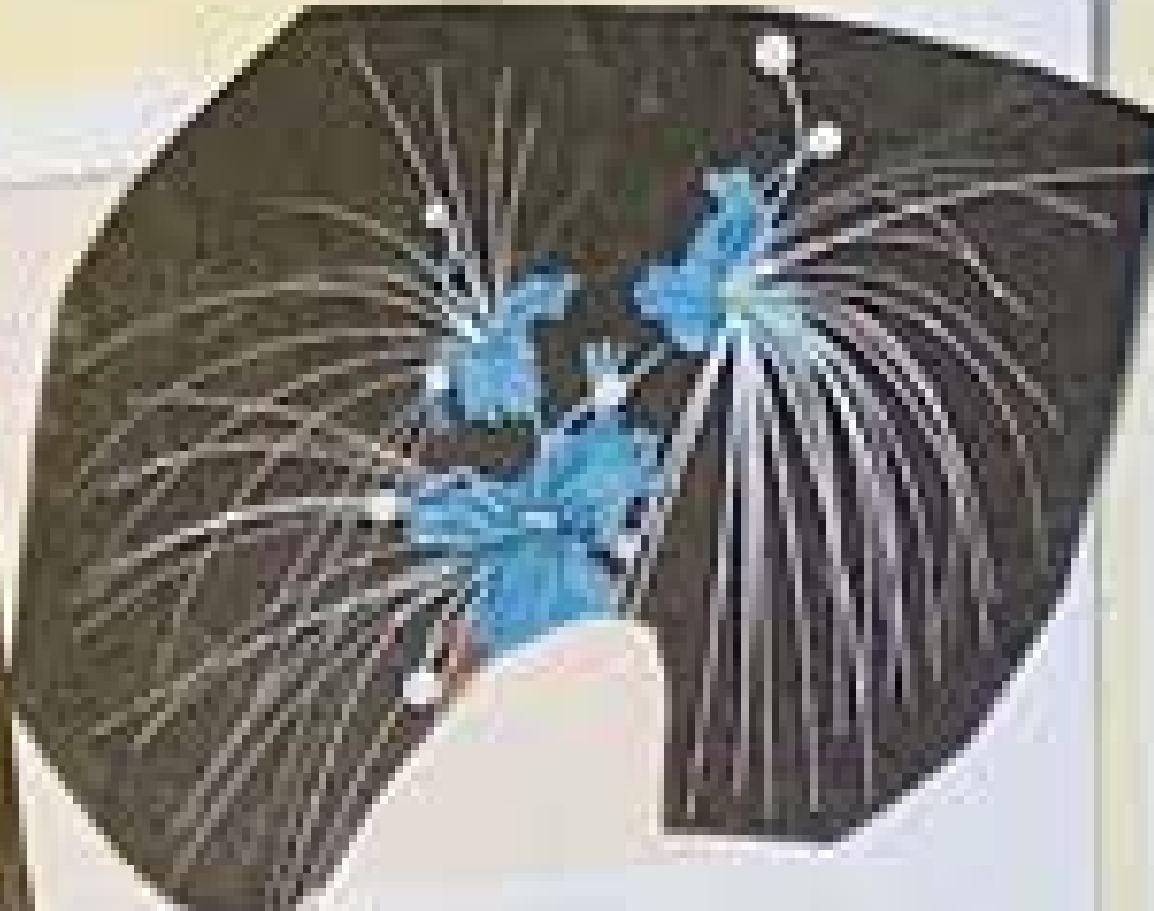
IMAGINE LIENEMAN



Priest at Lalibela in Ethiopia.
Billie Eilish: "You should see me in a crown."



CROWNS



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD



SORRAINE LIENEMA

THE TALP DECK

MY JOURN

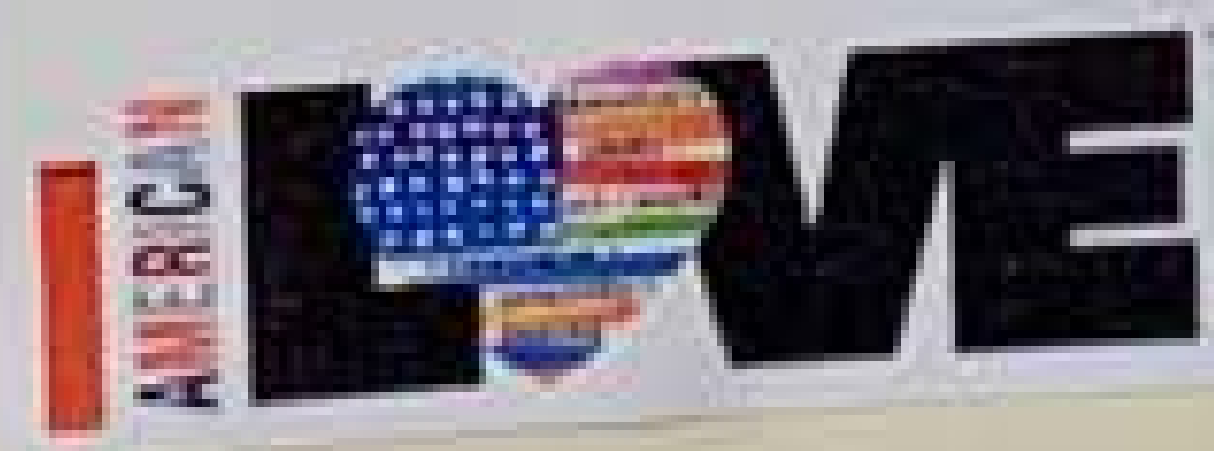
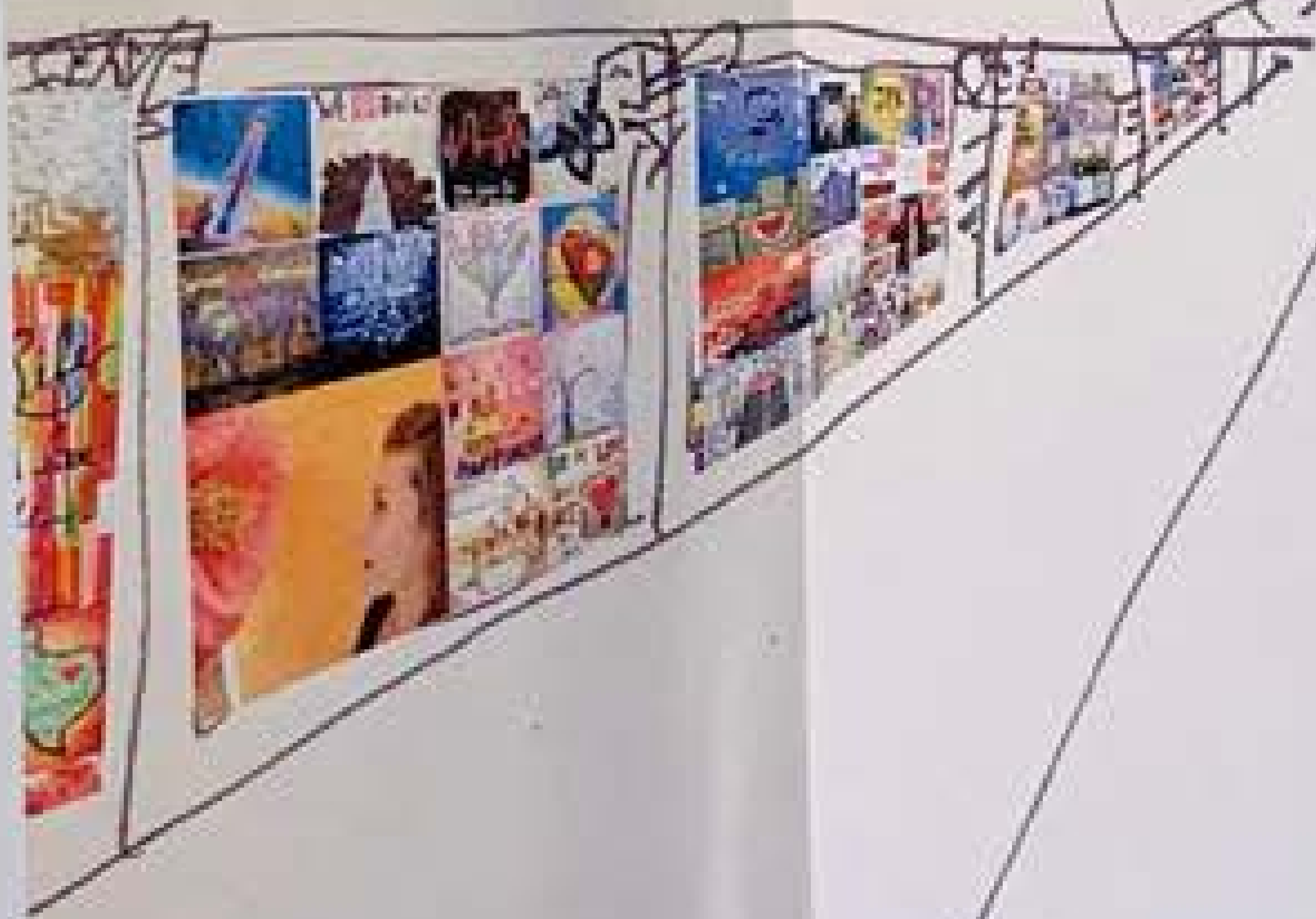
ANNE FRANK

AMBULANC

GALLERY



From Land Art Generator



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD

SIGHT
SOUND
TOUCH



From Land Art Generator



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD

LORRAINE LIENEMA

THE TALP DECK

ANNE FRANK

AMBULA

MY JOUR

AMBULANCE RIDE

ANNE FRANK

MY JOURNALS

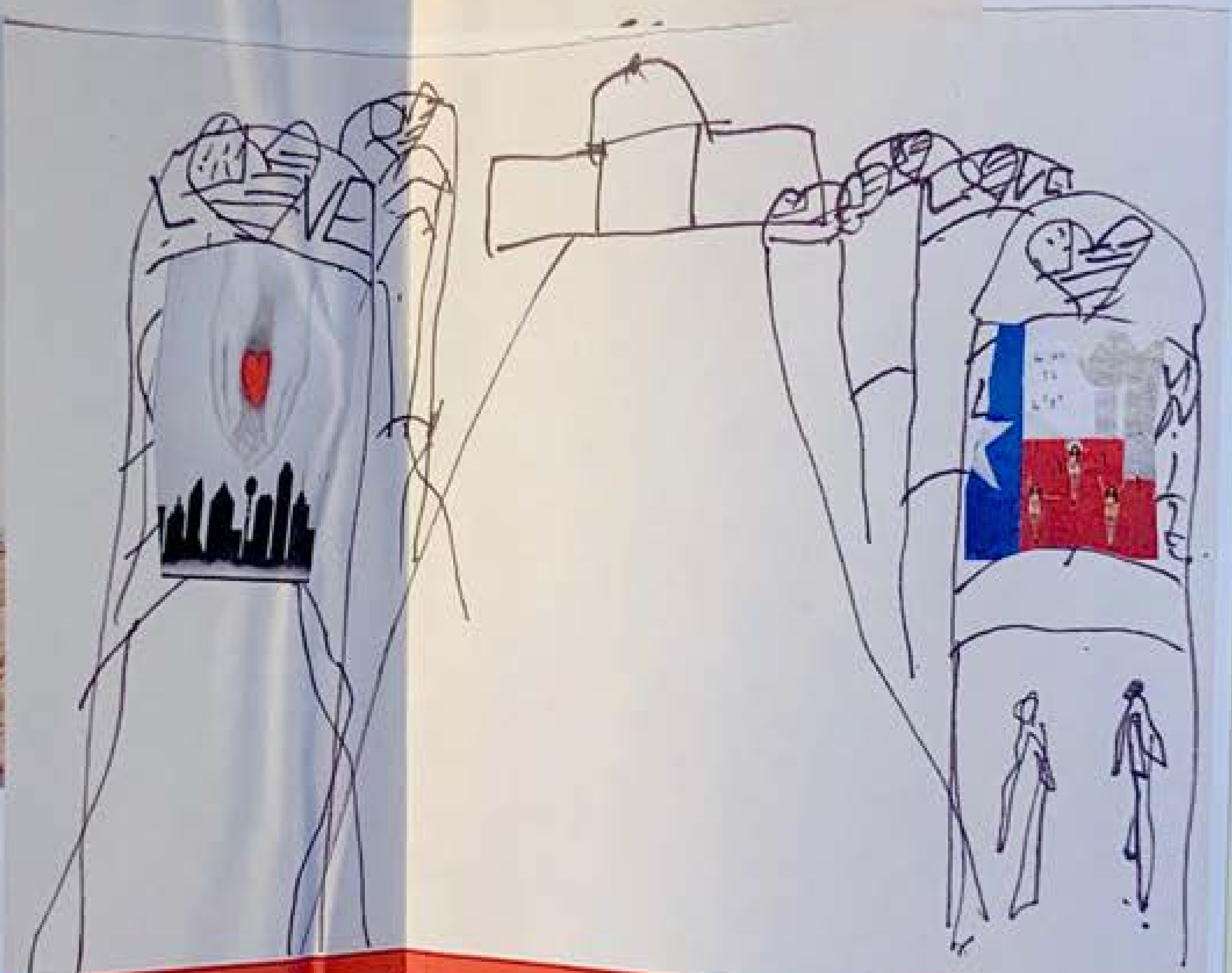
THE TALP DECK

CHUCKIE LIENEMAN

EASELS



From a site in Sweden



ARTISTS MAKING A KINDER WORLD

MORE INSPIRATION



CHERIE LITENMAN

THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNALS

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE



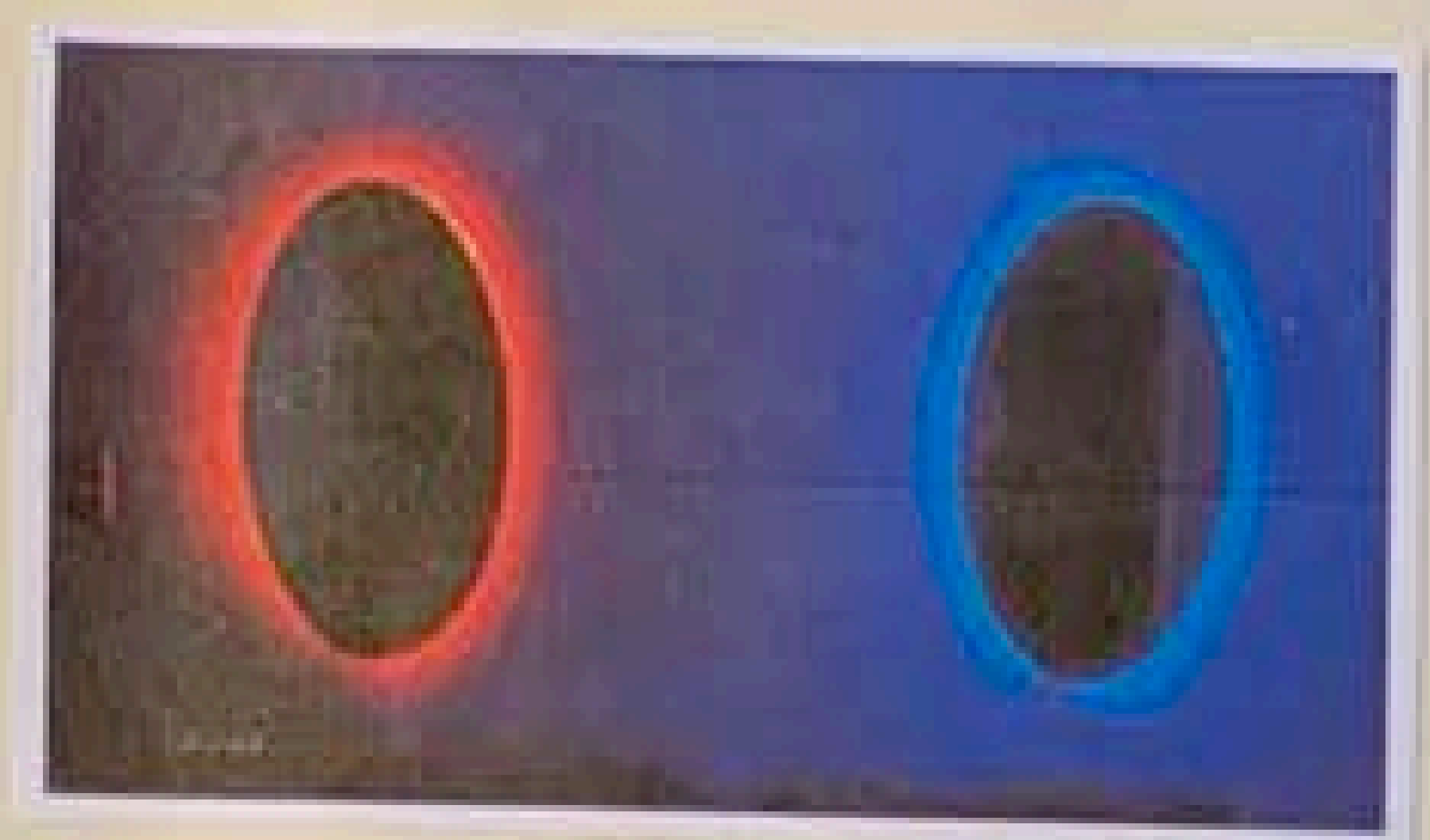
AMBULANCE RIDE

ANNE FRANK

MY JOURNALS

THE TALP DECK

OKKAI NEEMANI

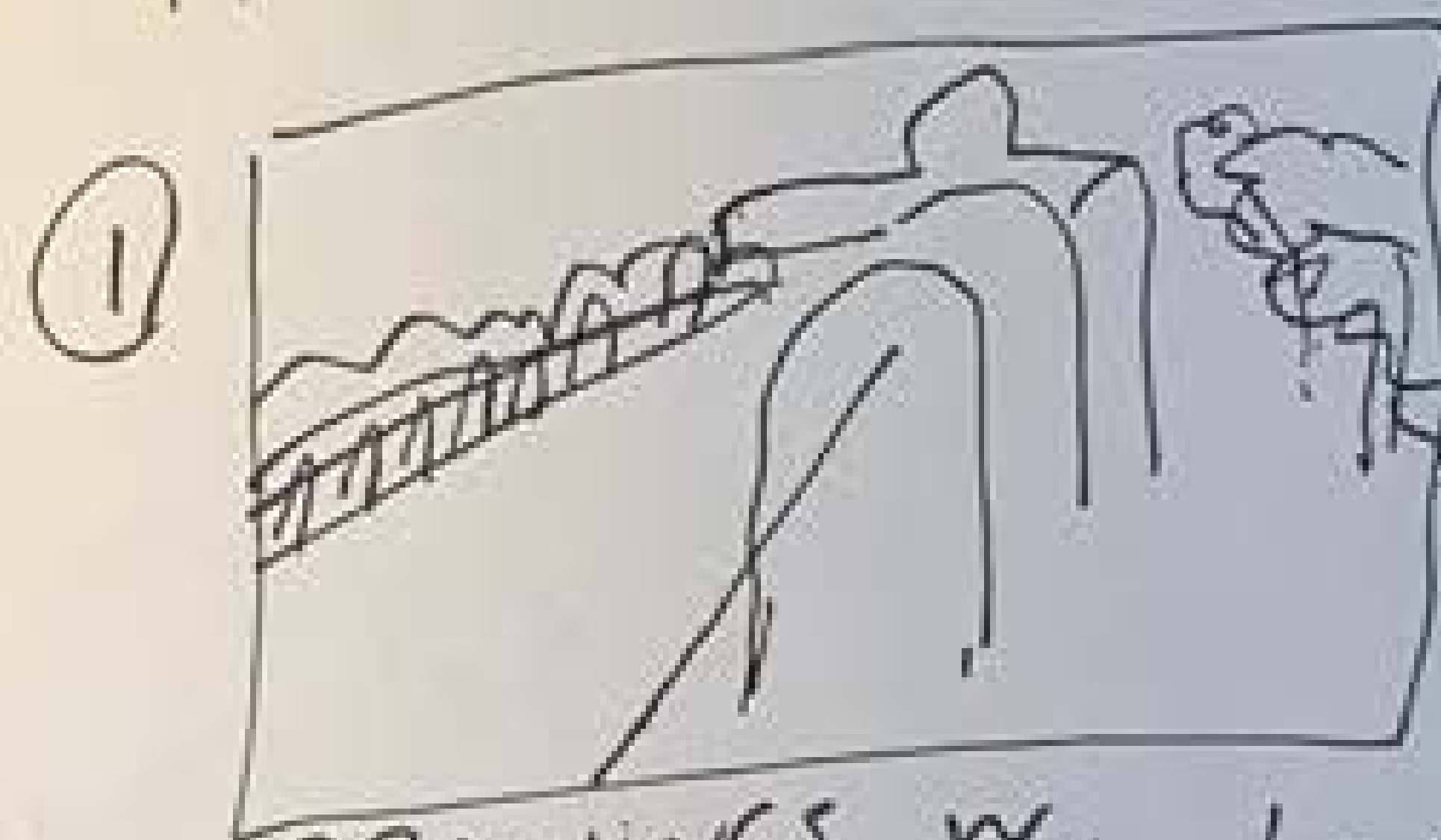




Sunday April 25, 2021
In STUDIO

Envisioning + Drawing
what drawings?

How much time each?



DRAWINGS w
portals in landscape
collage w.

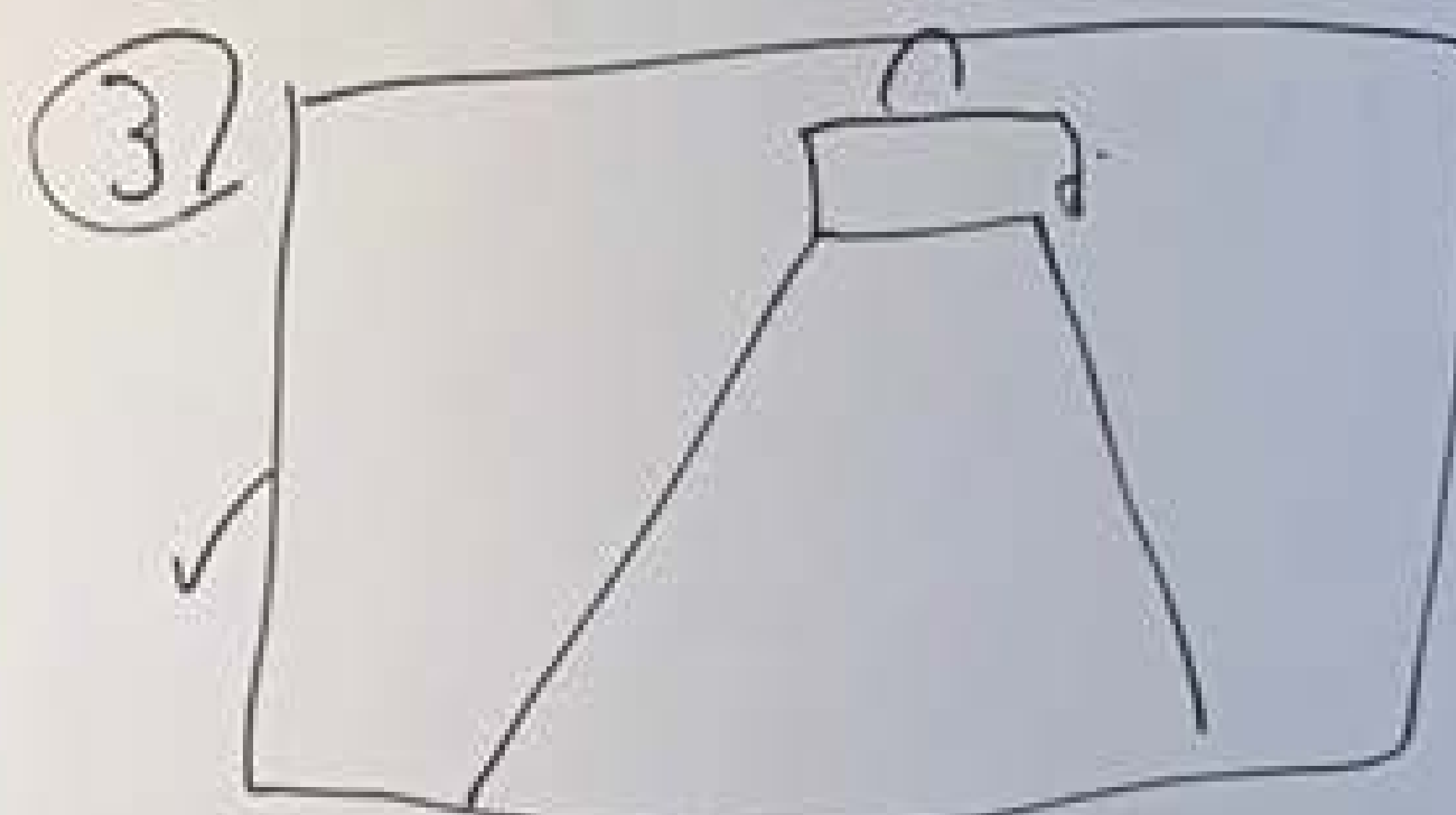


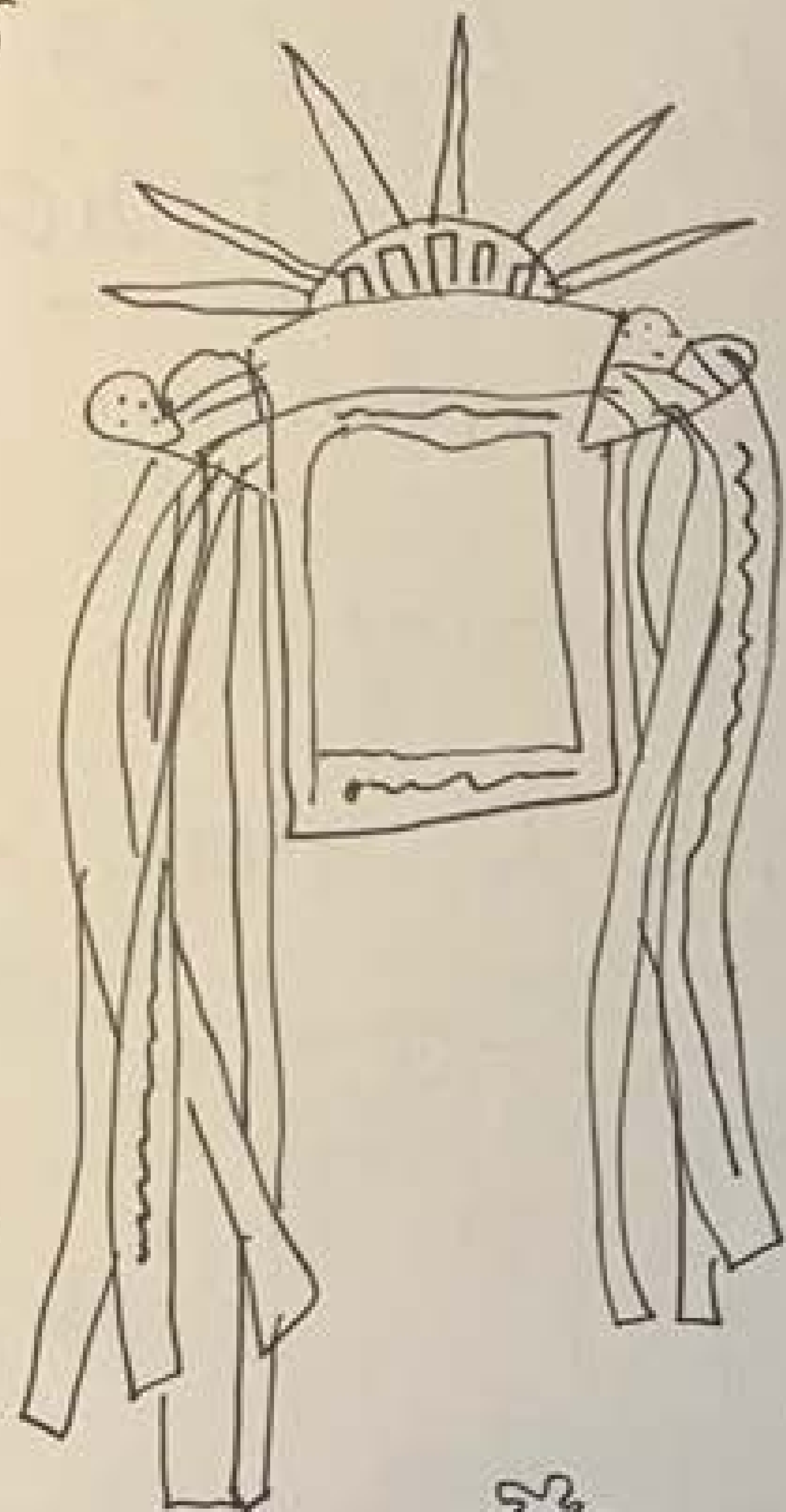
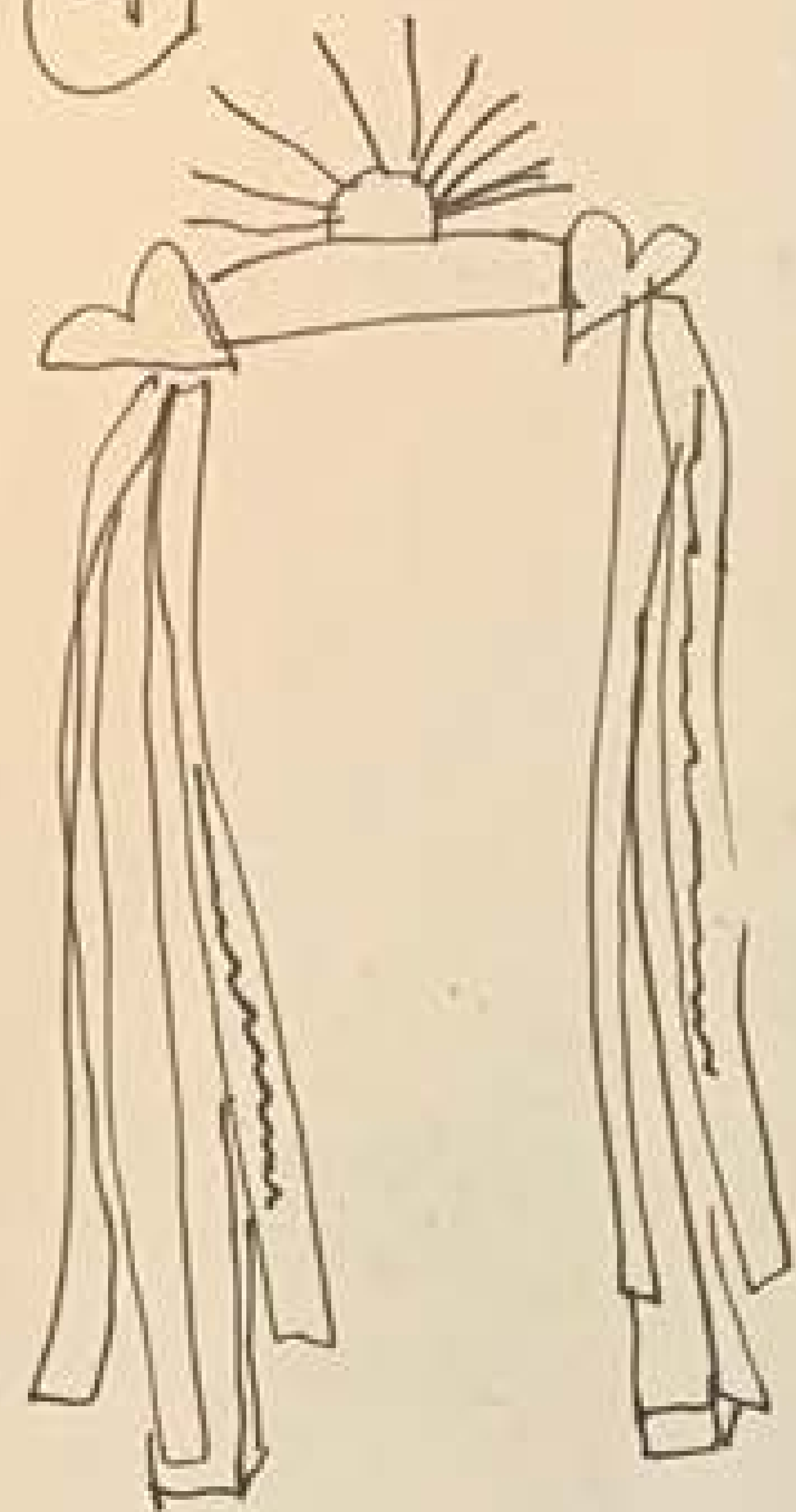
DIAGRAM -
done - add in
my little
thumbnails



1 hr.

2-3 More finished
drawing of
doorway portals
to state
+ translated to
ai.
2 or 3
versions.

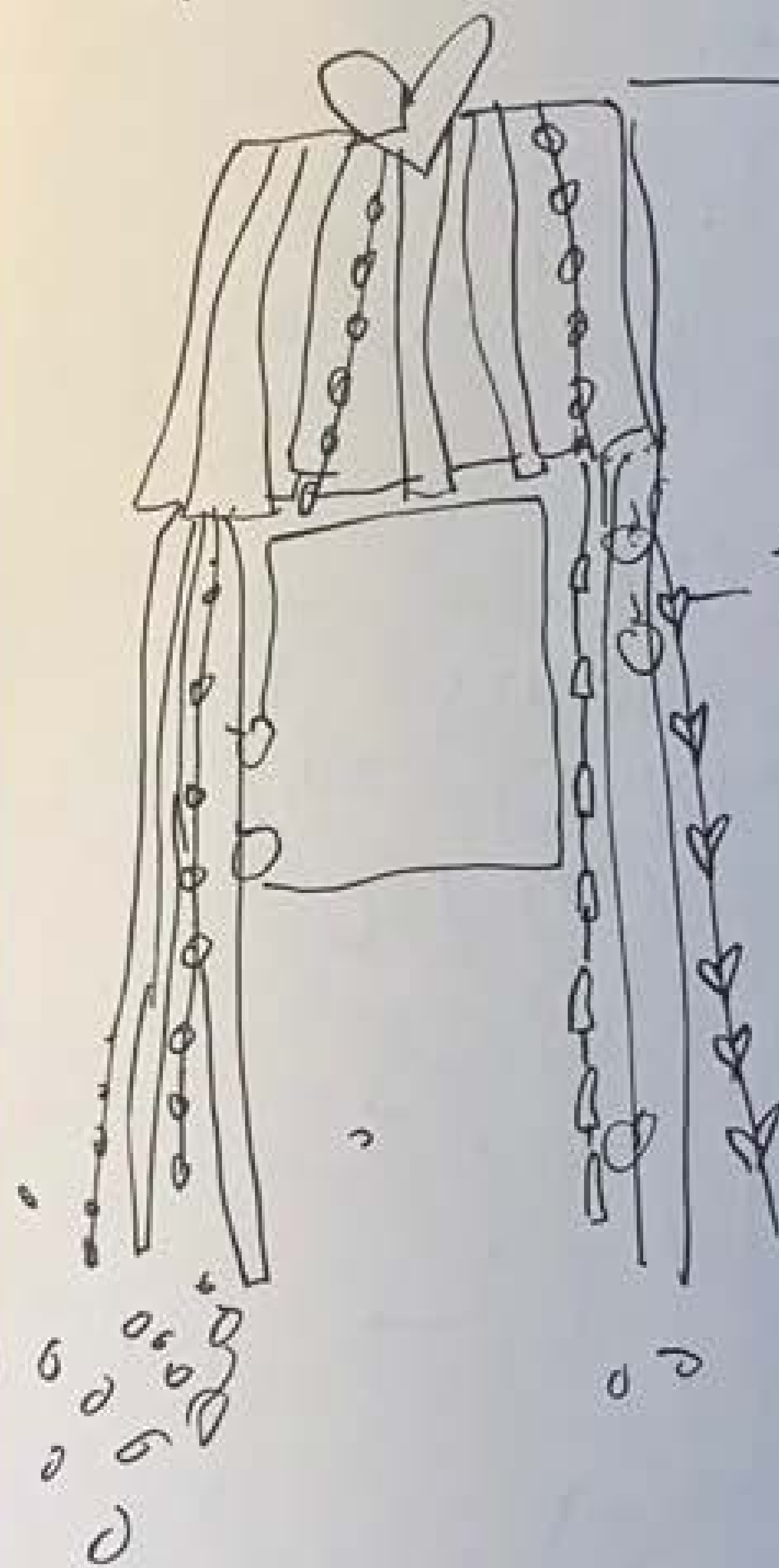
(A) CROWNS



3 or 4
types w.
ribbons
and
pins in.

(B)

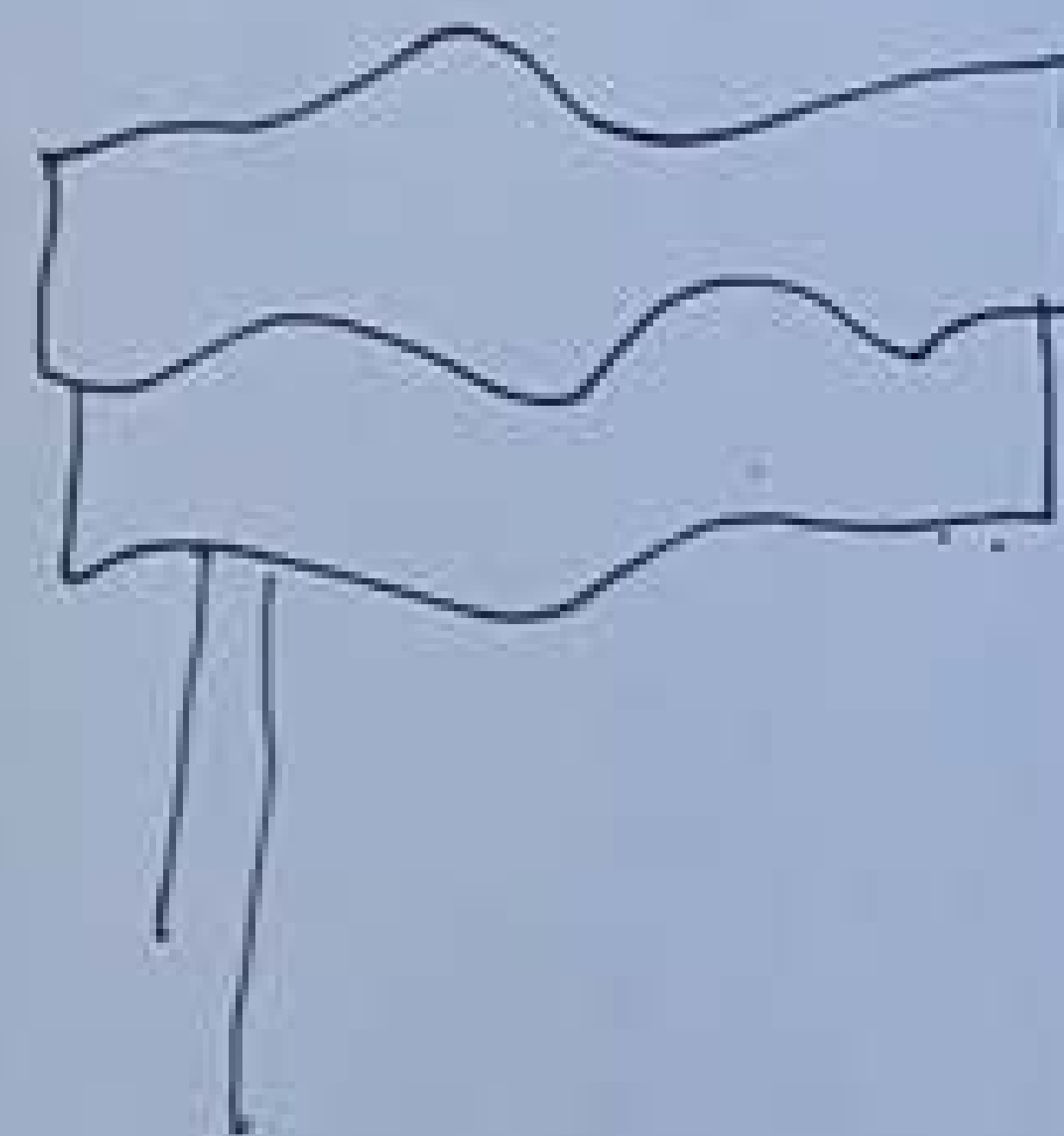
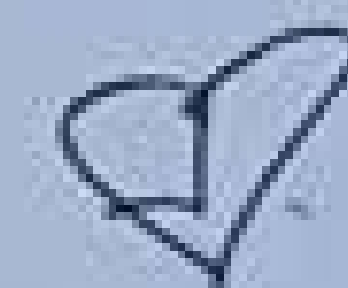
(5)



(C)

DO FULL FLAG
HEART

3 Varieties of
Topper



Things
that
glimmer
make
sound

⑥

Photograph it.

Create art
from photographs.

MAY 2, 2021

TOMORROW WE
LAUNCH THE
PROJECT.

smile.

choose WORDS.

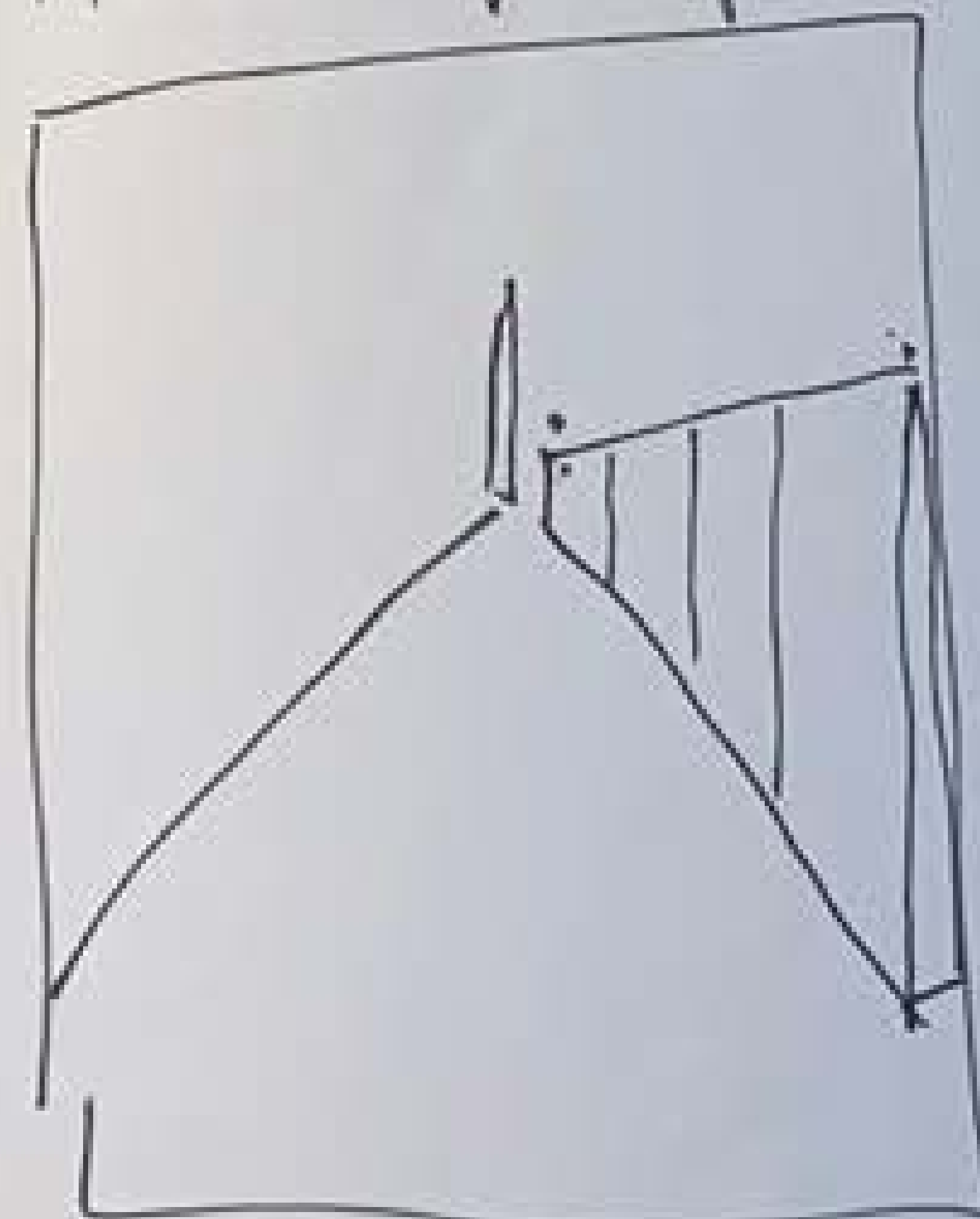
INVITE



⑦ Gallery.

ENJOY

Put in
one of the
landscape photos



BELIEVE.

SAY

THE

MA

NTRA

M

FAITH

WHY IS THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT IMPORTANT?

KELLY NASH: Particularly right now while people are thinking about survival and other big problems that the country has had for the last years, it's important to have any opportunity for someone to concentrate, use their hands, eyes, mind to consider the importance of love in everything we do.

CINDY QUANDT-GUERRA: For me it's so needed because it shifts everyone's focus. Our tunnel vision and focus has been so long on the challenges of the world in these last 18 months, TALP forces everyone to shift their focus onto something very positive.

KAREN ISBELL: I feel that every single person in the US has dealt with some degree of trauma over more than a year now—it has varied in degree from small to the ultimate trauma of "am I going to survive, will my spouse survive, will my children survive? Will my parents survive?" The level of trauma has been through the roof. You don't bounce back from that easily. You need a powerful force – within yourself and within your community to be able to climb out of that level of trauma. And to be able to see the sunlight again.

I also think people need a way to imagine how unity can exist even in the midst of so many differences. Many people have given up on even the possibility of dialogue that reaches across political, racial, religious and other divides that keep us separate. But there is another way—we, as a people, need a means, a way, an avenue, a scaffold on which we can imagine how to be united – even with people who have different perspectives than us. Art—combined with a widespread commitment to our American ideals of justice and equality—can be the means by which we reimagine unity and renew our vision of what is possible when we do all things with love.

JUDY STONE-NUNNELEY: I am responding to Karen I's thoughts about: "We need a powerful force, within yourself and within community, to climb out of the trauma everyone has experienced this past year and see the sunlight again; people need a way to imagine how unity can exist. We need a scaffold."

I think TALP is so important because it IS the way. It is the scaffolding. The process of having big conversations with students and colleagues around the power of the LOVE Quotes, around how you create illuminated letters, how you make words as images. These are also nuanced and subtle conversations. We stand on the shoulders of the social justice artists before us. We make art that focuses on the power of beauty. When we work together, we build a compassionate community.

5.23.21

What is the importance of the American Love Project?

The voices of division and hatred have had their day in our country. The voices of time is now for the voices of love to be louder.

What is the importance of the American Love Project?

There is a tension/a disconnect between the promised ideals of America and the reality of life in America. If that space fills with love, we

It's time for a rolling thunder of LOVE to sweep this nation and be the connective tissue between the promise of America and the reality of America for many.

SARAH SALAZAR: the most important part is the conversations that this project is starting. We are engaging in these difficult conversations. How do we move forward to heal?

MAURICIO NAVARRO: It gives us a means to respond to what's happened (on January 6, 2021). What can I do about the injustice and everything that's been happening? When I watch TV I feel completely helpless. What else can I do but vote and watch CNN? I voted and I did my part but I still feel there's something else I can do. Hopefully this will fill that void.

(2) The American LOVE Project is important because it provides Americans a means to respond to the question, "What can I do to empower this country? I voted, yet I still feel empty." The American Love Project aims to fill the void that many Americans feel. Hopefully, through art and self-expression, we can finally fill that void.

DIANA O'CONNER: I believe people are looking for ways for one individual to have a voice expressed through their own mind. Creating art will reduce the hopelessness induced by the previous year of pain and hurt. It's the opportunity for one to be part of the whole. E pluribus unum.

PETER WOOD:

We are stronger than any uprising.

We are braver than any hate.

We are focused on our appetite for healing.

BARBARA MILLER: Preface: The choice of how to spend my very limited time is informed by my spiritual practice, and realizing that to live an intentional life, I have to remember (from moment to moment) what I truly want. And love for all beings is central to this desire (the realization of the unity of life).

TALP is important to our country because:

TALP reminds us of our highest ideals, remembering what connects us, what unites us (or what could unite us), which can help us to heal and give us hope for the future.

KAREN BLESSEN: The voices of division and hatred have had their day. The time is now to listen to the voices of LOVE.

(2) There is a tension – a disconnect – between the promised ideals of our country and

5.23.21

What is the im
American Love
The voices of
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time is now
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what is the
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There is a tension
between the prom
America and
life in America
fills with
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and be the c
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the reality of life in America. LOVE and compassion are the connective tissue to repair and mend the divide.

(3) LOVE takes a stand. Nationwide. And makes a statement that the Power of LOVE lives in the United States.

(4) The time is now to ignite the Power of LOVE in our land. Hatred and division have had their day. LOVE will win.

(5) We plant seeds of LOVE in the hearts and minds of thousands and thousands of young people across our country

SHELLEY THORNTON: The purpose of art is profound conversation. Conversation connects us to each other and our humanity. Conversations about beauty and balance, nature and color can bring joy back into our wounded hearts. When it feels like our world is splintering, conversations about love can heal.

PETER KOHLMANN: The American LOVE Project has evolved from the heartland, a grass roots effort giving our fellow Americans a voice through art.

It builds on the work of the most important people in this country – teachers.

LOVE transcends all political partisanship – which has become so hard to listen to. We have families and kids and we want them to know that there is more to life than what they are hearing — there's LOVE, compassion, respect.

The American LOVE Project gives people from around the country an opportunity to communicate with all of us.

It will cut through the rhetoric and be a strong statement unto itself – about LOVE.

5.23.21

What is
American
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hatred
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what
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life in
It's fill
of love

WHY AM I INVOLVED IN THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT?

Sarah: Given current events, it is something that needs to be talked about. There is still love here. I want to be involved in a team with creative spirit. The project is a contrast to pervasive messaging we see in our country.

Margaret: Love is strategy. We have to begin at the soul level. This project draws us out at a deeper level.

Cindy: It is life and hope giving on a nationwide level.

Kelly: We need to be reaching men and boys in our projects. It's critical to reach boys in educational projects.

Mauricio: We lead by example. We'll get role models from all walks of life on board.

Judy: Love is an action. It's a process of discovery, not a quick thing. Leads students and adults through an incremental process for people who don't have those tools in their toolboxes. Empathy and compassion are active things. How to find their own resilience. Leading students to find where their own resilience lies.

Margaret: Adults need this, it's important to include art in adult living. Like a flower opening. A blossoming. Reaching people who may feel forgotten.

Sondra: it is easy to forget that all people do not have love in their lives. The process enriches the participants' lives.

Adrienne: the undertone of hate in our country, and in past four years - it has reared its ugly head. It was (kind of) hidden and now it's become acceptable. It's not ok to be hateful. It takes a project of this magnitude to showcase the opposite - love. How can the general public get involved? How do we heal and reverse what has happened in the last four years?

5.23.21

What is the imp
American Love Pro
The voices of
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time is now
of love to be

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There is a tension
between the promise
America and the
life in America.
It fills with L
It's time for a
of LOVE to suc
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between the prom
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Peter Wood: The American LOVE Project has the opportunity to cultivate healing, one bruised heart at a time. Art becomes the medicine.

Barbara: life has been so overwhelmingly depressing for many people - inequities, health care - all aspects of our society, it is so overwhelming. As an individual - what can I do? The noble goal that we can all join together to work on this/something. That's what this project means to me. This is what our country needs now. It's a good start. For a noble project. A noble goal.

Sarah: how can we neutralize toxic masculinity? (so that) (for the purpose of) Men showing emotion, Men being people, Love Project can help with that.

Kelly: AMAKW has reached kids in North Texas. This will be a vehicle to carry this out to the rest of the country. Will reach out beyond Texas.

Margaret: Arkansas Art Education Association. Reach beyond Texas.

Karen: Because in the time that students and teachers work together - talking about love, doing art about love, seeds are planted. And these seeds will open hearts and bring positive change.

5.23.21

what is the importance
American Love Project

The voices of dis-
hated have had
our country. The
time is now
of love to be

what is the importance
the American Love

There is a tension/
between the promises
America and the
life in America. It
fills with love
It's time for a
of love to sweep
and be the con-

Voices of hatred + division are
loud in our country. Love
rises. Love will win.

Why is The American LOVE
Project important?

Only love will defeat
hatred.

Love takes a stand.
Nationwide. And makes
a statement that the
Power of LOVE lives
in the United States.

Can we awaken Love in
the hearts of those who've
grown cold?

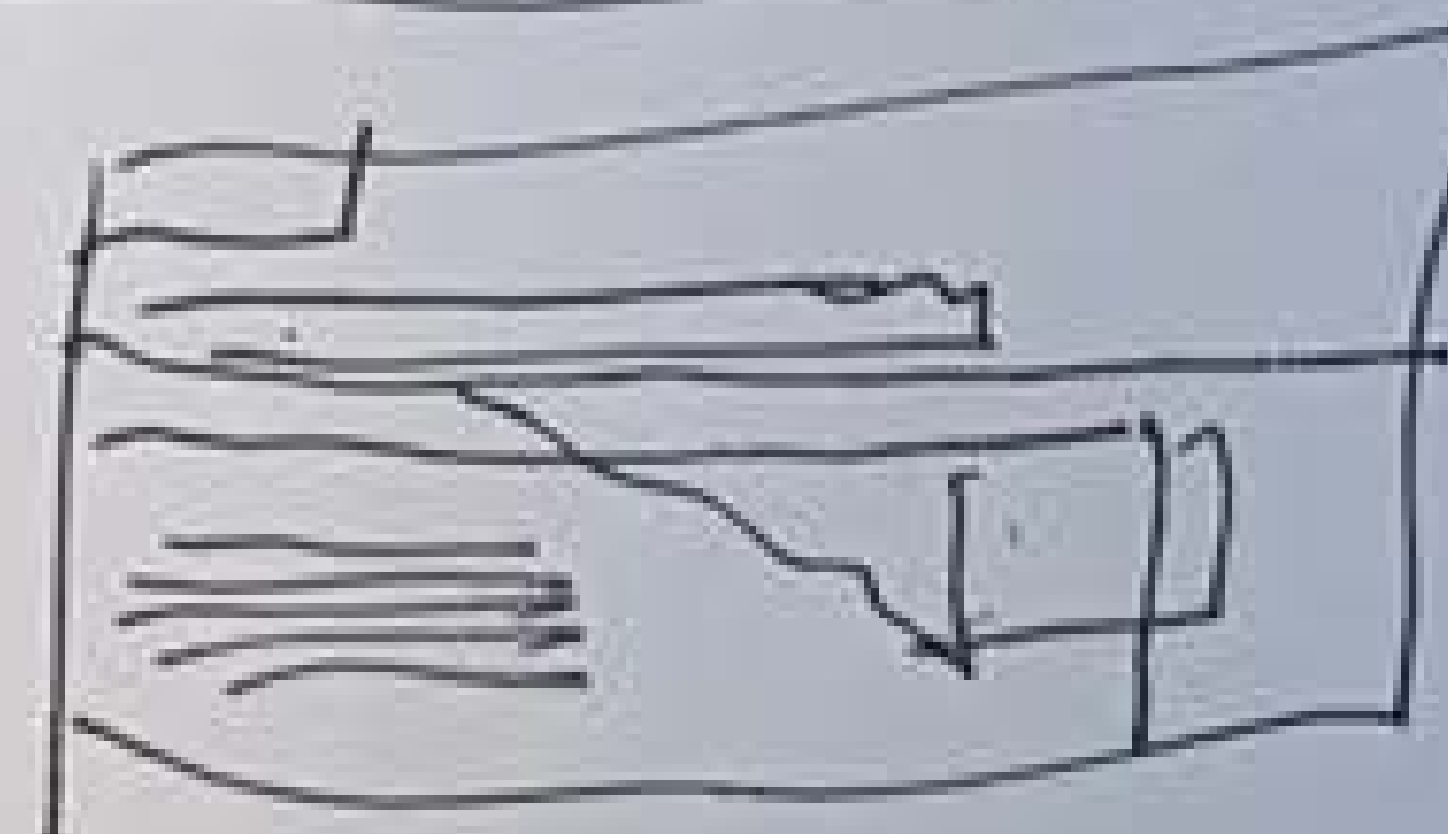
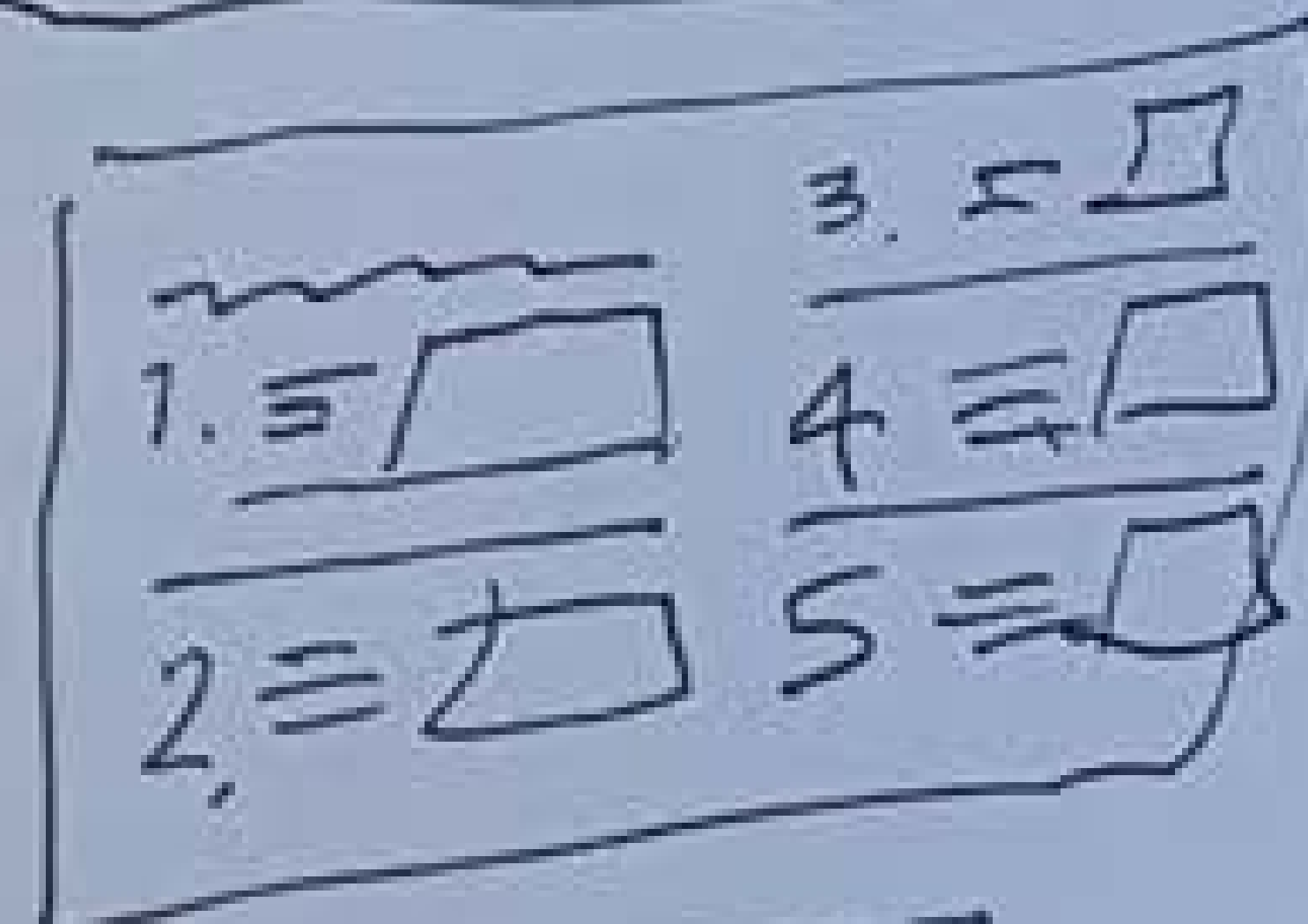
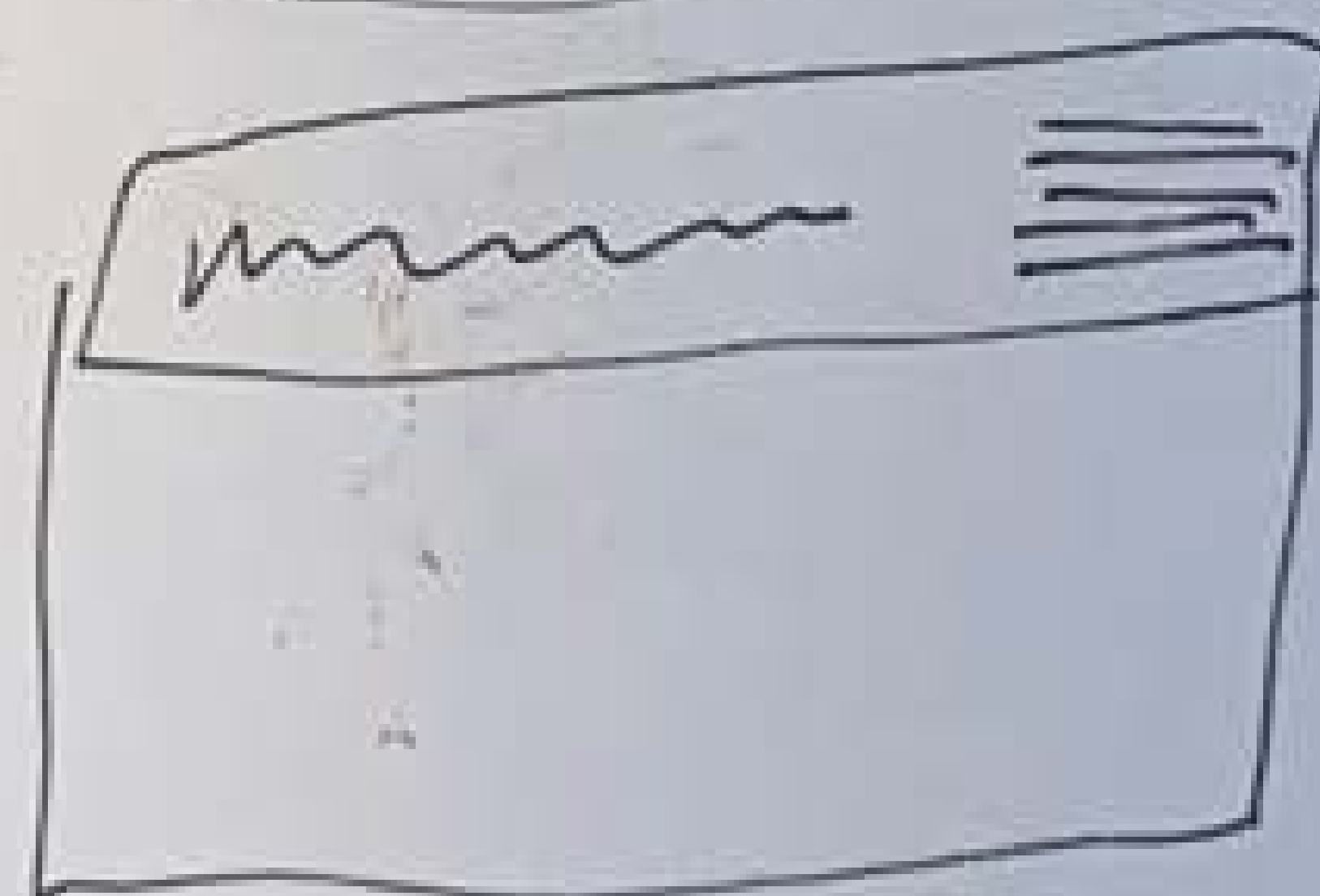
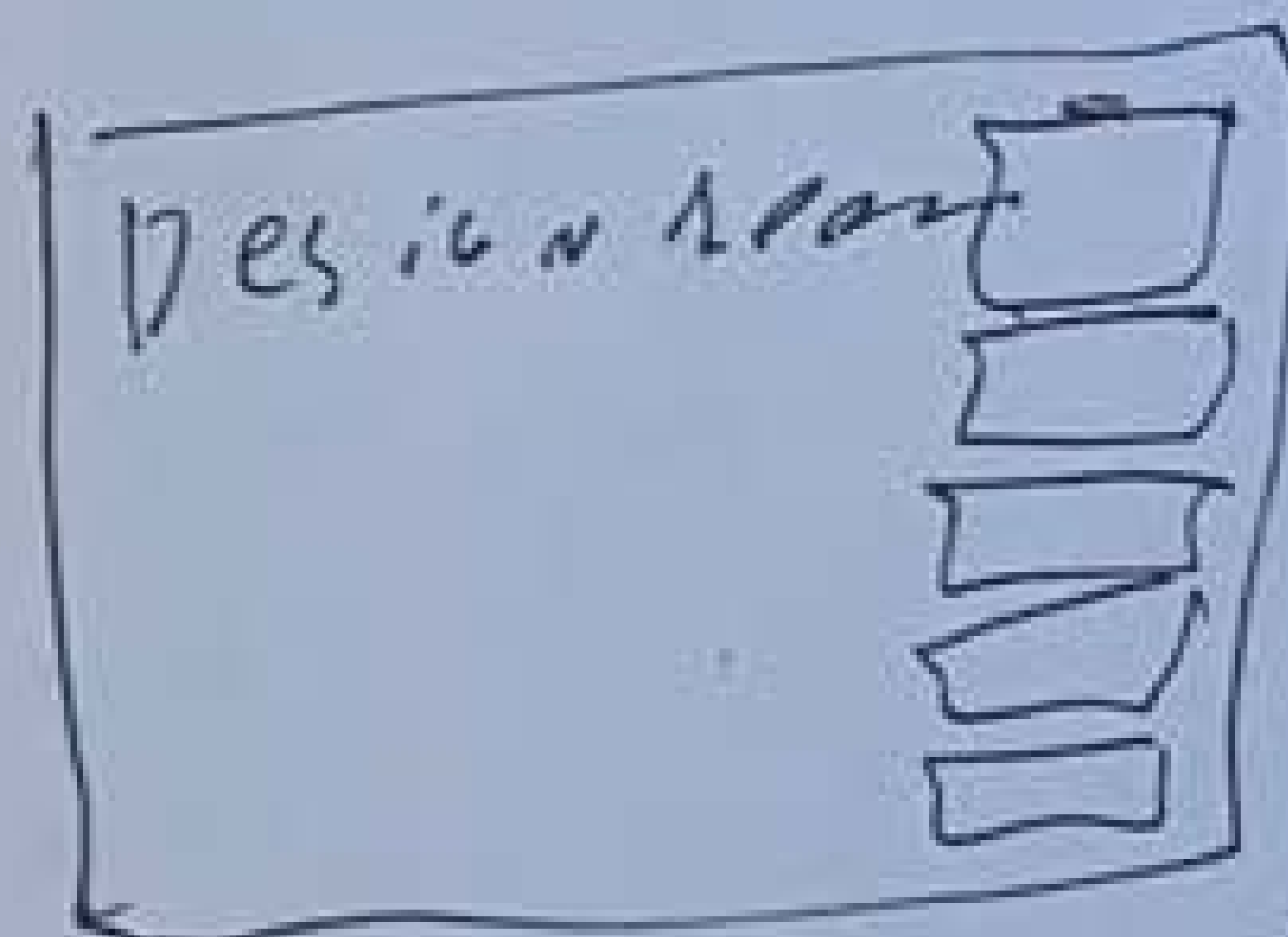
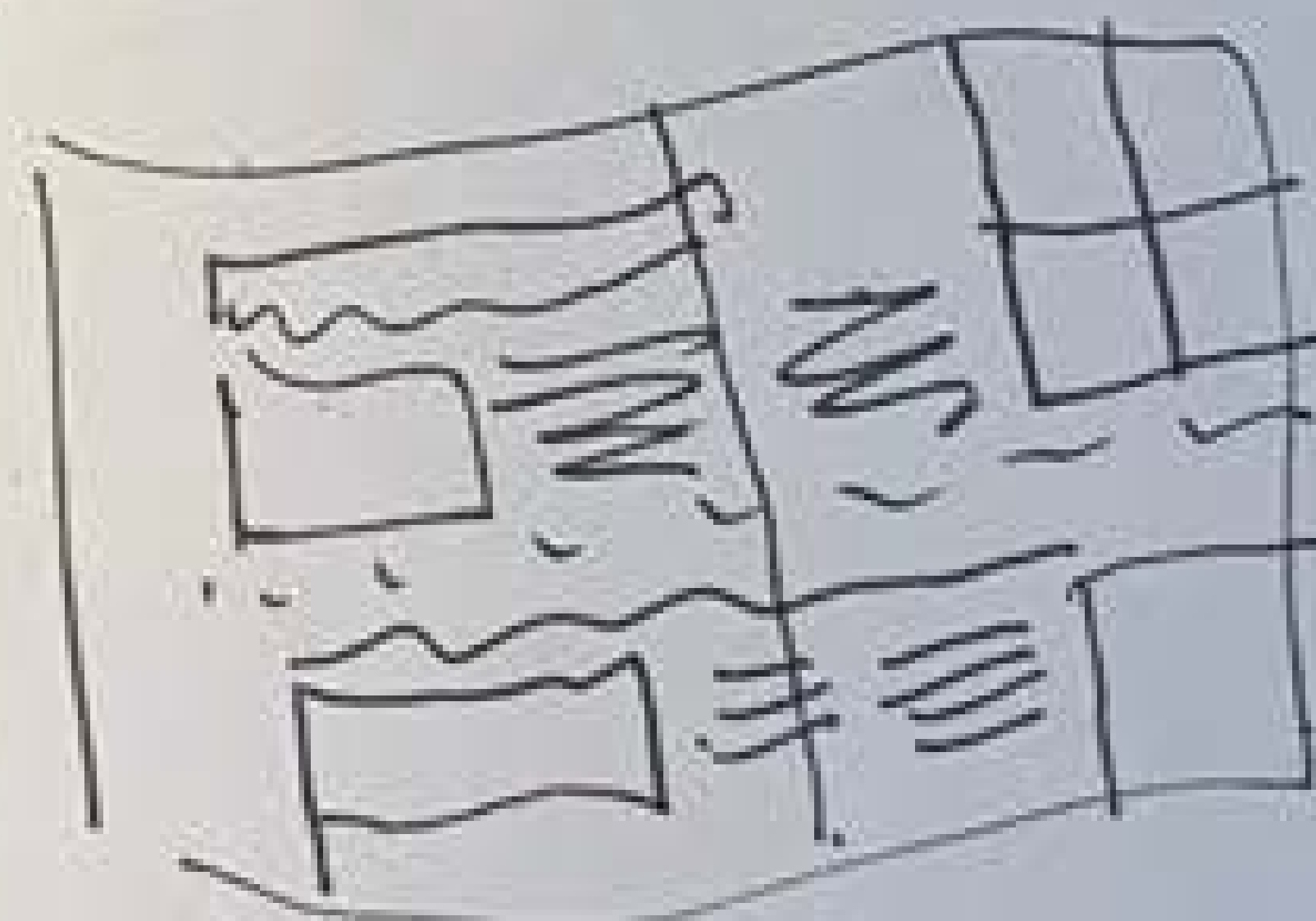
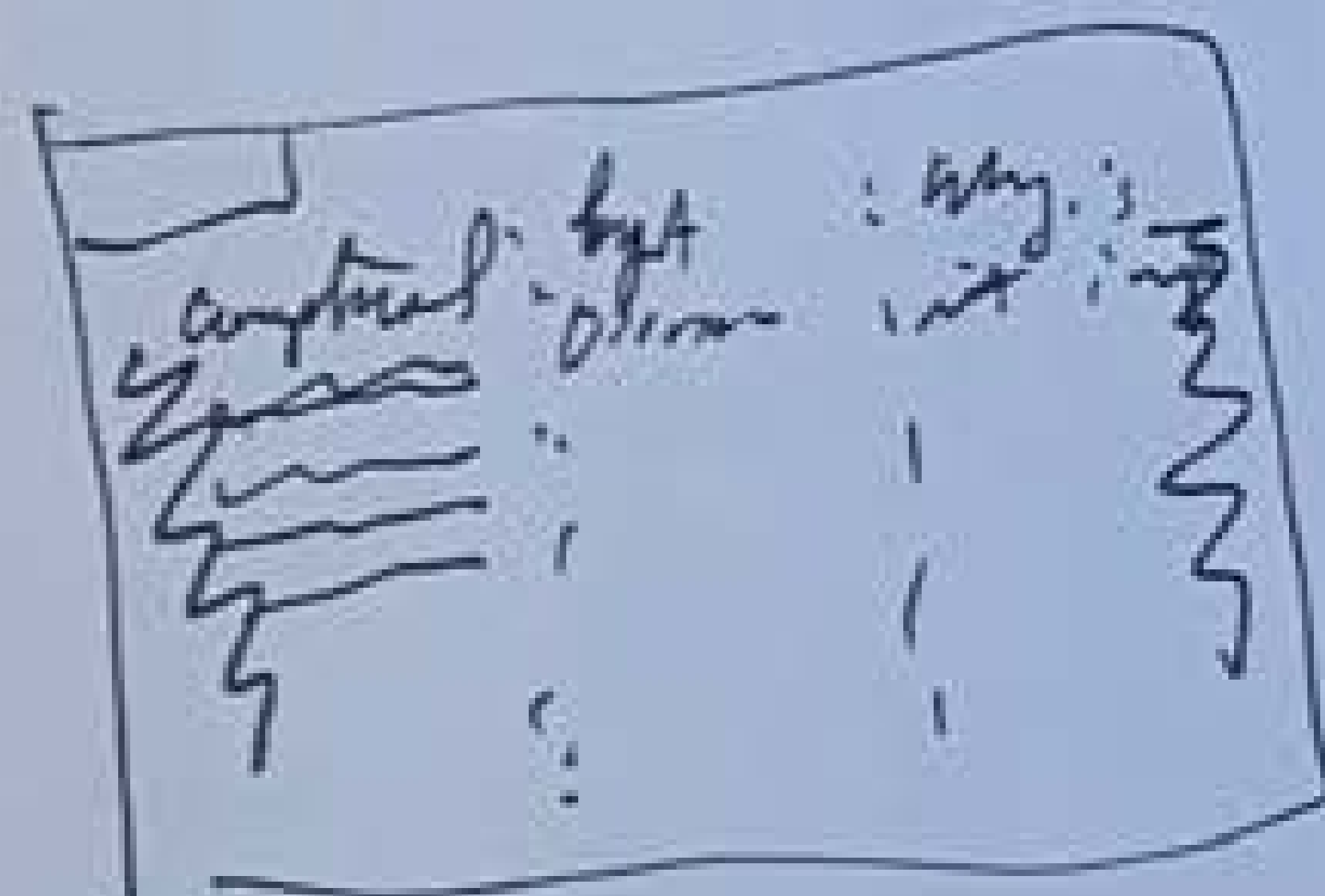
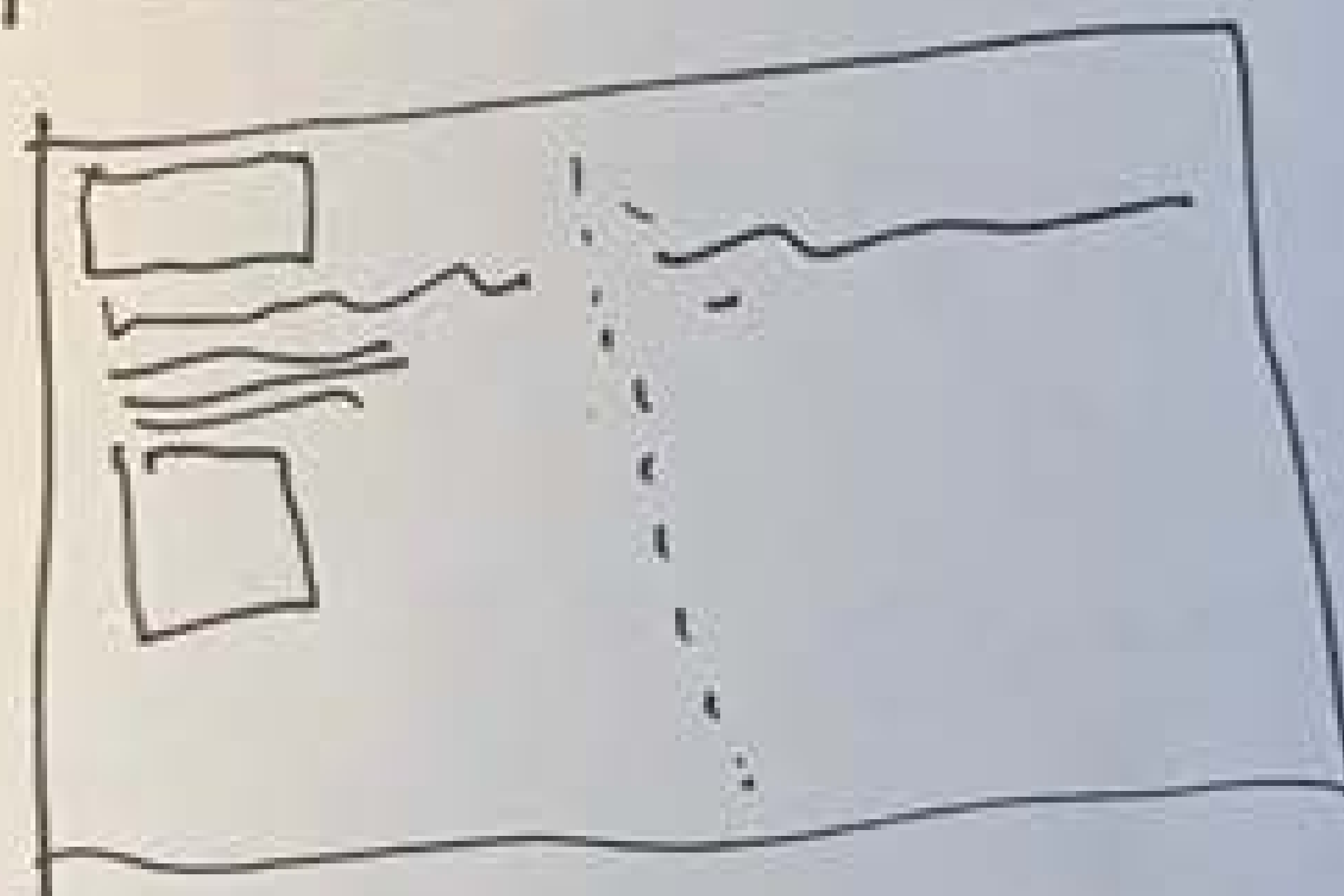
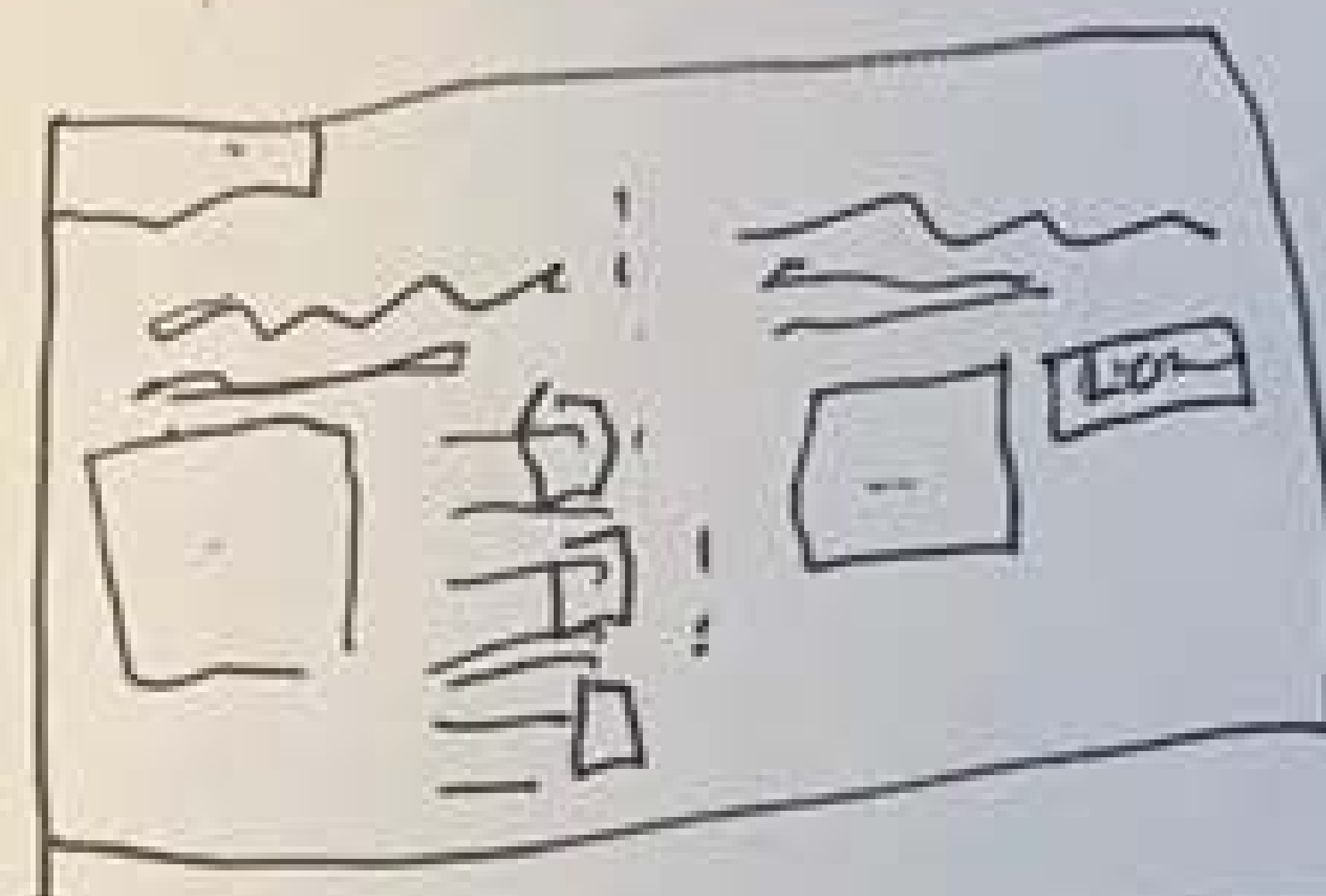
We plant seeds of Love in
the hearts + minds of young
people across our country.

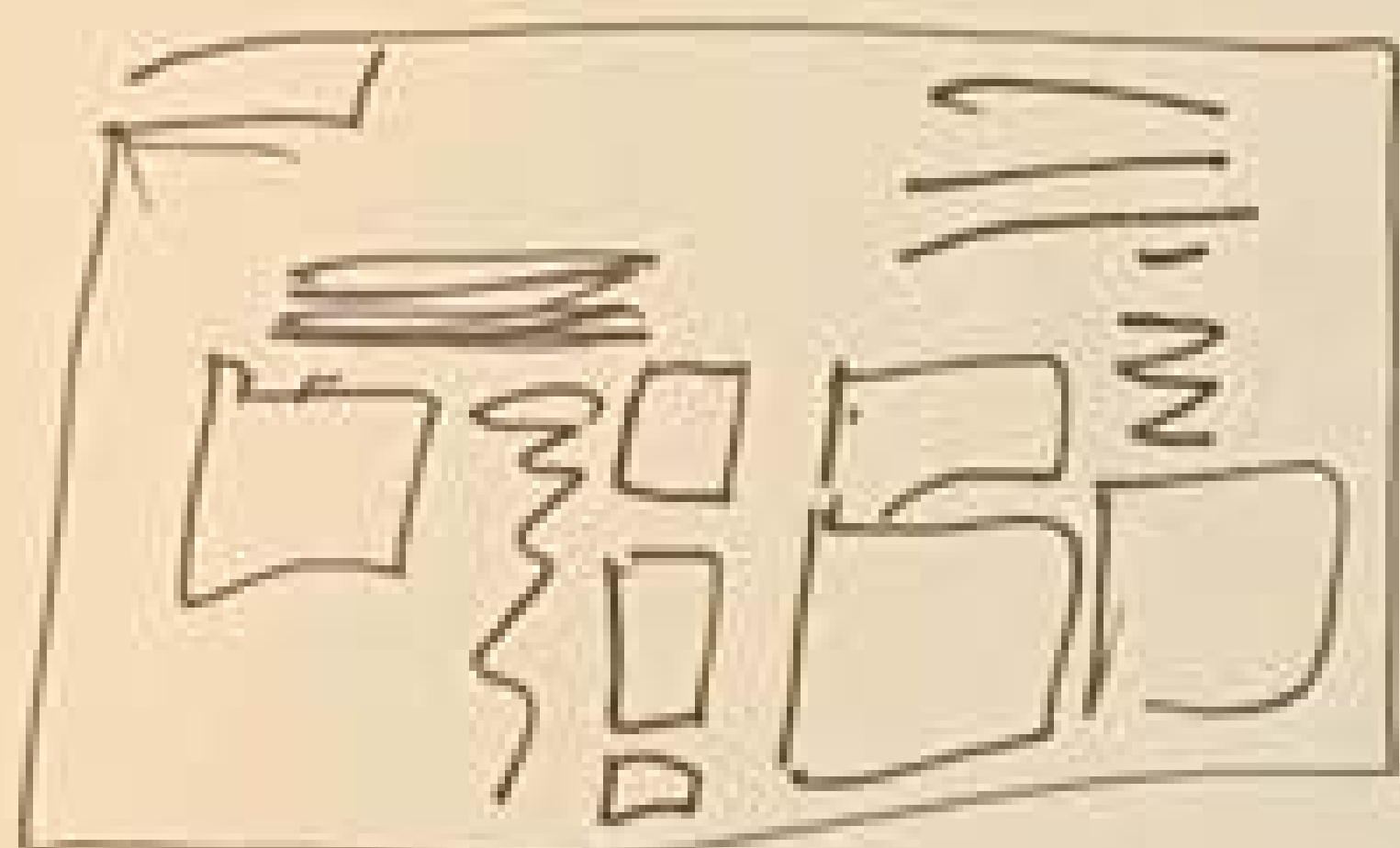
The time is now to ignite
the Power of Love in our land.
Hatred + division have had their
day. Love will win.

First we light small flames of
Love in the hearts of people
across America.

Then we come together
as one in a rolling thunder of
Love.

LORD JESUS CHRIST SON OF
 GOD HAVE MERCY ON ME. LORD
 JESUS CHRIST SON OF GOD
 HAVE MERCY ON ME. LORD
 JESUS CHRIST SON OF GOD
 HAVE MERCY ON US. LORD
 JESUS CHRIST SON OF GOD
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 JESUS CHRIST SON OF
 GOD HAVE MERCY ON US.
 LORD JESUS CHRIST SON
 OF GOD HAVE MERCY ON
 US. LORD JESUS CHRIST SON OF GOD
 HAVE MERCY ON US.





What is the concept?

TALP meets a moment in time when Americans feel divided, traumatized by the covid-19 pandemic and increasingly even longing for the light of hope; ability to come together to solve our urgent issues.

We need pictures — a vision to show us who we are. We aim to be the connective tissue between

PROJECT overview

①

① ART MAKING



② ONLINE GALLERY



Exhibits.

③ COMM

④ Installation in Nat. MALL.

we use what love.

in fact, only man's love
inspired by

JUNE 19, 2021

OK. Here we are. So much going on — it's dizzying. One bite of the elephant at a time.

Today. Emotion got the better of me. No outbursts — just internal. That familiar black, slightly frightened look when the subject of raising money came up.

I fell back into that emotion in the throat feeling I had with so many board meetings. Futility + frustration.

I fall into negativity that I can't afford and must move past quickly.

There is no way around (admitting) the frustration though.
(well, there is. But it is real.)

on the face of board meetings -

And that is an expenditure
of energetic capital that can't
happen.

Do not depend on the board.

Do not depend on the board.

Do not depend on the board.

Do what works.

Do what works.

Do what works.

Flashback to blank stares from
board members, In 2010, 2011, 2012,
2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017.

Then I reset my expectations,
and gave up the hope of a
vibrant, contributing board,
and felt much better about
the work + the org.

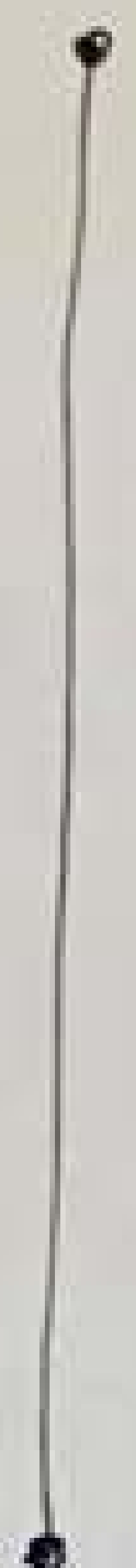
So. Don't move backward
in expectations. I learned
that lesson. Move on.

YOUR WILL.

AS WE FORGIVE THOSE
WHO TRESPASS
AGAINST US.

TRESPASS: 1. ENTER ONE'S PROPERTY.
2. COMMIT AN OFFENSE AGAINST.

THE HUMAN BODY IS FINITE.



6.20.21.

THE SPIRIT IS BOUNDLESS.



LOKRAINE LIENEMANN

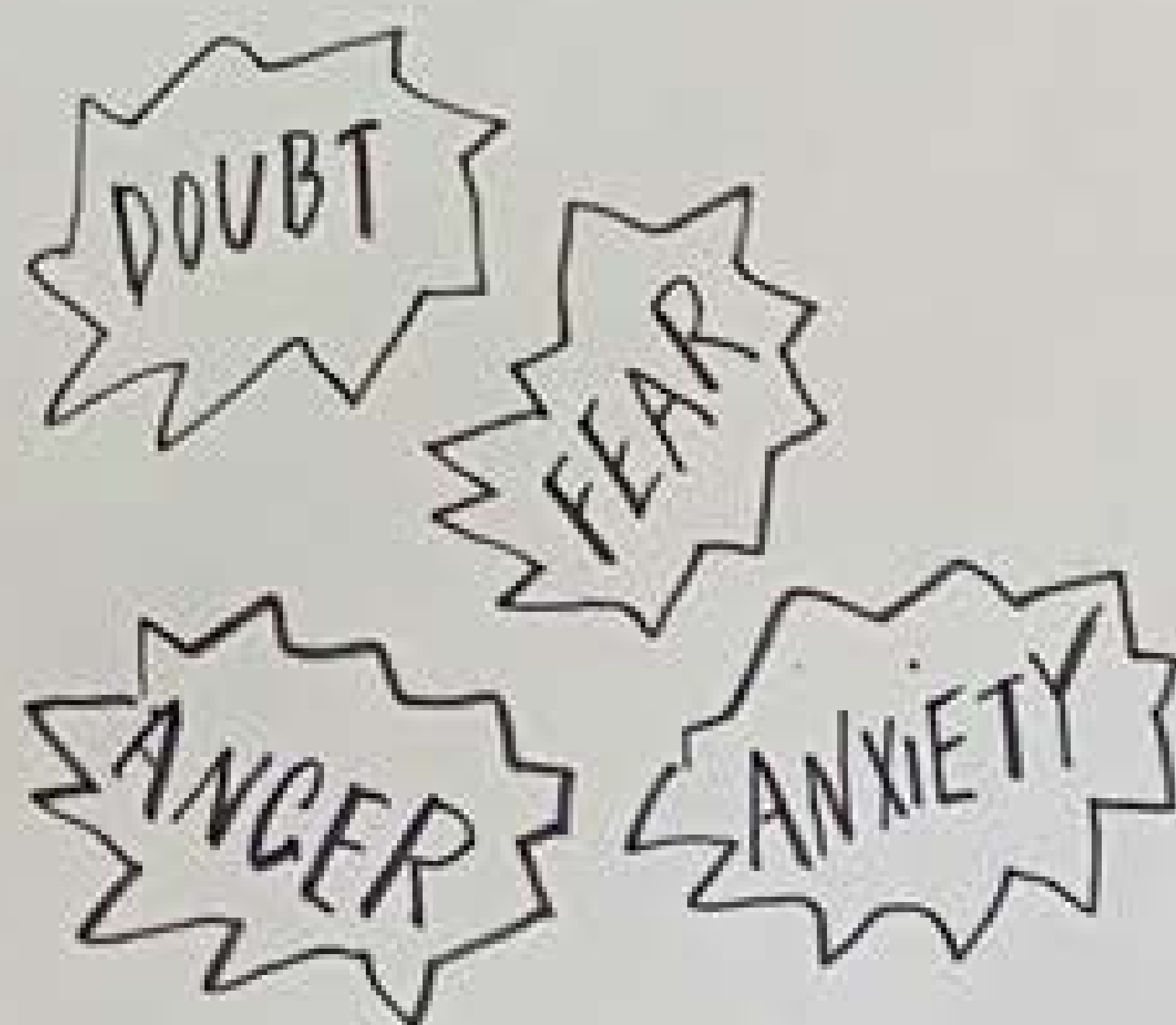
THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNALS

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE

CAST ASIDE WHAT LIMITS YOU.



LO.

ENTER INTO THE WORLD ^{OF THE} INFINITE

LANDMARKS IN PROJECT:

1. FINE ARTS SUMMIT PRESENTATION
2. REGISTRATION STARTED
3. DECK FOR FRONTRUNNER
4. HUDSON FDN. GRANT
5. COMMUNICATION OUT
TO PEOPLE ON DATA-
BASES WE CREATED.
(ART TEACHERS, SUPERIN-
TENDENTS)
6. WEBSITE in PROGRESS
7. SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY
8. PARTNERSHIP W. REGION 10

Love
from
Daddy.

JUNE 23, 2021

I CANNOT LAUGH AFTER
I--
PROCESS RESISTANCE. MUST AVOID
USE ENERGY FOR LIFT

DO A FULL
FULL EFFORT IS FULL VICTORY

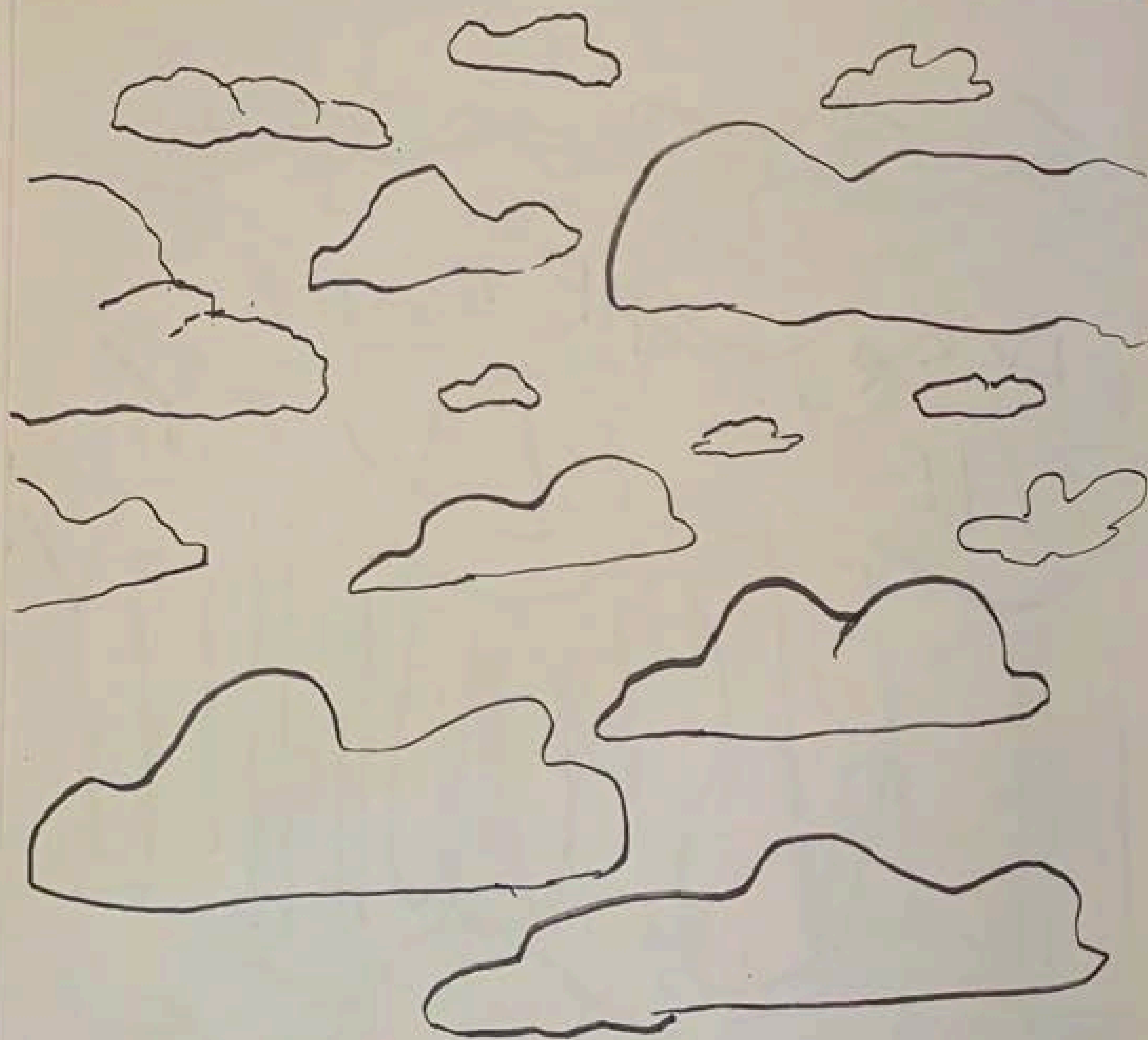
MOVING
OF LOVE
KEYES LAUGHTER

BOULDER
FEAR
FRUSTRATION
RESISTANCE

JUNE 24, 2021

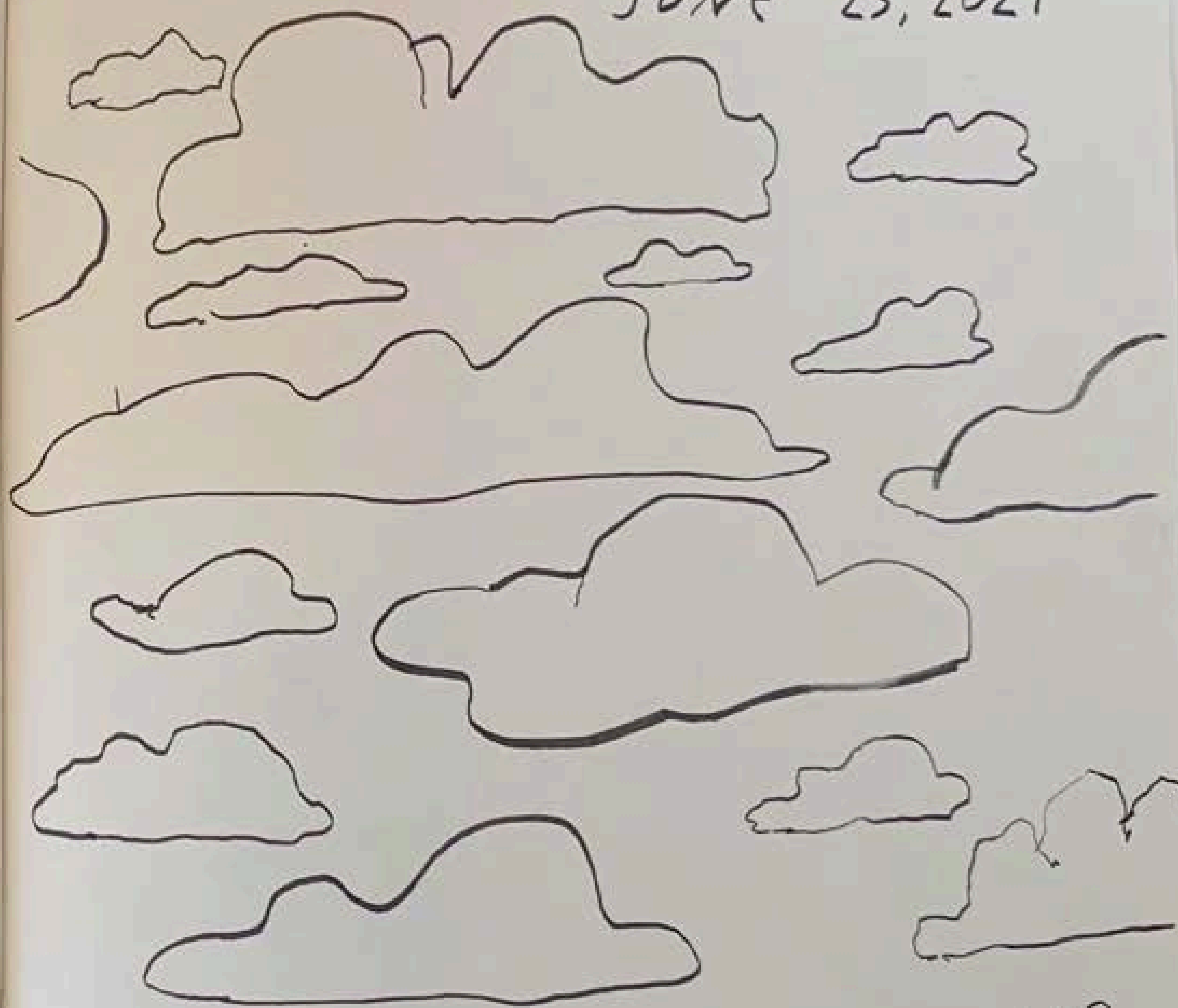
AND ON IT FLOWS
THE SUN. THE SKY. THE
THE NOTICING OF ALL
THE RISING TO
THE MED
THE LOVE
THE COMPA

RIVERS. THE BIRDS.
THE BEAUTY
THE RESPONSIBILITY
TATION
DEPTHS
NIONS OF LIFE



LORD JESUS CHRIST SON OF
EVEN GOD TOOK

JUNE 25, 2021



GOD HAVE MERCY ON US.
A DAY OF REST
(IT IS SAID)



THE TALP DECK

MY JOURNALS

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE



high
water



IRDS OF
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speak
ugh time
I remind
of the
rk of love
each of us.



LORRAINE LIENEMANN
MY UNFINISHED A
MY JOURNALS
ANNE FRANK
AMBULANCE RIDE



Four Pillars of The American LOVE Project

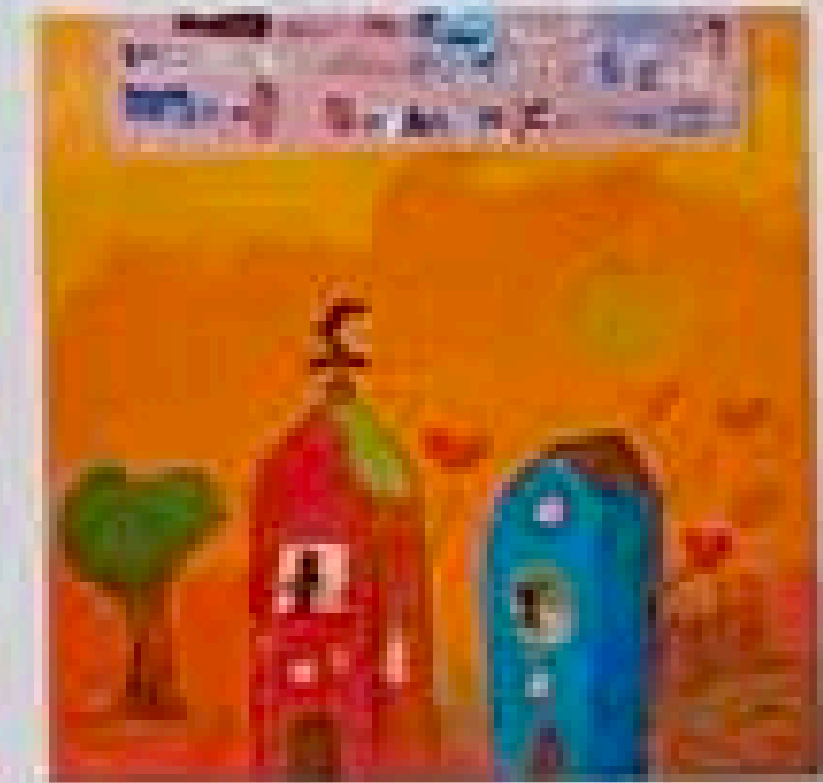
WE LEAD WITH LOVE. THE VERY ESSENCE of love is embedded in all four pillars on which The American LOVE Project is built. From how love repairs and heals, to words of a greater love, expressed by many. Past and present.



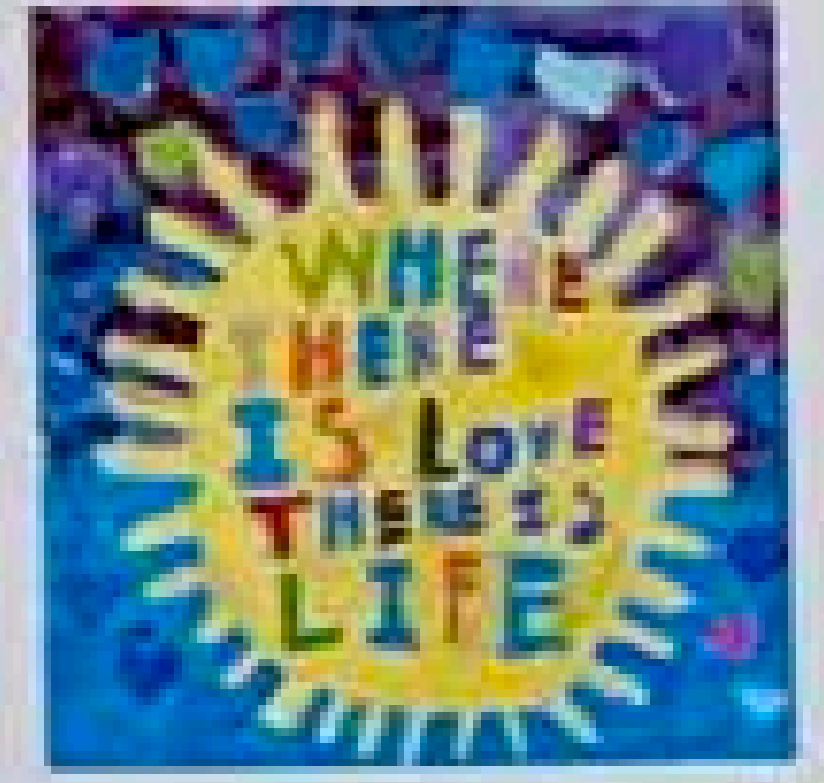
1 LOVE REPAIRS AND HEALS the divides that separate us and keep us from working together to solve urgent problems in our country.



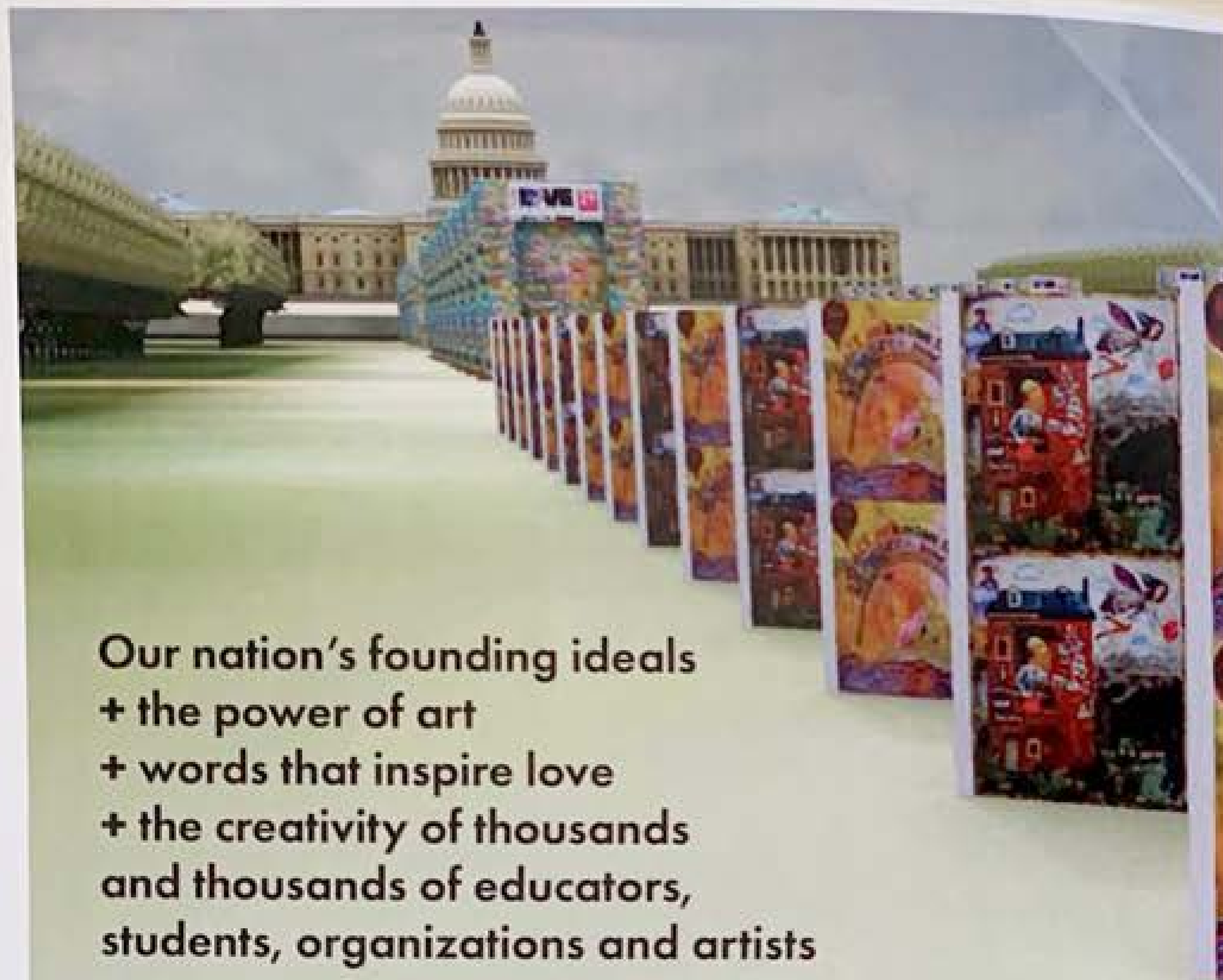
2 THE IDEALS contained in founding documents and laws of the United States of America challenge us to create a more just country for all.



3 ART HAS THE POWER to awaken and educate hearts, uplift our voices and inspire positive social change.



4 WORDS OF A GREATER LOVE from great philosophers, musicians, poets and peacemakers speak through time and remind us of the spark of love in each of us.



Our nation's founding ideals
 + the power of art
 + words that inspire love
 + the creativity of thousands
 and thousands of educators,
 students, organizations and artists
 = American healing

THE
 AMERICAN
LOVE
 PROJECT



PRODUCED BY
29
 PIECES
 Monumental Change
 Monumental Art



About 29 Pieces

THE SEEDS OF 29 Pieces were planted with a bullet, the bullet that murdered a man in front of Founder Karen Blessen's house. A Pulitzer prize winning journalist and illustrator, Karen reacted to the tragedy by using the tools of her profession.

29TM
PIECES
Monumental Change
Monumental Art

OUR MISSION
29 Pieces uses art to awaken,
uplift and give
voice to the creative human
spirit to make genuine,
positive social change.

Engaging, involving and inspiring our country's youth to use art to learn, share and live the ideals of non-violence and kindness became the unifying goal of the organization known as 29 Pieces founded by Karen and Dr. Barbara Miller in 2005. Since its inception, 29 Pieces has grown in numbers and impact.

Through art-based lessons in social and emotional learning, 29 Pieces has reached more than 120,000 students with its **Artists Making a Kinder World** curriculum and trained more than 850 educators. AMAKW lessons in English and Spanish are free, at: artistsmakingakinderworld.org

29 Pieces, a 501 (c)(3) organization, also works with students, professional artists and the community in public sculptures and mural projects.

THE DALLAS LOVE PROJECT LED BY 29 PIECES, 2013



Following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963, Dallas was labeled as a "City of Hate."

Fifty years later, through the Dallas LOVE Project, it came together to express itself as a city where love thrives. 29 Pieces created & produced the Dallas LOVE Project, in partnership with more than 120 community partners.

10,000 Pieces of Art. 20,000 Artists.
67 Exhibit Venues. 300 Volunteers.
185,000,000 Media Impressions.



More than 20,000 people participated in the Dallas LOVE Project, creating over 10,000 pieces of LOVE art, making it the largest city-wide art installation in history. This art was exhibited at 67 venues across Dallas, mostly along the Kennedy motorcade route.

The Dallas LOVE Project was covered extensively by the national and international press – including The Wall Street Journal, BBC, Al Jazeera and Swiss, German and Canadian news outlets – creating 185 million estimated media impressions.



Other 29 Pieces Projects



29 PIECES EDUCATION: Artists Making a Kinder World

- ♥ 120,000 children reached.
- ♥ 850 teachers trained in 29 Pieces trainings and workshops through Region 10 Education Service Center.
- ♥ **AMAKW Curriculum** available free online, in English and Spanish.



DALLAS TEACHERS SPEAK

- ♥ Honoring Dallas ISD teachers.
- ♥ Partnered with UNT Dallas and Ashoka.
- ♥ 3000 Posters Exhibited in high foot traffic locations in Dallas and at the Texas State Capitol.

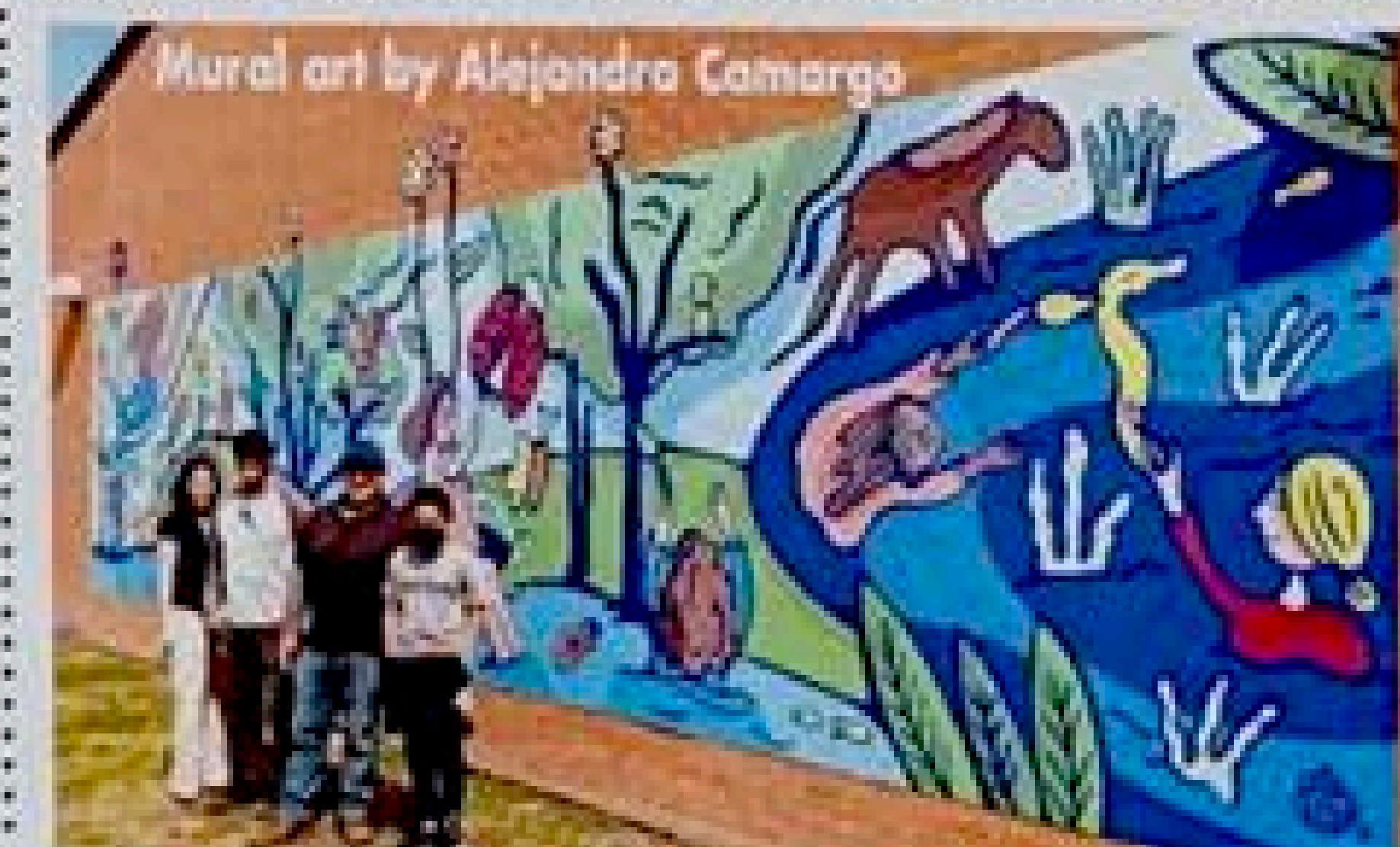
Piece 24 PROJECT



PUBLIC SCULPTURES AT CITY OF DALLAS CULTURAL CENTERS

♥ Piece 24 at Oak Cliff

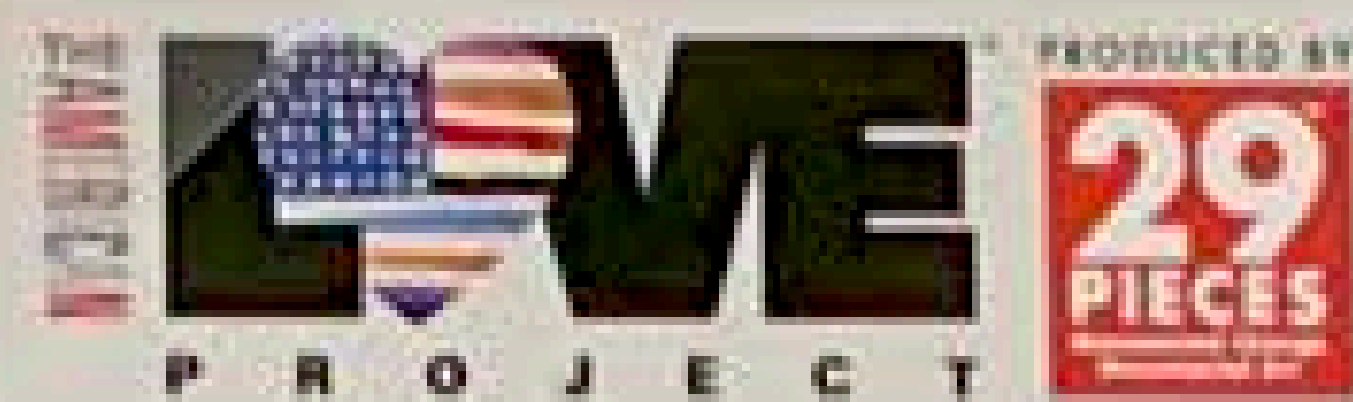
♥ Piece 10 at South Dallas



COOL SCHOOLS COMMUNITY PARKS PROJECT

- ♥ Worked with students and professional artists on 6 murals at 6 Dallas ISD elementary schools.
- ♥ Partnered with Trust for Public Land, Dallas ISD, Texas Trees Foundation and Dallas Parks and Recreation





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The American LOVE Project

2021 – 2022

NATIONWIDE OUTREACH

1. EDUCATION AND ART MAKING:

♥ **PARTNER** with educators, artists and organizations nationwide to reach thousands of people and create art inspired by the 29 Pieces art-based lesson for The American LOVE Project.

♥ **EXHIBIT LOVE ART ONLINE AND IN COMMUNITIES NATIONWIDE.** Exhibits will be on The American LOVE Project website, in community exhibits nationwide, and in Washington DC in early 2022.

2. JANUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 14, 2022:
INSTALLATION ON THE NATIONAL MALL
AT THE US CAPITAL.

♥ **CELEBRATE LOVE and BEAUTY** with a dramatic outdoor installation of 57 two story portals, a giant accordion fold book and a gallery of art from across the nation.

♥ **RESPOND** to the events of January 6, 2021.

♥ **APPEAL** to leaders and all people to come together with LOVE and EMPATHY in a national HEALING.

See more at: theamericanloveproject.org



PROJECT GOALS:

Education

1. PLANT SEEDS AND IGNITE DIALOGUE about the meanings of the word LOVE and what LOVE in action looks like.
2. FEEL compassion and empathy about the issues we face in today's world.
3. GET INSPIRED about the power of art to ignite positive social change.
4. SHARE The American LOVE Project Lesson via website content directing people on how to get involved.
5. CREATE art by thousands and thousands of people in every state and territory.
6. LEAVE A LEGACY with teachers who work the message of loving and caring for each other into their curriculum as they teach civic participation.

Exhibit on National Mall, Washington DC

1. CELEBRATE the artistic expressions of thousand and thousands of educators, students, organizations and artists.
2. LEAD WITH LOVE AND RESPOND to the events of January 6, 2021.
3. APPEAL to our leaders and our people to realize the promise of the ideals in our founding documents and in our laws.
4. INFLUENCE participation and activation.
5. GIVE HOPE to our nation and world.



JOY
DELIGHT
WARMTH
LOVE
COLOR
SURPRISE
TRANSFORMATION

WHAT
DO STUDENTS,
TEACHERS
IDENTIFY WITH?
ASPIRE TO?
FIND JOY IN?



Concept

THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT meets a moment in time when Americans feel divided, traumatized by the Covid-19 pandemic and increasingly longing for the light of **LOVE** and **HOPE**. How will we come together to solve the urgent issues facing our nation?

We create a vision - pictures - to show us who we are and how we will realize the promise of our nation.

THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT EDUCATION:

- ♥ **EXPANDS** successful 29 Pieces education model used in the Dallas LOVE Project.
- ♥ **LEADS** educators, students, artists and non-artists across the nation in creating art using The American LOVE Project lesson.

THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT EXHIBIT AT THE NATIONAL MALL IN WASHINGTON DC:

- ♥ **BUILDS** on the transformative possibility of portals in a dramatic installation.
- ♥ **TRANSPORTS** visitors to a place where they are surrounded by love, truth and hope in 57 two story portals, a 12 ft. accordion fold book and a gallery.
- ♥ **APPEALS TO THE SENSES** through visually arresting elements on the portals.
- ♥ **ENCOURAGES INTERACTION** with features animated by wind.
- ♥ **TRANSFORMS AND ENERGIZES** the visitor with a renewed perspective of our country.

Project

1. TRAININGS.

Free trainings in the LOVE Project lesson are offered online.

2. MAKING ART.

Across the nation, teachers, students, and individuals will make art.

3. ONLINE GALLERY.

The American LOVE Project art will be displayed online.

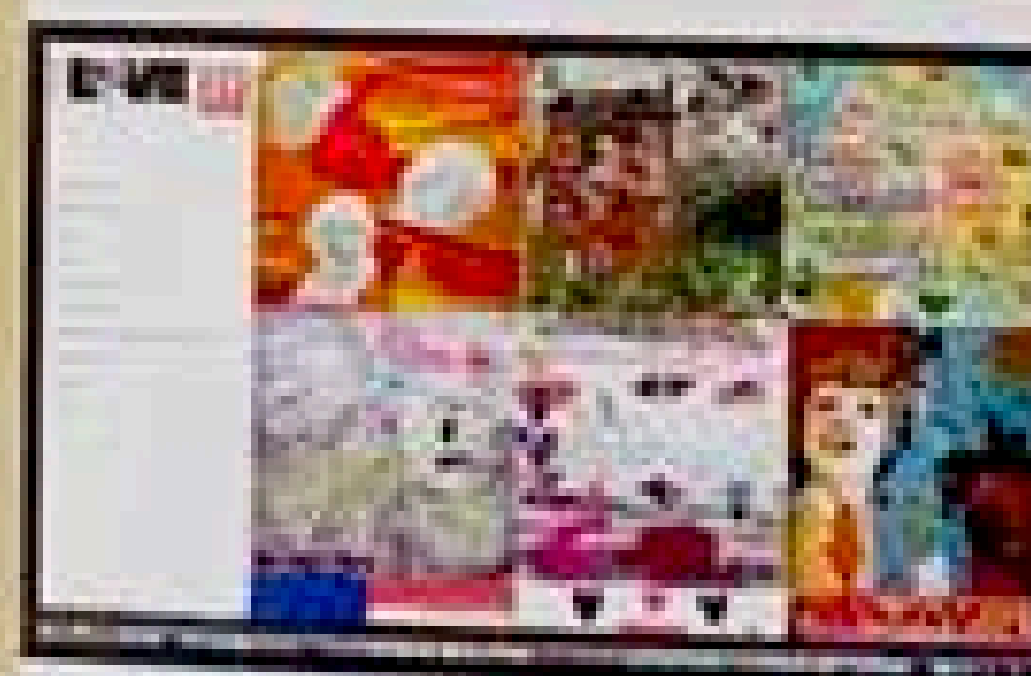
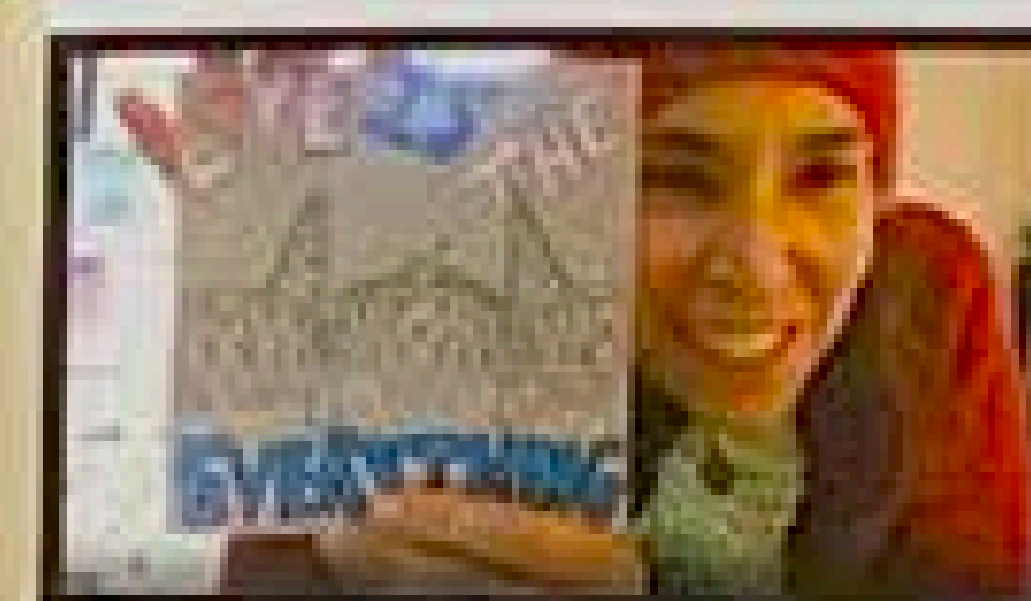
4. COMMUNITY EXHIBITS

across the nation.

5. NATIONAL MALL EXHIBIT, JAN. 6. 2022.

Celebration of **LOVE** and **HOPE** in Washington DC.

Overview

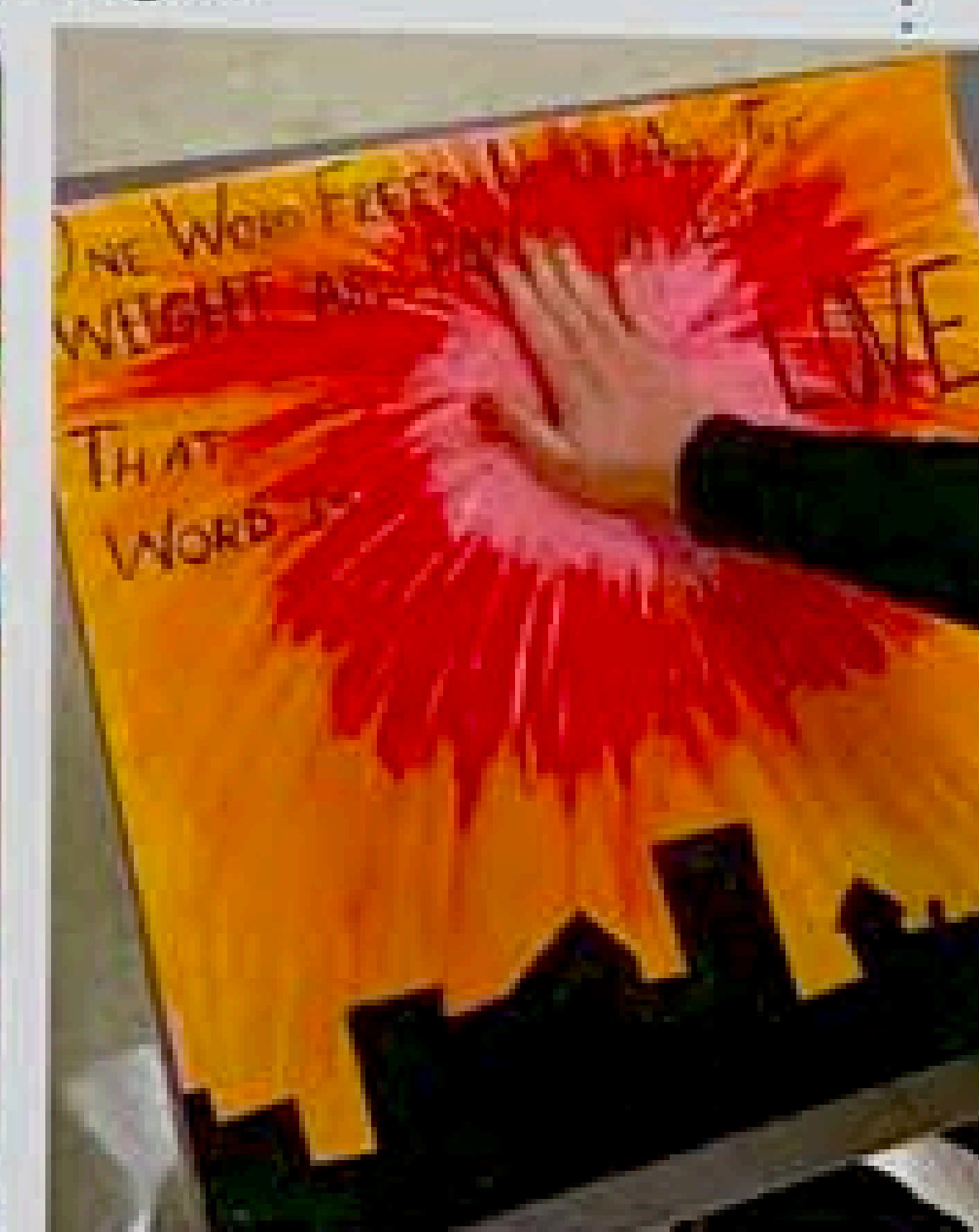


Why is it Important?

TO INSPIRE PEOPLE to participate in protecting our democracy.

TO DO OUR PART to change the world for the better.

TO ACTIVATE AMERICANS to encourage our leaders to make positive institutional changes.



THROUGH THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT we want people to:

- ♥ **BE INSPIRED** as they go back to their communities.
- ♥ **GET INVOLVED** and share the message.
- ♥ **INFLUENCE** democracy.
- ♥ **MAKE POSITIVE SOCIAL CHANGE** through voting.

THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT wants to see students:

- ♥ **CONTINUE** to talk about the importance of our founding ideals.
- ♥ **SUPPORT** our nation by participating in democracy.

Design Approach

We lead with LOVE and ART. Art created by teachers, students, artists and participants of all ages is the heart of the design of each of the five sections of the exhibit. The narrative of the experience is crafted to bring joy, playfulness, clear intention and a series of acknowledgements: of the present moment, of pain endured, of the possibility of solutions and of absolution earned.

1. 19 PRESENT MOMENT/ THE SENSES Portals.

Art created to bring people into the current moment, where our country, our democracy stands.



2. ACCORDIAN FOLD BOOK Portal.

Books bring us wisdom. The art represented here will show what we have witnessed and what we can do to arrive at the ideals stated in our founding documents.

The book encourages democratic participation.



5. 19 CROWN Portals.

The word "CROWN" is an announcement, an announcement and reward for love, kindness and commitment. This art inspires participation and shows the future.



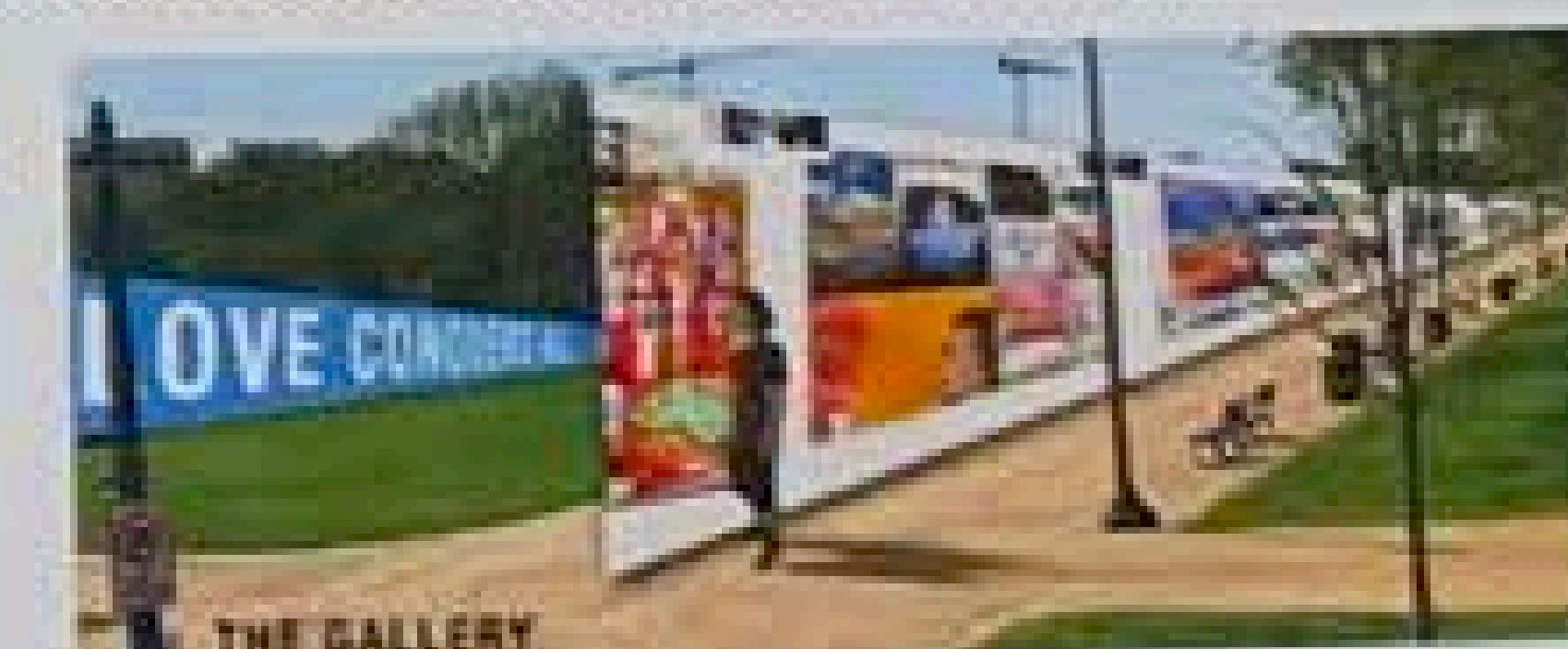
3. 19 TEACHER'S DOORWAYS Portals.

A homage to educators across the land who build inviting learning environments for our future leaders and voters. Setting the example of activism, participation, and leading people to love and support one another.

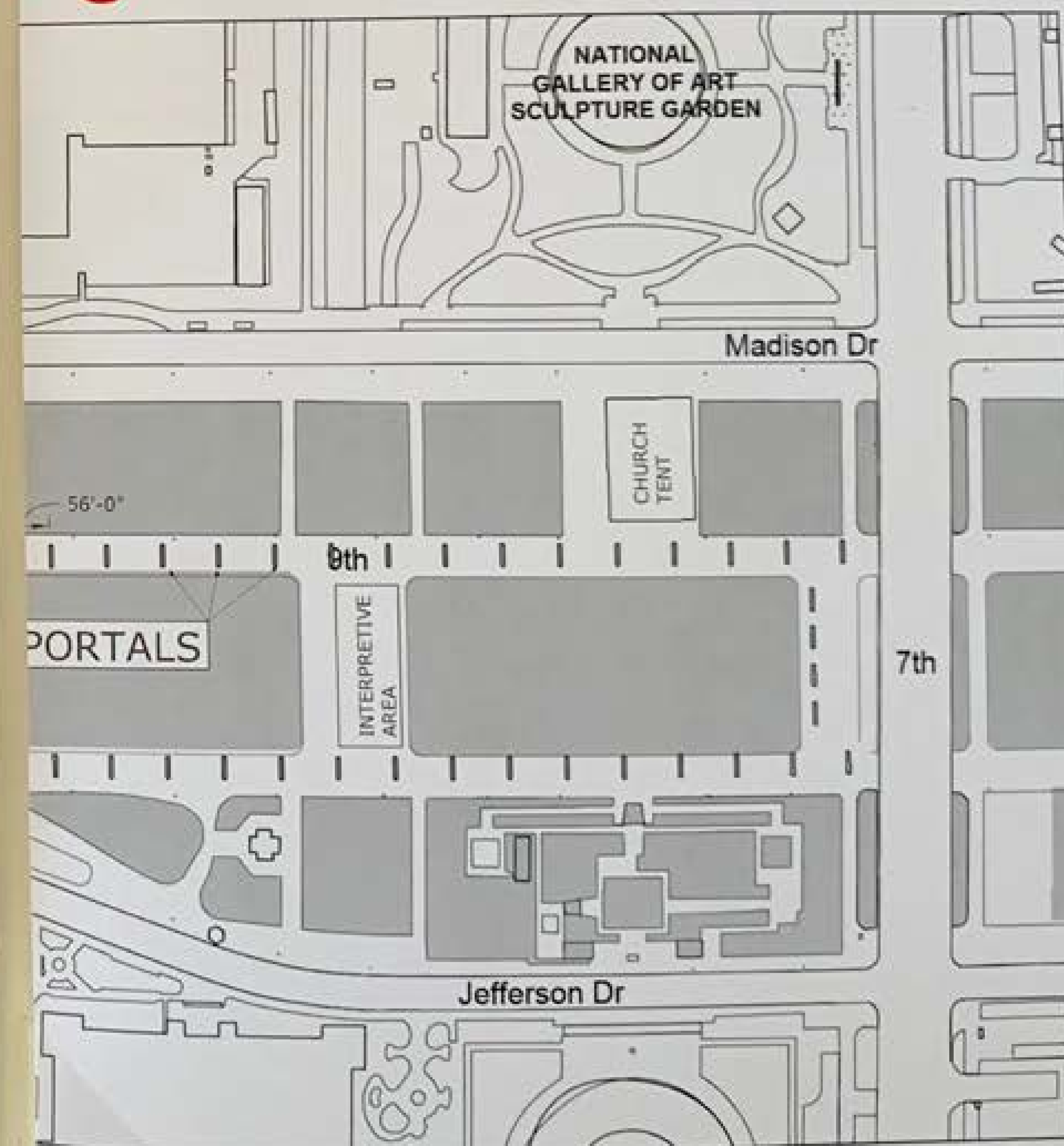
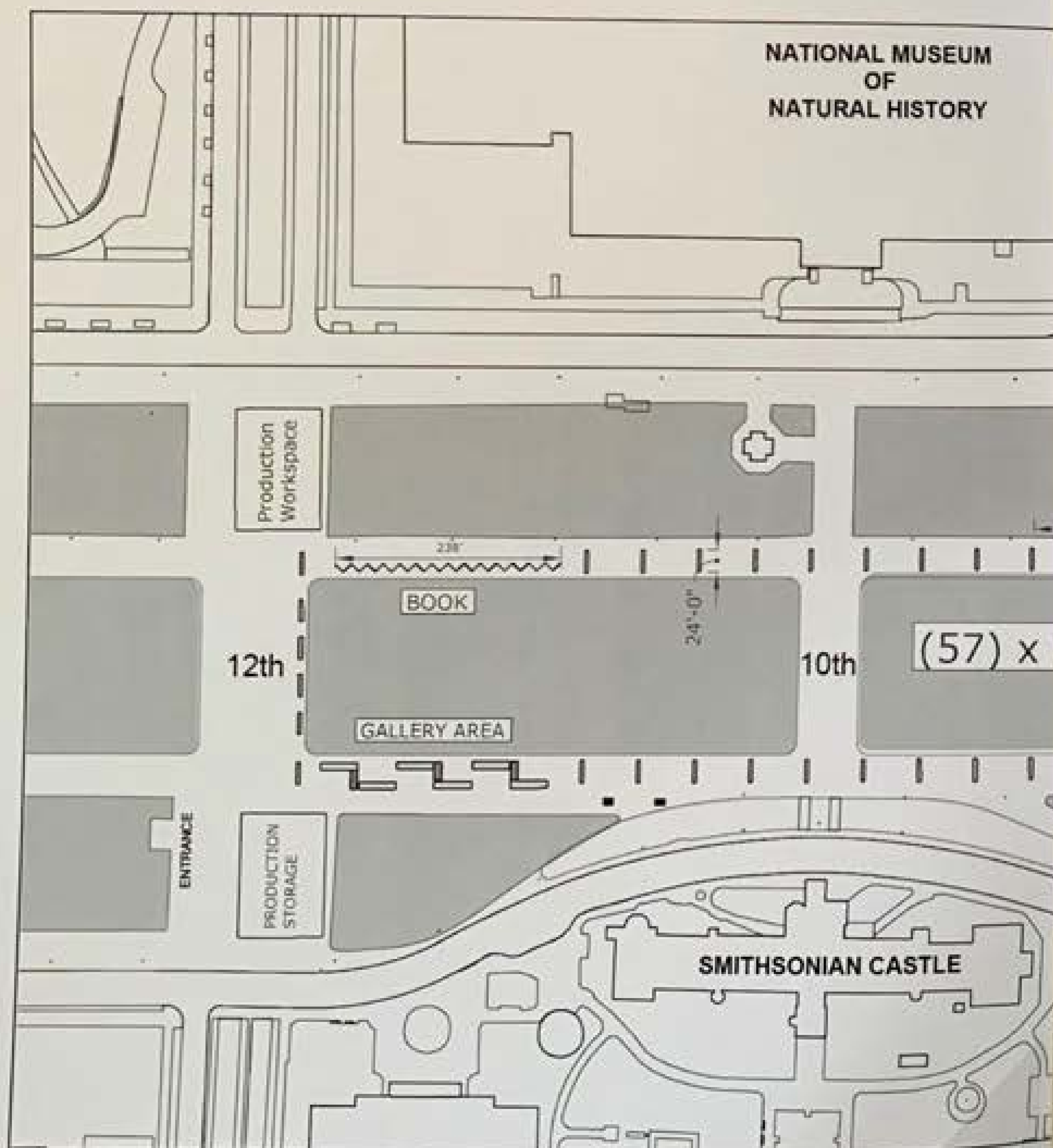
4. The GALLERY.

Art representing the future that we behold. The future that is possible through community activism.

Showing connectivity, beauty, and insight into our future. (Potential customization for Sponsor/other key programs.)



National Mall Site Diagram. Plan View.



LORRAINE LIENEMANN

MY UNFINISHED A

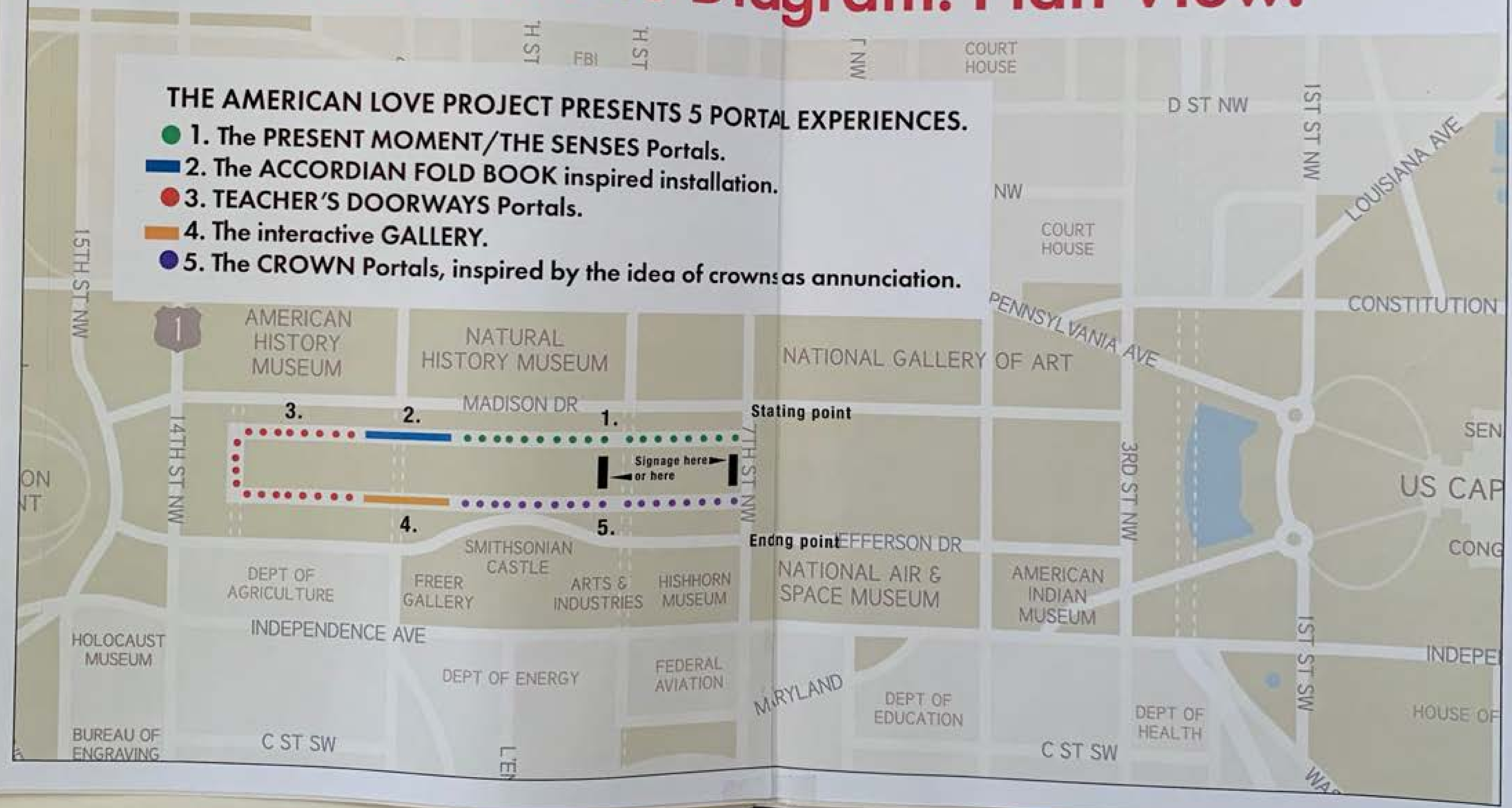
MY JOURNALS

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE

National Mall Site Diagram. Plan View.

- THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT PRESENTS 5 PORTAL EXPERIENCES.
- 1. The PRESENT MOMENT/THE SENSES Portals.
 - 2. The ACCORDIAN FOLD BOOK inspired installation.
 - 3. TEACHER'S DOORWAYS Portals.
 - 4. The interactive GALLERY.
 - 5. The CROWN Portals, inspired by the idea of crowns as annunciation.





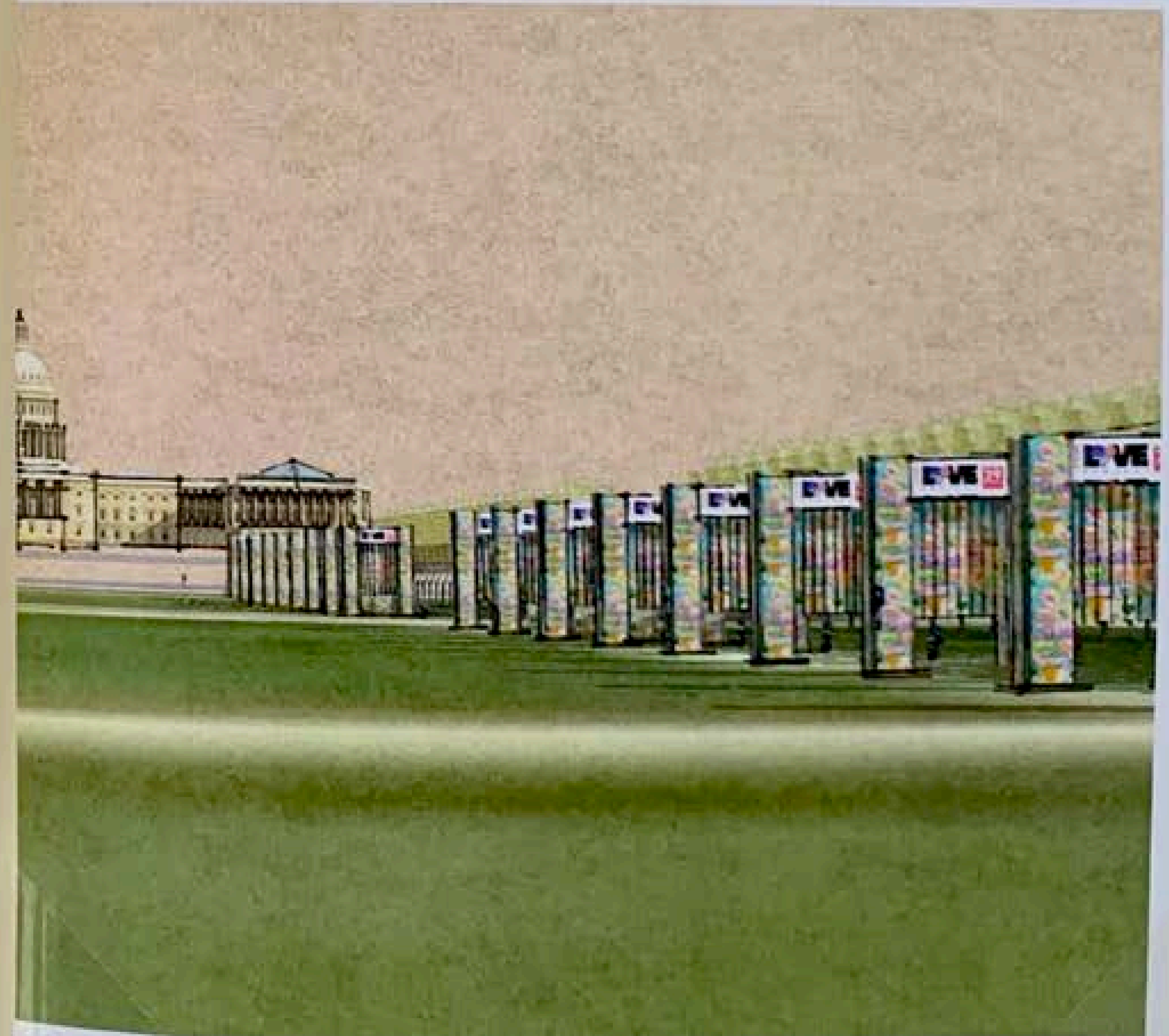
Portal Structure Rendering



PORTAL ELEMENTS WILL BE BUILT ON AN INTERNAL SCAFFOLD STRUCTURE.

"We need a scaffold.
We need a powerful force within
ourselves and within community, to
climb out of the trauma everyone has
experienced this past year. We need to
see sunlight again. People need a way
to imagine how unity can exist.

— JUDY STONE-NUNNELEY



LORRAINE LIENEMANN

MY UNFINISHED A

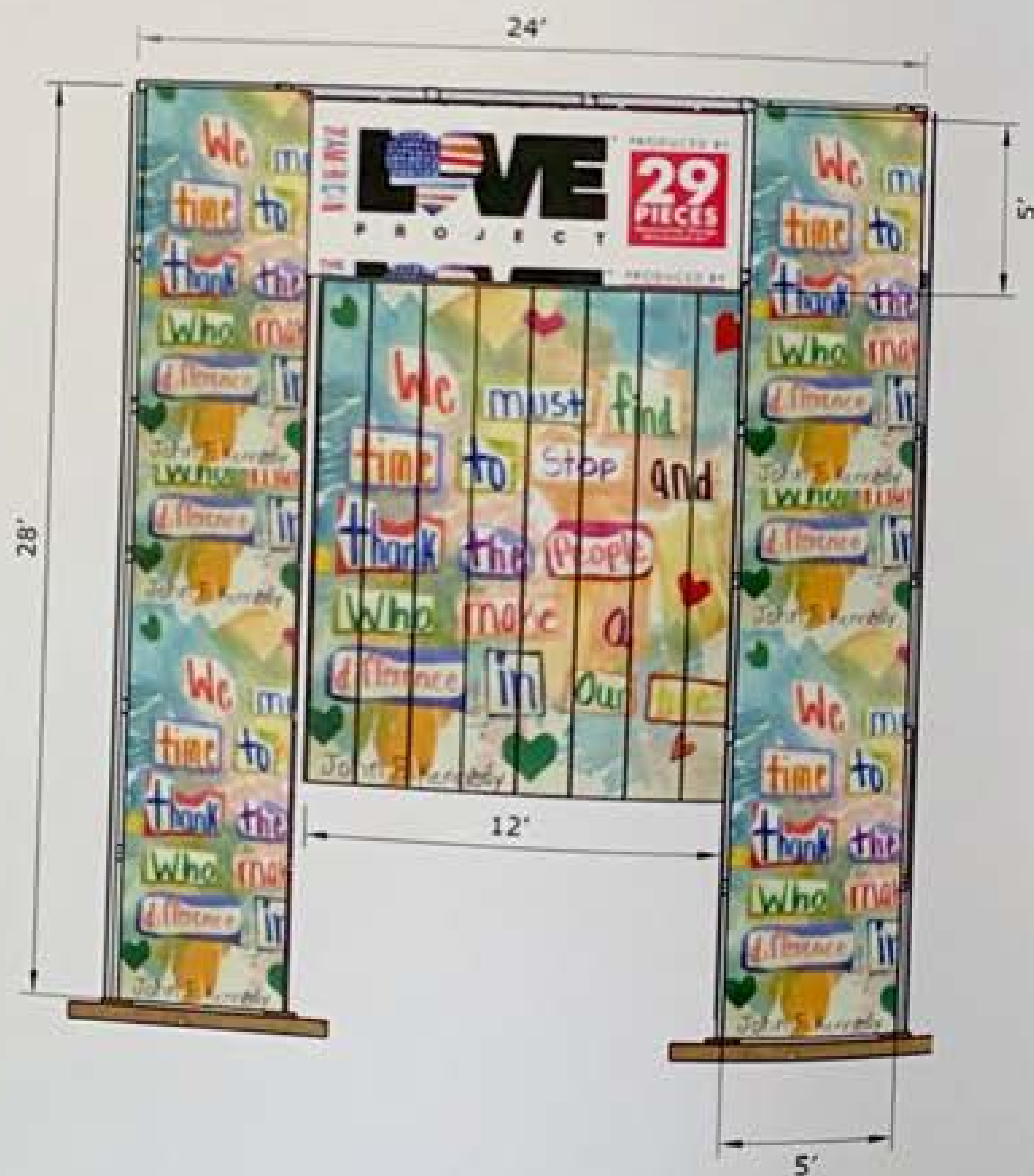
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Portal Scale Rendering





Timeline of The American Love Project

May 3rd:
Project launched



June 15th:
Registration opens for
on-line training

September 10th:
On-line art
submissions begin



January 6th 2022:
Installation
opens in
Washington DC

The American LOVE Project answers this timely question: "What can I do?" The answer? By participating with fellow citizens, in this national outpouring of love, beauty and healing. Will you? Will you join us?

LORRAINE LIENEMANN

MY UNFINISHED A

MY JOURNALS

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THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT FOR:

- ♥ Making art for the American LOVE Project
- ♥ Taking a LOVE Project training
- ♥ Leading a LOVE Project workshop
- ♥ Helping us with costs for:
 - ♥ Production
 - ♥ Installation
 - ♥ Security
 - ♥ Takedown
 - ♥ Repurposing of the 57 portals, the accordion fold book and gallery exhibit panels.

LORRAINE LIENEMANN

MY UNFINISHED

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE

We thank you.



Art shown is from The Dallas Love Project



For more information, please visit:

theamericanloveproject.org

29pieces.org

dallasloveproject.org

29 Pieces Education:

Artists Making a Kinder World

artistsmakingakinderworld.org

See 29 Pieces on Facebook, Instagram
and Twitter

Contact us:

info@29Pieces.org

karen@29pieces.org



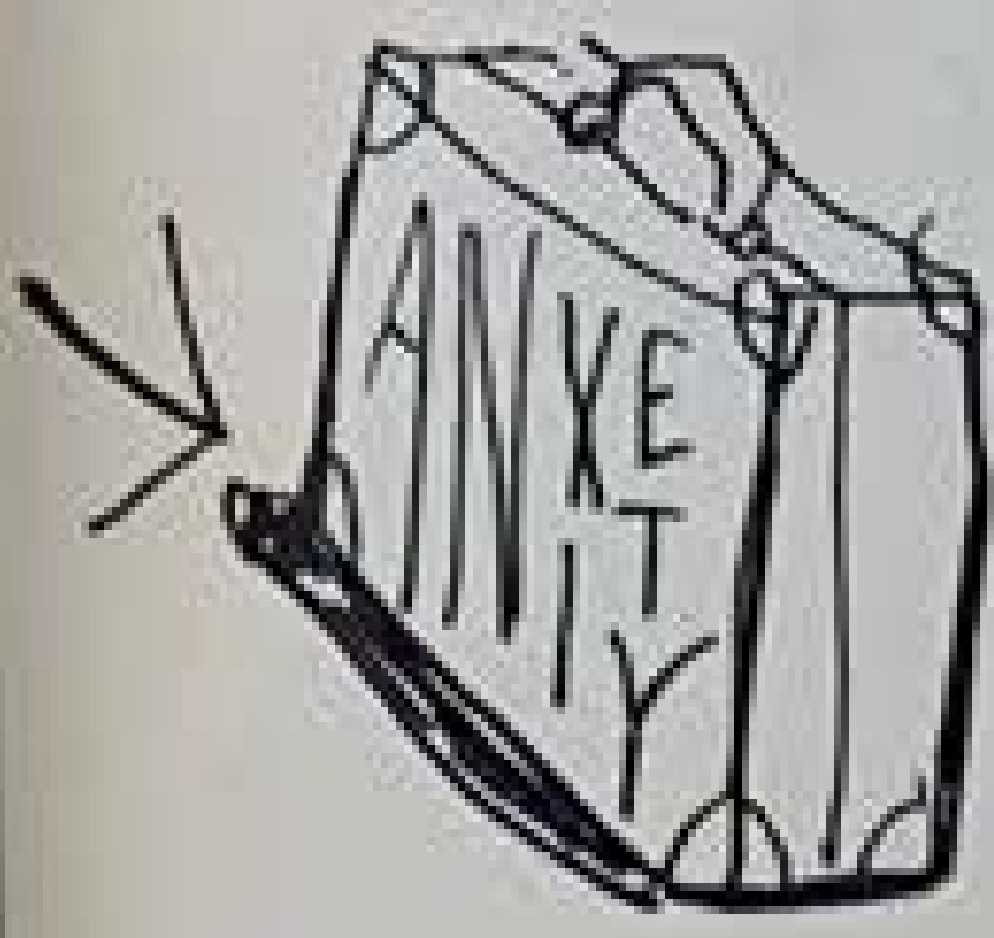
ONE. THEN ONE MORE. ONE MORE.

NOW
JUNE 29
2021

JULY 5
2021



JAN.
2022



July 5, 2021

I haven't been writing/processing
each day. I need to.

The stakes are higher.

The vision is bigger.

The task list is longer.

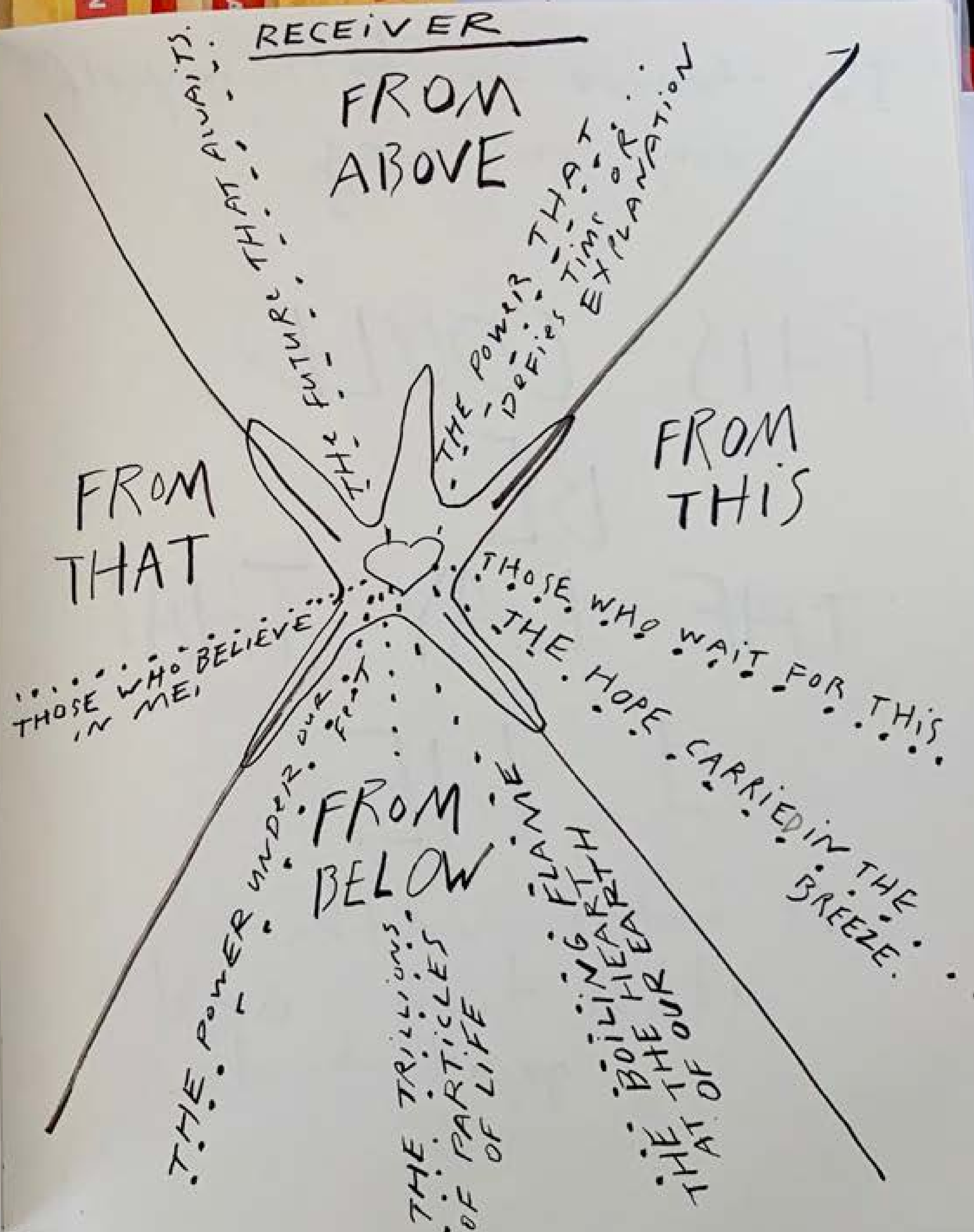
The money needed is more.

The lessons learned are new
each day.

Do I admit fear—on
nerves? Or put on an act?

Do I take the fear,
cast it aside, and re-
calibrate on the task
at hand? Or. Or. Then
another.

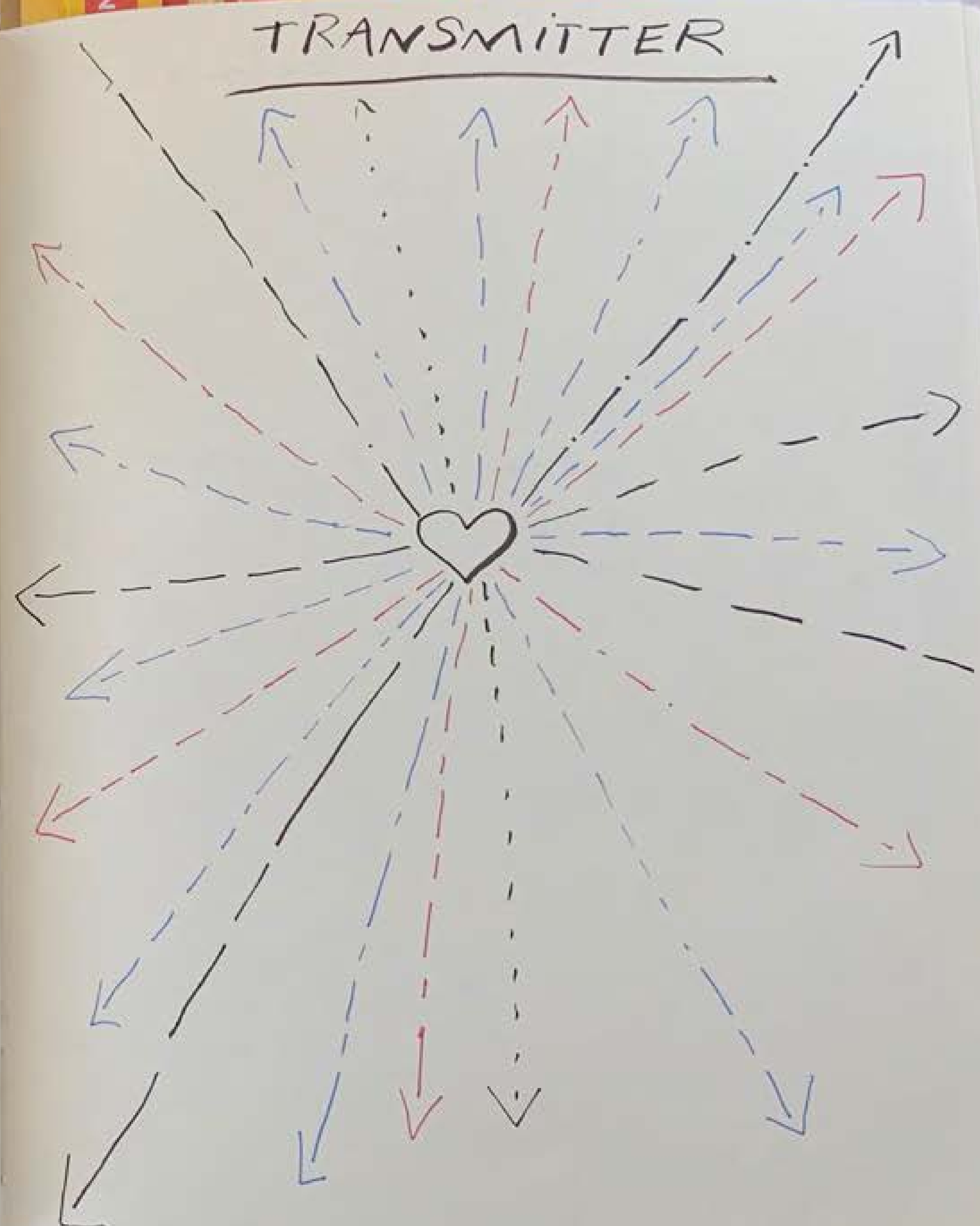
I can do this.



I've started to tell myself
every morning:

THIS COULD
BE
THE DAY THAT
I DIE.

It helps. With
attention and
gratitude.



Futures without Violence.
Este Solar
COURAGE MUSEUM -
PRESIDIO

SLR

oDECK edits ideas

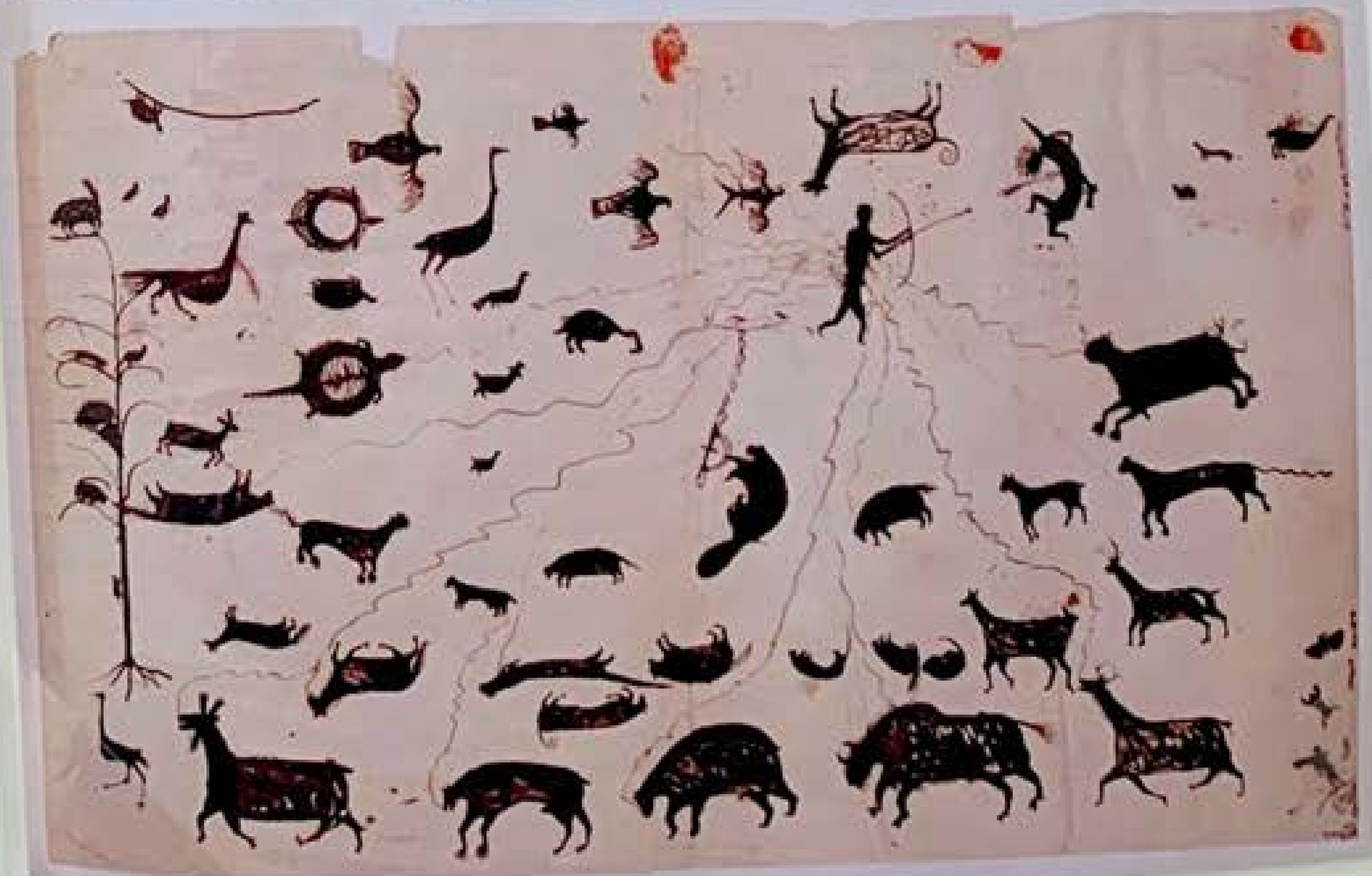
- NEXT week - one or two
pages
- KB elevator pitch.



Diane Van Buren suggested the
addition of oversize, playful
elements - big noses, big feet

Collingon.
The energy at our back.

Print from an exhibit at the Met. →





Teacher's
Doorways.



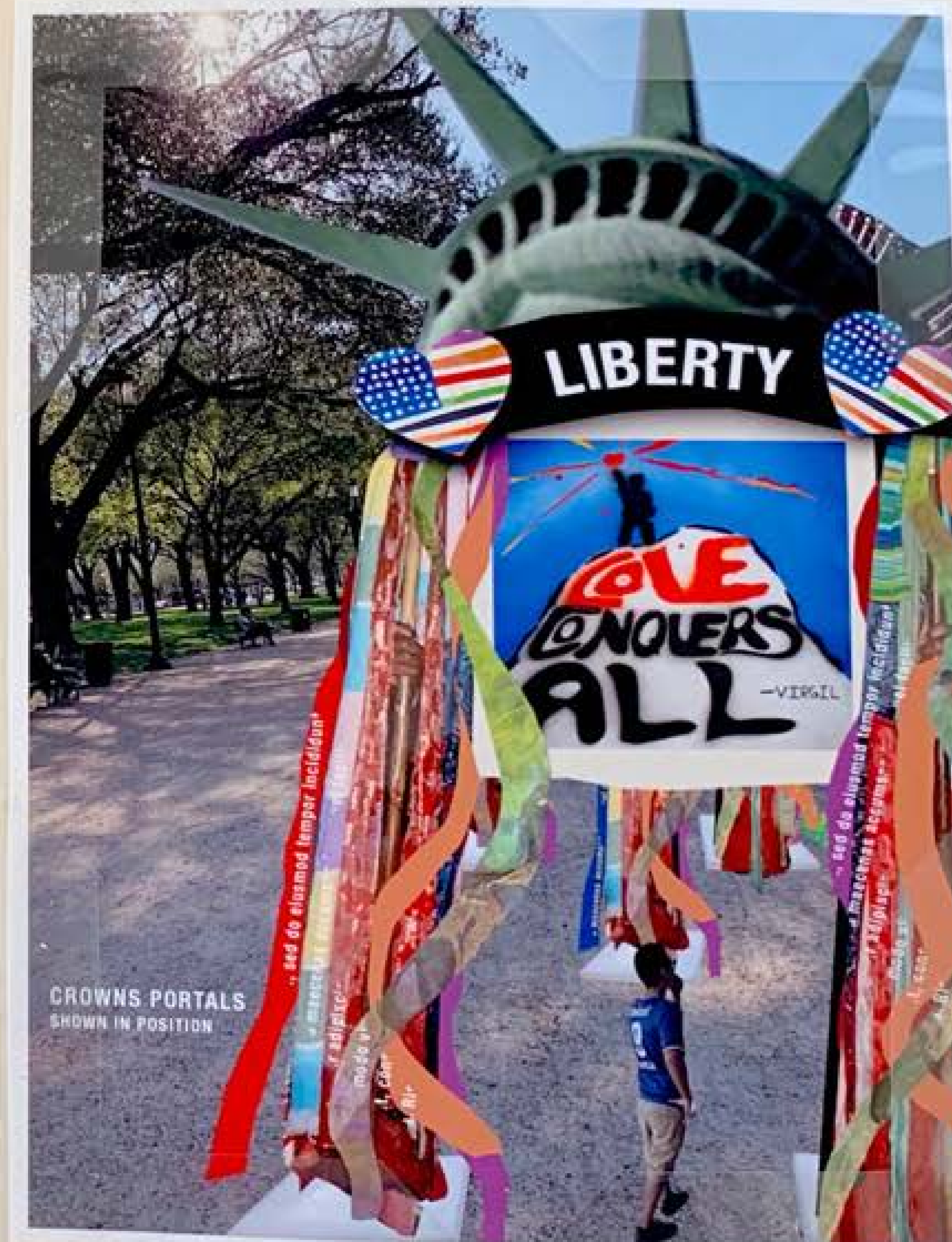
The ancient
book is signage.

LORRAINE LIENEMANN

MY UNFINISHED A

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE



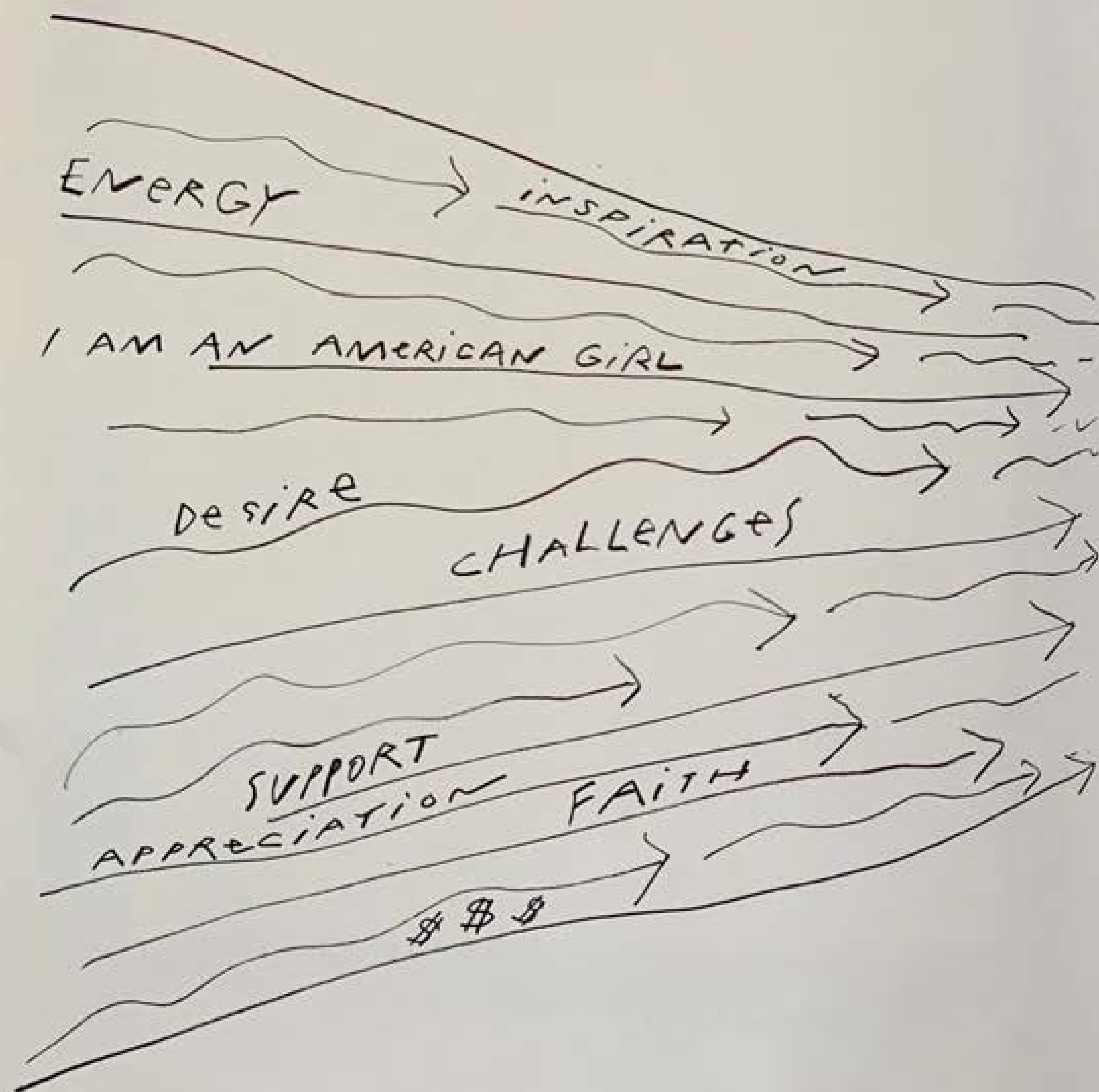
Crowns

LORRAINE LIENEMANN

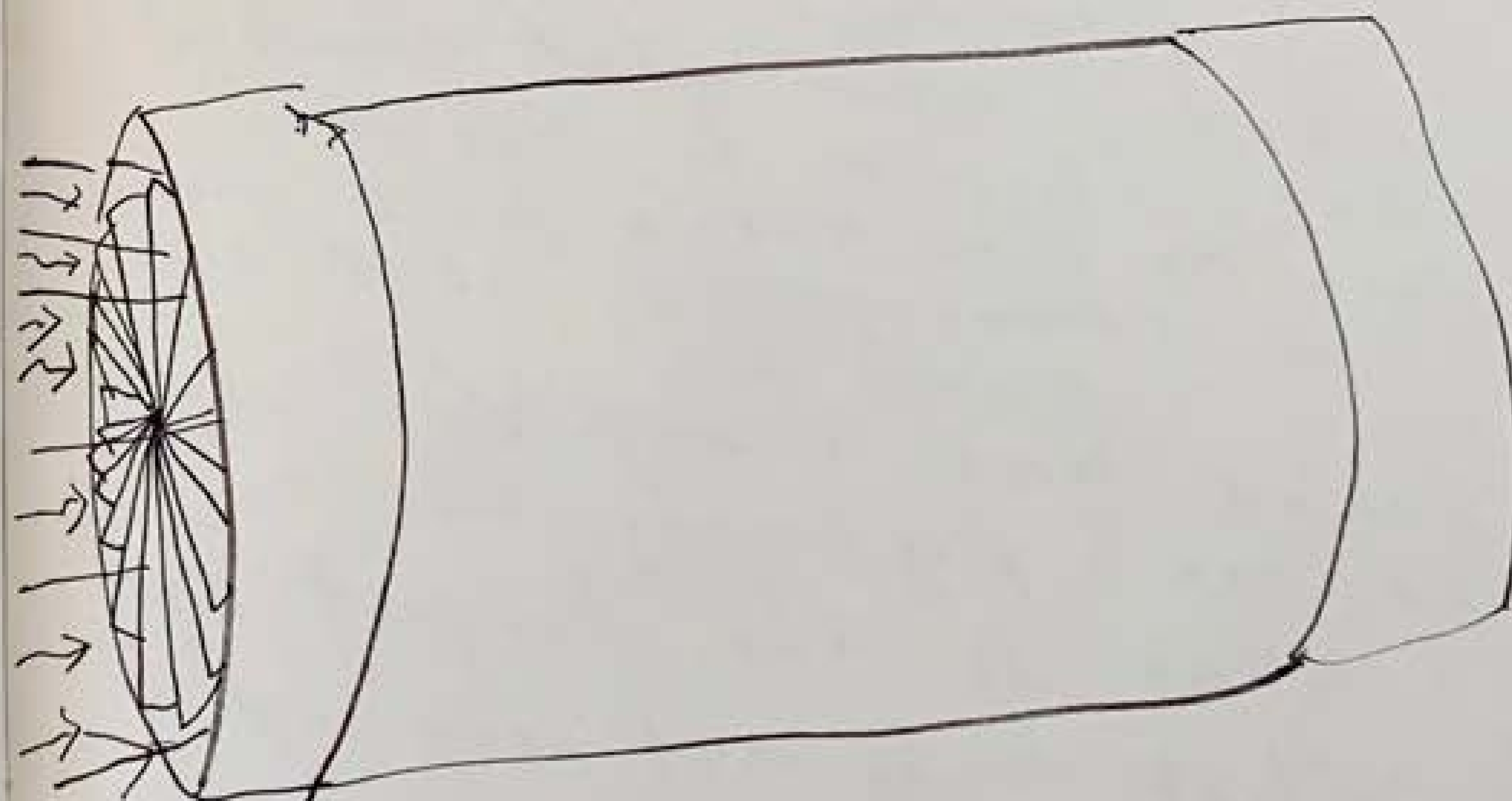
MY UNFINISHED A

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE



THE TURBINE REQUIRES
CONSTANT ENERGY FEED



First moments of discouragement
in this project. No money is
raised for the DC portion of
the project. Front Runner is
nervous.

1 question —
What is the right direction?
What direction do you see?
[TURN TO GOD ALONE, AND HAVE
NO THOUGHTS OF SELF AT
ALL.]

What best accomplishes what
we are hoping/trying to do?

What is the deepest hope?

What truly matters in this?

Left hand.

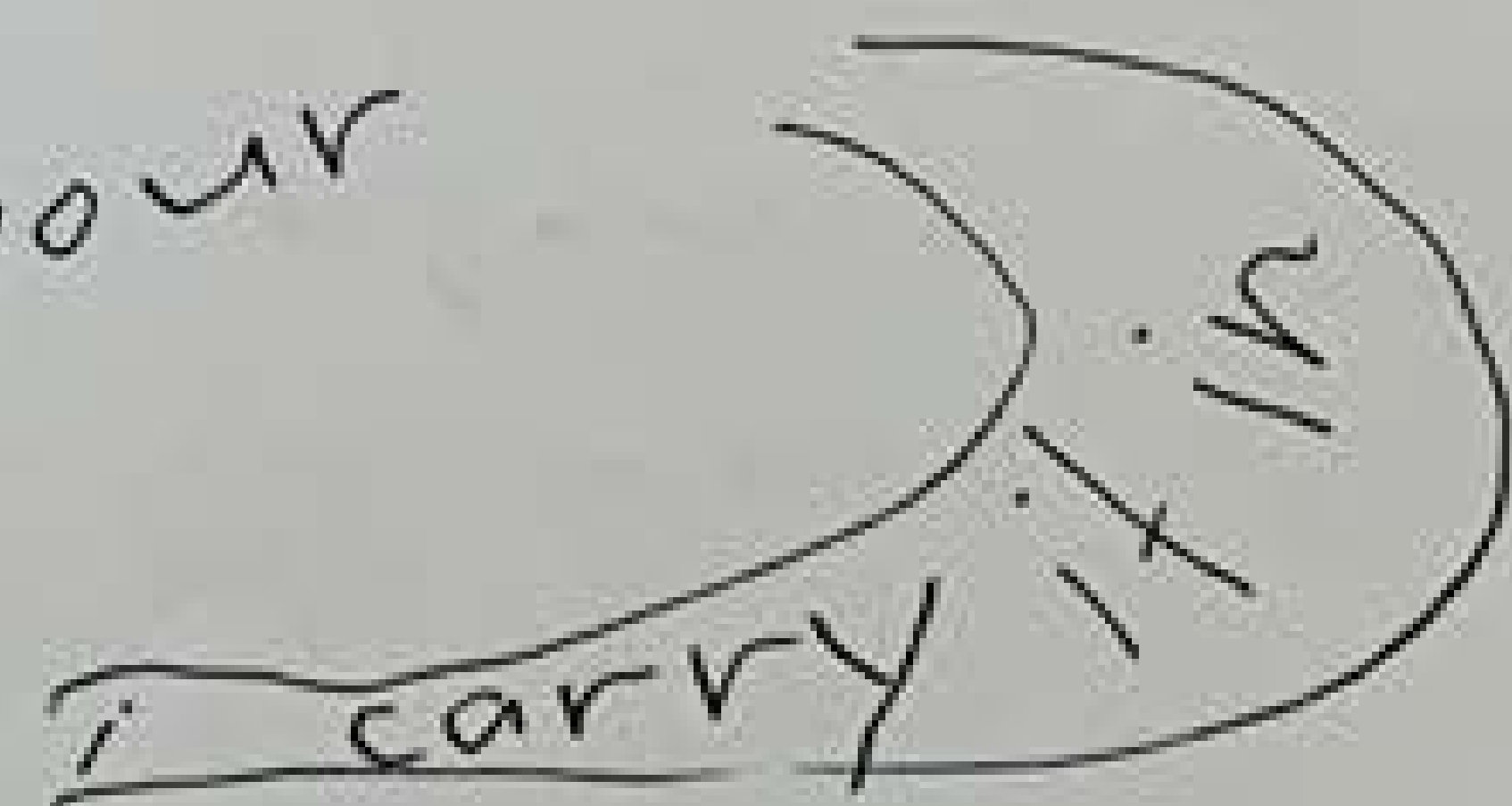
What truly matters in this?
The process. The stuff that
happens in the hearts and
minds of those who

participate.

The big installation does matter.
Keep your engine going
through the turbulence.



i carry
your heart



AUGUST 15,
2021

A LOT has been going on.
 36 States.
 Some school districts
 Workshops.
 DMN article.
 More workshops
 Solid schedule.

SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

AGAIN — A LOT GOING ON.

AUGUST 19 - LORRAINE
 PASSEDAWAY.

I'LL PUT MY FB POST →
 AND WHAT SHE WROTE
 20 YEARS AGO - FOR
 MY 50th.

Somewhere here, my motor
 skills are changing. Not pain

LORRAINE LIENEMANN

ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE

MY UNFINISHED A

LORRAINE ^{ANNE} LIENEMANN

AUGUST 9, 1951 — AUGUST 19, 2021

don't in vite me to gatherings of your kind

Karen Blesser is with Barbara Velazquez and Sandra Johnson.
 Lorraine and I met when I was 17. She was 18. It was September of 1969 and we were in our first year at the University of Nebraska, living on the sixth floor of Smith Hall. One evening all of us innocents were rounded up to listen to a talk given by a man that Lorraine described as about 110 and pitched upright by a cute coed on each arm. Then he showed a film - a very graphic film showing childbirth in all its gritty, bloody and noisy detail. I started to feel faint, got up to leave the room, and another woman followed me, who said "I'm about to black out". We closed the door behind us and both fell against the wall to regain our wits - introduced ourselves - and laughed uproariously.
 Who knows what the odd intent was in showing that film that night, but I doubt it was meant to send Lorraine and I bicycling off to Planned Parenthood for The Pill as soon as the time arose.
 A lifelong friendship was formed. She was a mathematician, computer scientist and super smart person. She made enough money before she was 50 to retire to the beautiful home that she bought herself near Fontenelle Forest in Omaha, NE.
 Lorraine died this past Thursday after years of living with cancer. I am heartbroken. We've remained close friends all these years.
 We shared a love of all living things - our dear friends, flowers, trees, critters, family, the sky, the stars. But neither of us ever had children. And I blame that 110 year old man who showed us that gritty, graphic film.
 Bon voyage Lorraine. Your spritely, curious, intelligent spirit will be with me always.



Kelly Nash, Sibyl Reynolds and 150 others · 179 Comments · 3 Shares

I took this photo of Lorraine in either the summer of 1972 or 1973. We were bicycling. She has a bike lock stuck in her neck.

he arrived, and she left, summer — her favorite season. My grief was flat-out. Friends for 52 years, even though

A LOT has been going on.
 36 States.
 Some school districts
 Workshops.
 DMN article.
 More workshops
 Solid schedule.

SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

AGAIN — A LOT GOING ON.

AUGUST 19 — LORRAINE
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 AND WHAT SHE WROTE
 20 YEARS AGO — FOR
 MY 50th.

Somewhere here, my motor
 skills are changing. Not pain

LORRAINE ^{ANNE} LIENEMANN

AUGUST 9, 1951 — AUGUST 19, 2021

She was a pain in the ass in many ways. She'd say to me "you are the kindest person I know." "You have more intention than anyone I know." Please don't invite me to gatherings of your kind."



I took this photo of Lorraine in either the summer of 1972 or 1973. We were bicycling. She has a bike lock which around her neck.

She arrived, and she left, in summer — her favorite season. My grief was flat-out. Friends for 52 years, even though

in my hands, but something
is different.

□ D.C. Big installation —
tabled. Due to
exorbitant cost.
Funding issues.
Covid 19 through the
roof.

□ → Happened 30 minutes
after hearing that
Lorraine had only days
to live.

□ Wind out of sails.

□ Funding turned down by
office of Arts + Culture.

□ Sarah Lisinger pledged
\$25-35K.

□ Hot, dog days.

□ I'm cancelling plans to go to
Nebraska for the 2 memorial
services — Lea Marshall +
Lorraine —

because P. Nat can't walk
more than a few steps.
(P. Nat had a stroke.)

□ I am left somewhat unfocused,
depressed, weary. Sad.
That's where I am today.

Will my need to write in
these journals go away as my
motor skills decline?
69. A few months shy
of 70. the ability to grip
a pen changes.

Lorraine Lienemann at her
 UNL graduation in May or June
 of 1973. Her parents came + took
 this photo.

I don't remember what job Lorraine
 took after graduation. She moved
 to an apartment of her own near
 21st + South St. She met Tim.
 I met Kelly. Things changed.



Shortly after this I moved out.
 And left for the 3 months tour
 of Europe — by myself. Things
 changed in a few — for a while
 we were in a different place.

I went to the Honors Association
 but not to graduation.
 We are sitting on the porch
 of 1637 G St, in Lincoln — our
 palatial apartment.

October 3, 2021

There's been one clear through
 line in this project — the
 educational stuff + development
 of the website. And that
 is beautiful.

The end game — Jan. 6 -
 Feb. 16 part is another
 story. Ever changing.

And I have to say
 that — now that I've moved
 past the discombobli of
 tabling the DC part —
 the way things are moving
 pleases me.

We were fortunate to
 have the father/daughter
 team of Tom + Bridget Kessler
 come into the picture.
 Geniuses. (Thank you.)

Ramir Carr and his reluctant
slow half assed manner of
working were moved out of
the picture. (It was not fun.)
And Bridget ("I can do that.")
came in. Thank you.

We have money again.
And new partnerships with
American Airlines Center +
Love Field.
I can breathe. I am pleased.

JUDY'S BIRTHDAY WAS AUG. 16.



Shirley
18 Spring St.
NY NY 10012

OMAHA NE 680
27 SEP 2021 PM 3 L

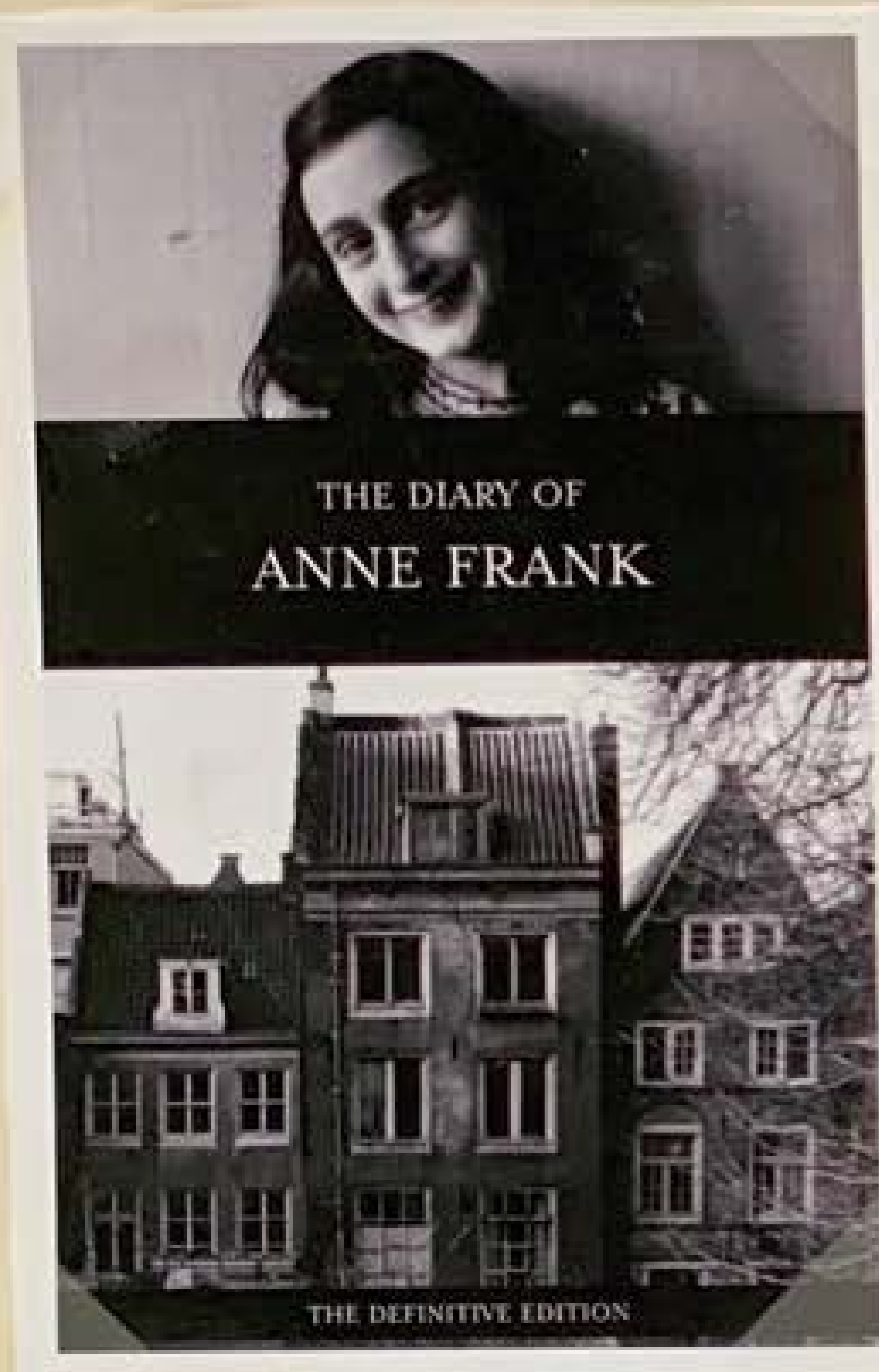


Karen Bessen
6327 Vickery
Dallas, TX

75214-334827

75214

Thank You for the Cake
+ Bread I sent her.



with that.
I'm puzzled/embarrassed that I've never read the diary.



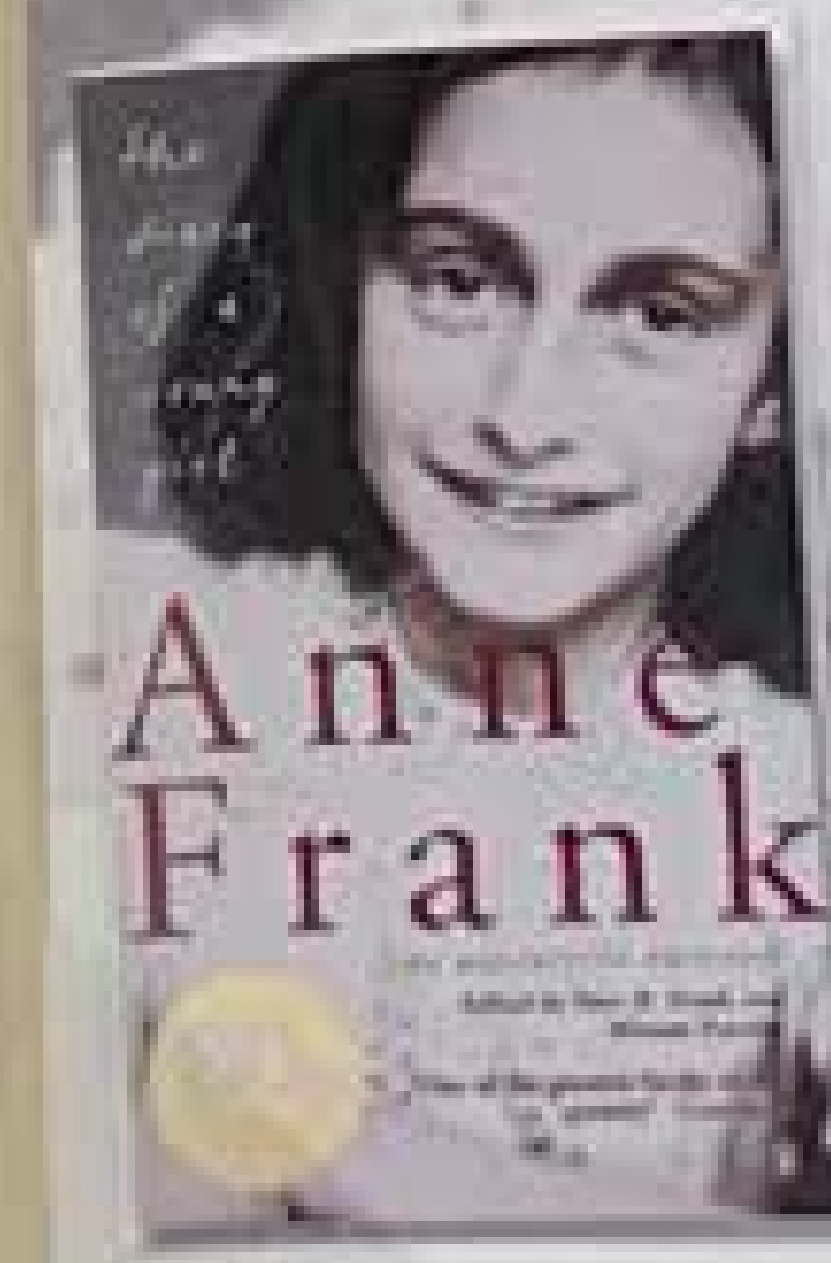
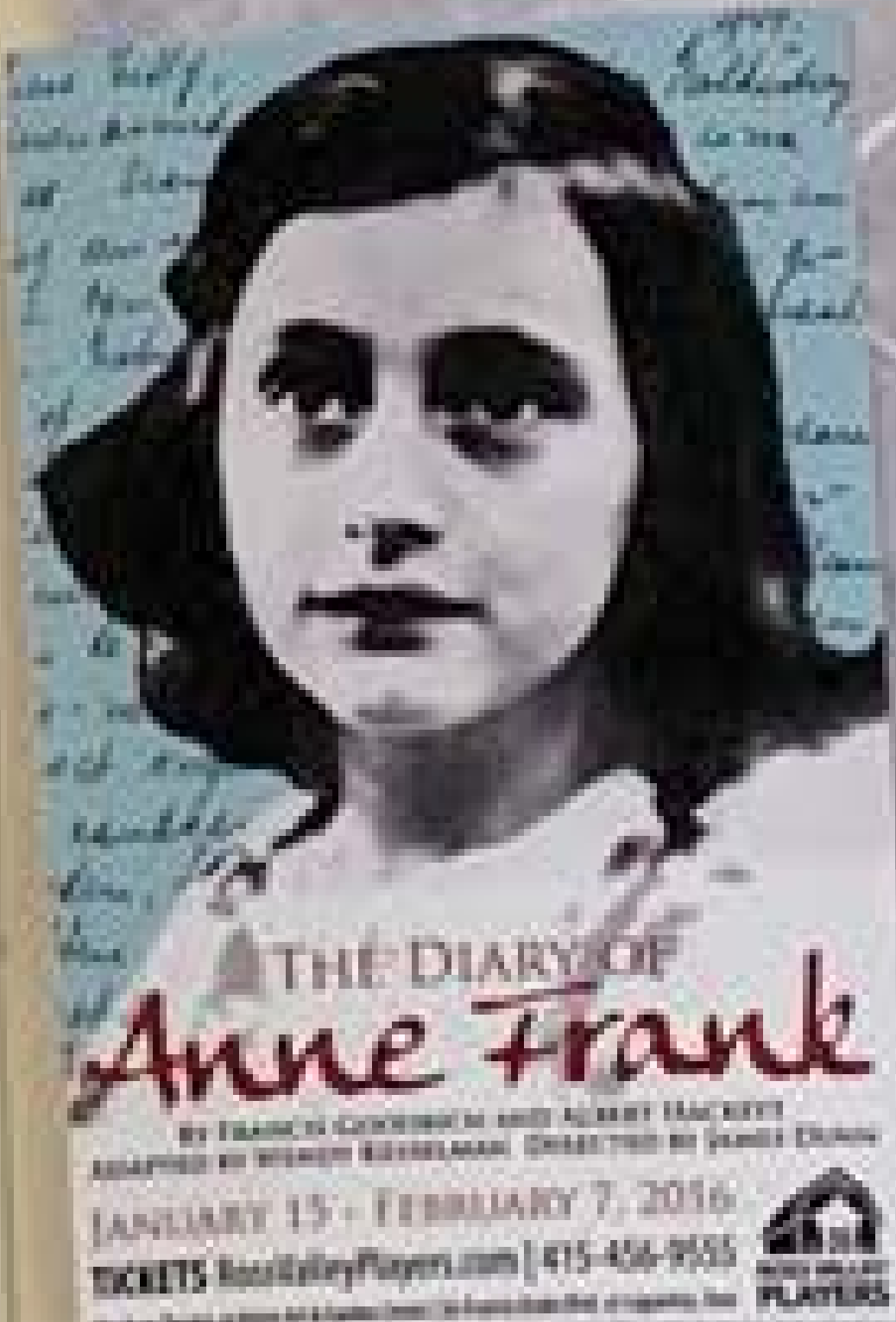
OCTOBER 9, 2021

Anne Frank lives on. I don't recall what brought me to Anne Frank right now. But I'm reading the diary, watching documentaries.

Imagining
If coincides with my processing of Lorraine's death. Songs is the key of Death. There's nothing wrong

Anne surprises me. The writing surprises me. SHE WAS A WRITER.

ANNE
DIARY OF A
WRITER



ANK
(GERMAN, JEWISH) GIRL

JOURNALIST



DREAMS
COME
TRUE.
in
unimaginable
ways.

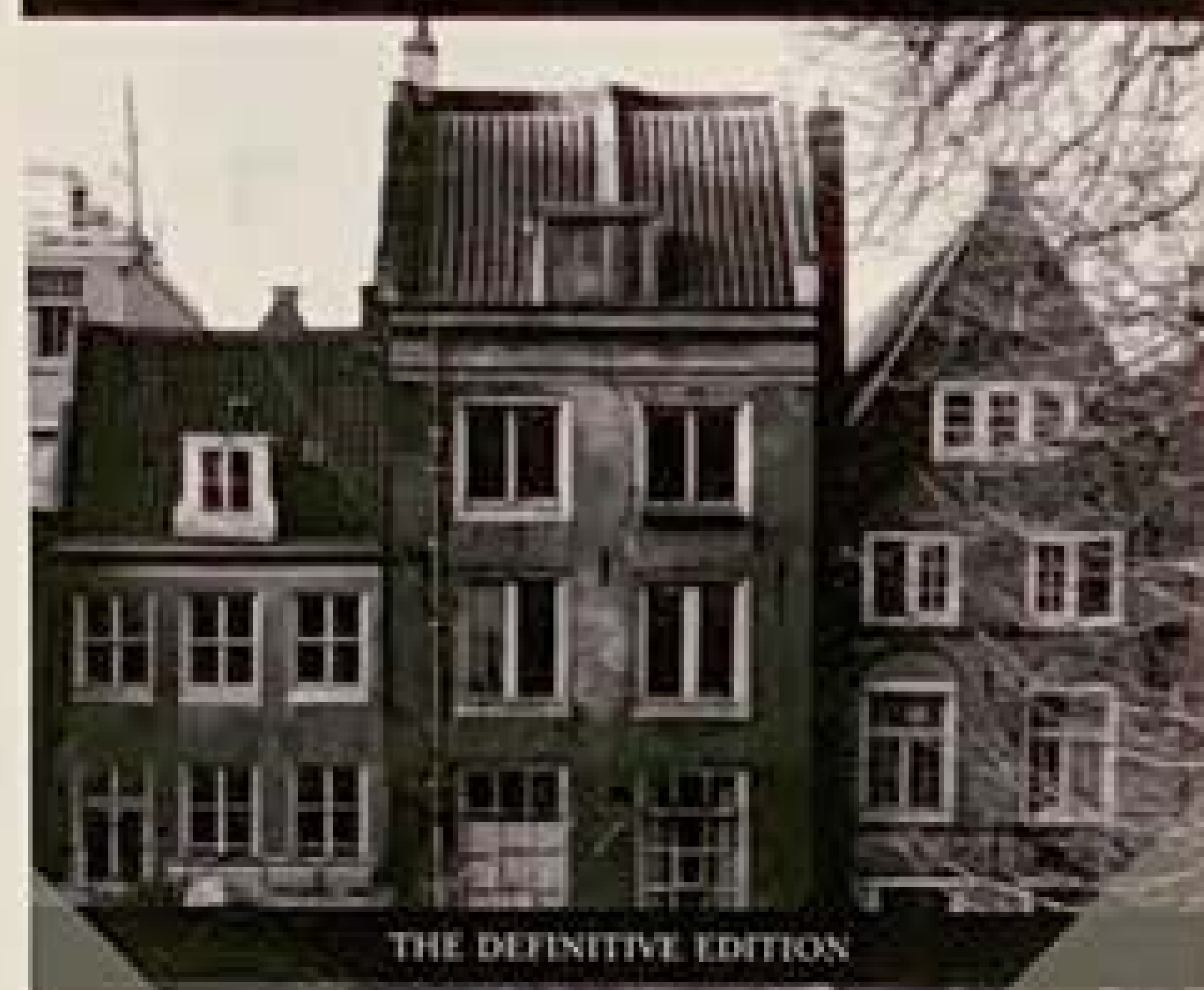
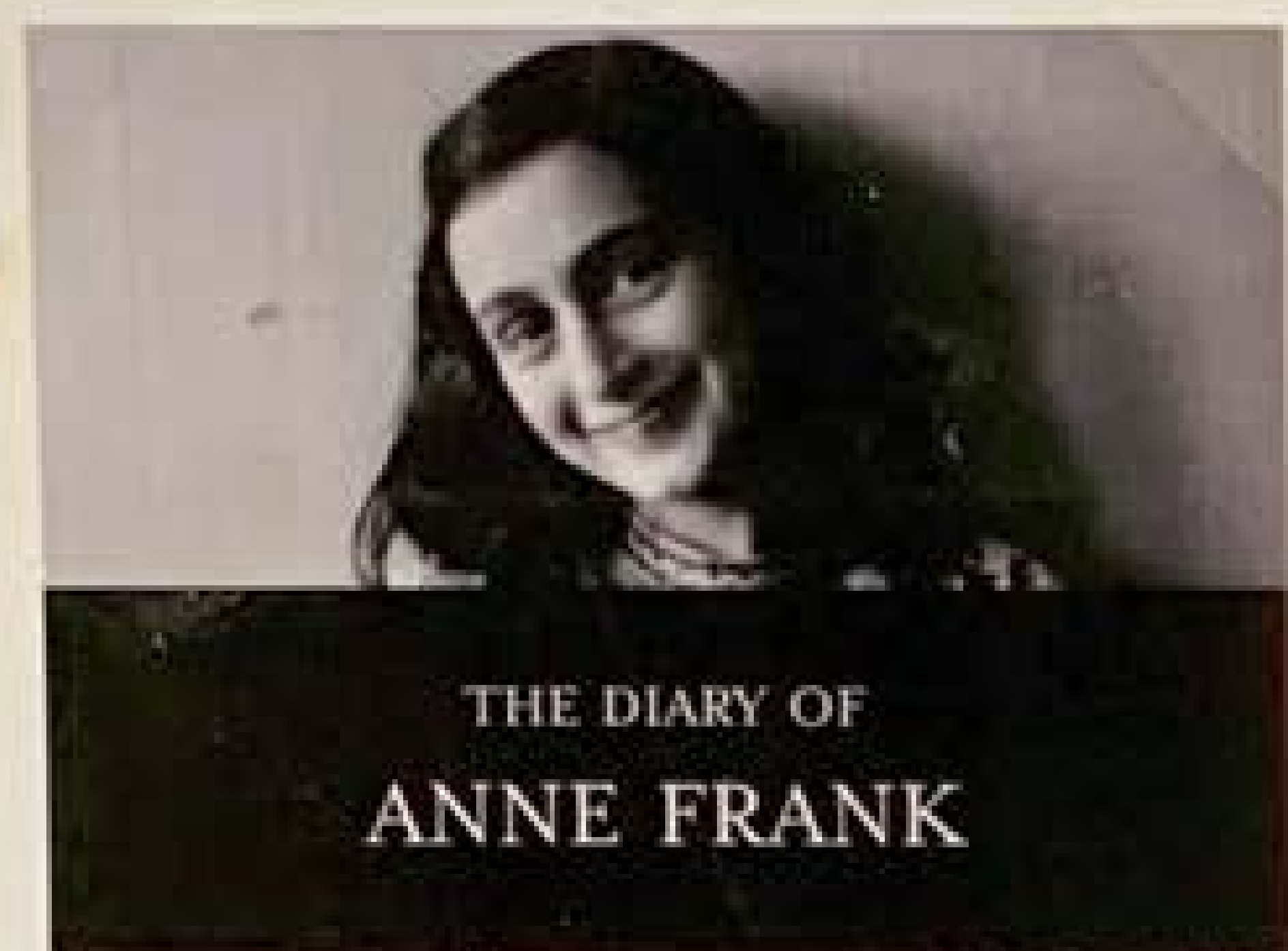


ANNE FRANK

AMBULANCE RIDE

MY JOURNALS

MY UNFINISHED A



with that.
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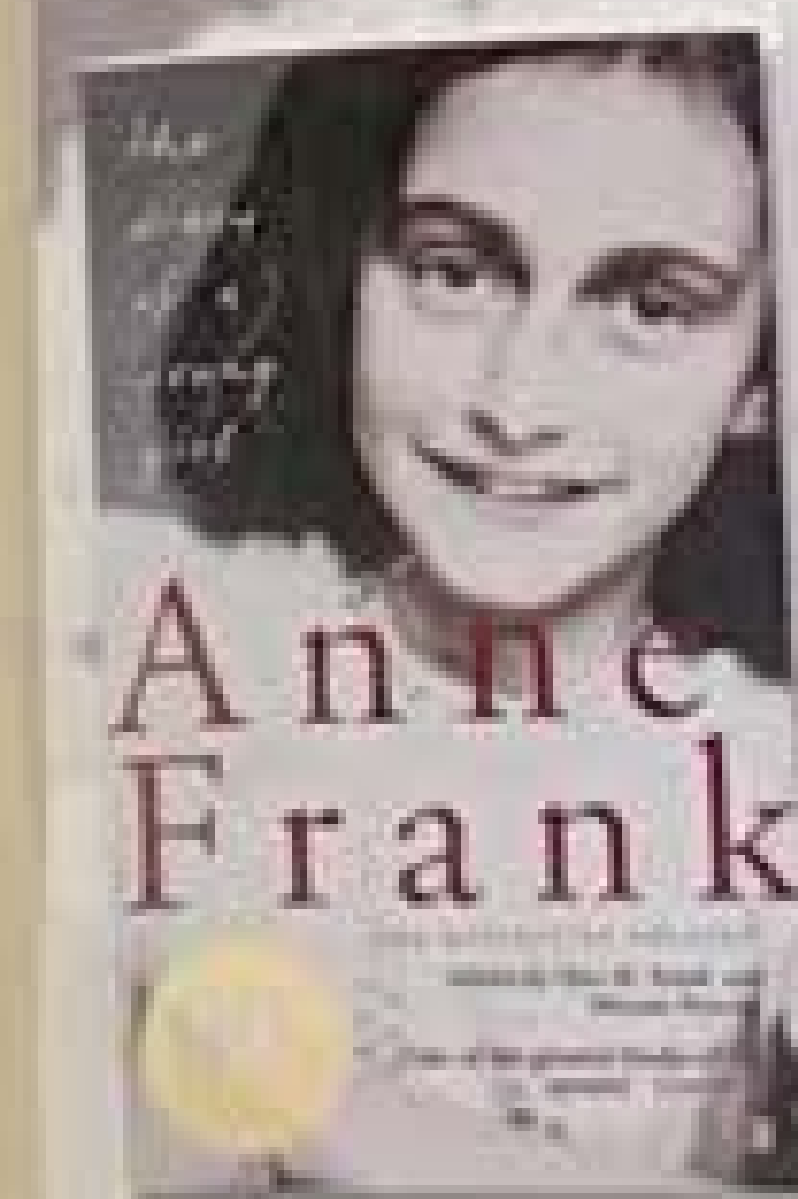
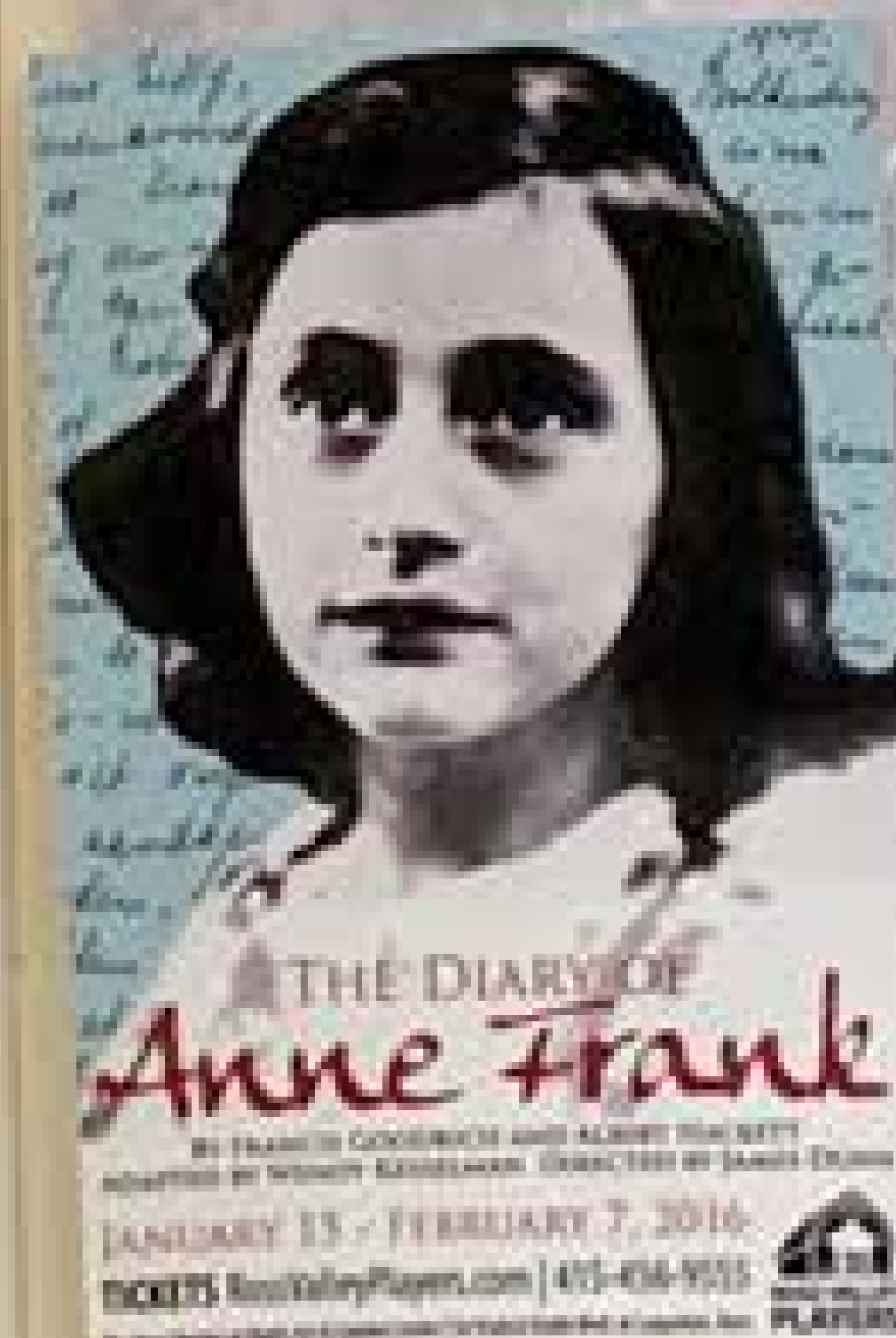
OCTOBER 9, 2021

Anne Frank lives on. I don't recall what brought me to Anne Frank right now. But I'm reading the diary, watching documentaries.

Imagining:
If coincides with my processing of Loss and death. Songs is the key of Death. There's nothing wrong

Anne surprises me. The writing surprises me. SHE WAS A WRITER.

ANNE FRANK
DIARY OF A YOUNG (GERMAN, JEWISH) GIRL WRITER



TRUE JOURNALIST



DREAMS
COME
TRUE.
in
unimaginable
ways.

We know how her story ends — well sort of. But we have to always remember that she is eternal.

She never died. She was able to channel the experience through her writer's mind. And the diary was preserved — though her body was not. But her spirit? Oh. My.



Anne Frank. My takeaways. So far. I haven't finished the diary.

@ She was a teenager. 13, 14, 15. In teenager ways, she was typical. Ensnared in boy/girl drama. Girl/girl drama.

@ Teenager brattiness to parents. She said she didn't love her mother.



MY JOURNALS

MY UNFINISHED A

AMBULANCE RIDE

© She was a faithful diarist.
A true journal-ist. She
dreamt of being a journalist-
and indeed she succeeded
beyond what probably wasn't
conceivable in her wildest
dreams.

© She turned to the diary to not
only record her days + this
Reality she was in, but to
process. To find comfort. And
by writing, taking pen from
heart to brain to hand to
paper, she found comfort and
understanding in a unique
way that wasn't further
coming or really even
possible from the adults
around her — or from
Peter.

© She was a storyteller. She
had the writer's capacity to
organize thoughts into an
entertaining way — even
if she was simply entertaining
herself.

Examples: Her story of the sound of
liquid + finding out the cat
used weed shavings for litter.
• Her story of "A Day in the Army."

© She was self-aware —
She confessed in her diary when
she understood the sometimes
selfish reasons for her behavior —
or when she held it in and
didn't talk back even if she
wanted to.

© She was charming and amusing.
Her joys were palpable — as were
her annoyances.

© She was terrified. Through it all,
she was aware of the monsters
on the other side of the
door. And the thin protective
atmosphere between safety
and utter terror and horror.
AND DEATH.

© While terrified, she could arrive at courage. Acceptance even that they all may die.

© She loved nature and couldn't wait to be out in nature again. She craved fresh air, the sky, trees, flowers, sun.

© She wanted to be in love — one very special person to understand and love her. There were 2 "Peters" — the one in the annex and the one from before.

© She was eloquent. Seemingly impossible. While living in impossible conditions, she amused herself in her writing and...

she was a.
© VORACIOUS LEARNER. Unbelievable. All those in the annex were. They put us to shame.

In one amazing entry, she writes what all the folks are studying + reading. My God. Correspondence courses in English + French, Greek mythology, Genealogy of various European royals. History of all sorts. American movie stars. You name it. And Anne + the rest studied actively. They were preparing for life 'after'.

© Her story activates our imagination — in all directions.

- What would I do if I had to be locked into a small space for 2 years with 5 adults + 2 other teenagers?

- How would I be able to stay so still and quiet? How did they?

- How bad must it have smelled?

- Would I, could I be as imaginative in keeping hope, love + humor alive?

② She shames me about any moments of ingratitude / experience. And inspires me to notice more, Revel in the beauty of nature.

Really look at and appreciate all the beauty.

③ She pushes us to unimaginable thoughts and images. Brutes hauling away innocent friends, family, loved ones, neighbors, imaginings of what is happening to them. And we now — looking back — we know what happened to them. And we know it happens today.

④ She shows us the best — small tendernesses, a gift of peonies, a cup of yoghurt.
And the fear of the worst brutality and cruelty.

We know we live amongst that today, too.

⑤ Her voice is spritely, spunky, curious, energetic, Authoritative, even. Smart. Observant, A little wicked. Impatient sometimes.



⑥ She could be critical even of the 'greats' such as in her commentary in the biography of Franz Liszt.

⑦ For a teenager — for anyone — her worldview was expansive, relatable, deep. She was not foolish.

⑧ She was creative. She had creative solutions. Running ^{stairs to} her mind off bombing.

@ We imagine those months
 between the capture and her
 death. Did she maintain hope?
 Were there at least some late
 summer, Indian summer and
 autumn days when she could
 see her beloved sky?
 • Was Margot a comfort?
 • Were there young women
 raped by Nazi soldiers?
 • Was any one kind to her?
 • Was she kind to others?
 • Did she have a pen? A
 pencil? Paper?
 • I pray she didn't suffer
 But that's foolish. She
 suffered. She saw. She
 observed. The utter
 depravity to which humans
 can sink. This girl
 This precious young woman
 had to witness this.
 And precious young people
 all over the world witness

this every day. As do animals, trees,
 the ocean, rivers, the air.

@ I did not sense overt religiosity
 among the inhabitants of the Annex.
 She didn't talk about rituals or
 ceremonies or prayers — or
 religious reading.

@ Beautiful ppl. perish.

@ Beautiful spirits live.

@ These spirits live on.

@ We multiply them by listening,
 • Truly experiencing unity of
 all-human, animal, plant,
 living and dead.
 • Their eyes are now our eyes.
 • Their tender touch, our tender
 touch.
 • Their work, our work.



MY JOURNALS

MY UNFINISHED AP

AMBULANCE RIDE

ber 27, 2021. 10.23 p.m.

much going on... it's daunting
rite about.

Good things happen with the
Love Project. Partnering
with Love Field. AEC,

Driving to the Michael's Unit
Prison at Tennessee Colony
on Saturday. To meet
Brandon Woodards

The journal project. Really
putting it out there. Darryl
has invited several folks
to come over.

Andy Mickelson has helped
tremendously in getting the
place ready + cleaned
up, painted, spiffed up.



October 27, 2021. 10.23 p.m.

So much going on... it's daunting to write about.

- ① Good things happen with the Love Project. Partnering with Love Field. AACC,
- ② Driving to the Michael's Unit Prison at Tennessee Colony on Saturday. To meet Brandon Woodards
- ③ The journal project. Really putting it out there. Darryl has invited several folks to come over.
- ④ Andy Mickelson has helped tremendously in getting the place ready + cleaned up, painted, spiffed up.

10.29.21

I am sorry that 29 Pieces even
got involved with Front Runner +
the whole ~~amb~~ ambitious plan.

Now I/we are in a position of
haggling with SGR in San Francisco
about money. There's been wires
crossed. I'm not happy about this.

I don't want to give energy to
it and write about it. It's
a thing that needs to be talked
through. Be calm. Be clear.
Be confident.

NOVEMBER 9

With home improvement projects going
on, people in the studio to look at
journals, the visit to Michael Unity
news that I have a basal cell
carcinoma on my scalp,  and hands growing stiff
(stiff enough that Benji
writing less.) I have

not turned to the journal.
With people looking at the
journals, I become self-conscious.
I don't want my one true
thing to become yet another
thing. Imperfect, compromised
thing.

There've been moments
lately when I've felt defeated
by the Love Project. I don't
want to dwell on it and I
really have no need to and it
the usual suspects: frustration,
impatience, fear, grief, little
resentments. Not going to catalog
or vent, or dig in the wounds.
Not this time.

It's time to relax, smile,
have faith & lead.
What would a generous,
effervescent leader in love do?

○ Share the light with those who
have so boldly participated.

methodically
think
Judy.
Washington D.C.
Atlanta
Stena Lieb Grove
Plano
Garden Grove, CA.
Many others.

MN
NE
AK
TX
ATL

○ Envision what to do on Jan. 6.
Event.
Fly. to school

○ Be UN-DEFEATED

○ Be Forgiving.

○ Don't dwell on what does not,
did not work.

○ Write thank yous to all
who participated. DO THIS.

Thanksgiving Day. 2021. Nov. 25.
 We did a pre Thanksgiving at
 P.F. Changs with the 29 pieces
 team. It was wonderful to
 be with everyone.



Today is perfect. Blue skies. Crisp
 temps. I watched most of the
 Macy's parade, and now in the
 studio. Looking forward to a
 few days of down time -
 asking for/praying for energy,
 strength, commitment, joy

for those next months of the
 Love Project. Silence.

The silence. To listen.
 To hear To be filled up.

Be at peace in the silence.
 It's not necessary to fill time
 with text, phone call exchanges.

Time:

- To understand my role.
- To be quiet. At home. As
 we wait to hear how
 Janelle is doing post covid
 diagnosis. (So far so good.)
- To gather strength.
- To plan these next 3 months.
- To monitor my energies.

• Write Thanksgiving
message.

• email

• FBok

• Insta

• Twitter

• The messaging - as we go into 2022.
How strong do we come out?
Always in support of that
which is life enhancing?
Is that true?

Sandra's 71st Birthday.
Nov. 27, 2021.

I spoke with S.J. first thing
this morning. How fortunate
I am to have friendships that've
grown over 50+ years. I am

GRATEFULL!

Tant - SANDRA

Arty - DEBBY (spoke with Debby for 90 mins
yesterday via Zoom.)

JODY (spoke with Debby yesterday)

Arty - SHELLEY (spoke with Shelley on
T. Day)

CANDY

SUE BURNS

NANCY O'BRIEN

? - GRETCHEN - 28 Years

? - BETSY - 41 Years

KAREN ISBELL - 10 Years

JANE JOHNSON.

Michelle O.

Diane V.B.

POPPY

LYNDA

Gone. Deceased. DEPARTED

BARBARA

LORRAINE.

We are at this point with
The American Love Project.

In truth:

I am bored with the
cycle of project + idea.

- pay for project.
- Do project.
- Seek publicity for project.
- Strive, Strive.
- Try to make a real difference.
- rally the team
- endless organization + work.

But this is not the time
to give in to that. (BOREDOM)

It's time to remember WHY we
do this. (to change hearts. To grow
love. To uplift love for all.)

For this time... if it's not

there NATURALLY, it's time
to generate IT.

And what is IT??

ENTHUSIASM.

CURIOSITY.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

ENGAGEMENT.

LOVE. LOVE.

The DEEP WELL of LOVE.

Eastwaran even recommends.

"Fake it till you make it."

If IT isn't there in
the beginning, act AS IF IT

is. "IF IT'S TO BE,
IT'S UP TO ME."

in THE now of The American
Love Project, IT is in... what?

- The execution of the public exhibits/displays.
- Communication with participating teachers & artists.
- The spirit in which it is done.
- The energy, thought FOCUS, concentration brought to the table.

I am grateful for the gift
of energy.

Dec. 6, 2021

Cast aside what limits you.
and enter into the world
of the infinite.

Turn to God alone.

Don Baer of Mezrich.

In the world of the infinite,
it is possible to make Love
a fact.

Dec. 9, 2021

I had a nasty fall yesterday
in downtown Dallas. I got up.

You fall. You hope to be able
to get up. I was. After hitting
my knee, hip, head and hand.

Strange. I'd been thinking of
having flashes of memory for
Mom falling at the train
station in Columbus. It was
late at night & we were seeing
Lily off on a trip back to
Chicago. She fell - falling
forward - on concrete. A
bad fall. I can feel it in
my body - through these 50+
years and from her 60ish year
old body to mine - now at
almost 70. It must've been a
horrible jolt to her. Painful. And
I have been 'feeling' it the
past 3 or 4 days. Then yesterday
I fall on concrete.

That's strange thing #1.

Strange thing #2.

Flashing impulses to move back
to my hometown - and buy one
of the lovely, gracious homes that
I liked there. My first thought
was of Jamie Johnson's home -
on 16th I think - and a block
or so away from what was our
junior high school at that
time.

I made a mental note to
check homes for sale in
Columbus. Last night I did
and

That same house is
for sale - \$399,000.

But really - would I move
back to Columbus? no.

The fall left me in a
negative/angry/borderline vicious
state of mind. Did I hit
my head too hard?

The work for the Love
Project is piling up. I feel
overwhelmed. Again, pull back—
one thing at a time.

(Cast aside what limits you.)

That is:

— "too much"

— boredom with the
process—again

— age

— perceived ability

Enter into the world of the
infinite

— wondrous possibility

— wondrous connections

— wondrous grace

— wondrous forgiveness

January 9, 2022

And. We did it!

Exhibits at:

• Love Field

• American Airlines Center

• Bannan + priests at

Main + Akard intersection
downtown—

Screening:
AAC
Love Field

video interviews with teachers

— Competition

— we reached the other shore by
accomplishing what we said we
would + could during this time
of pandemic.

In our call yesterday, I'm asked,
what's next?

And then the news that
Peter Wood is going in for open
heart surgery on Tuesday. It's
similar to what Katz underwent—
enlarged aorta, valve needing to

be replaced.

And Peter—in his breadth of skills + talent—is irreplaceable.

We slow down—to pray for Peter.

For Bob Shuman + his procedure on his heart

For me + my procedure on my head on Tuesday.

For this chapter—we reached the other shore. How can we enjoy this island for a while?

Before it's on to the next journey?

Which it will be—beginning mid-February, when I shift gears—to lesson development/per grant deadlines?

— Find themes in art.

— Birmingham

• Give prizes/certificates.

— Let people know about it.

— Ask team

— Ask board.

— Honor the teachers.

Characters

Rainbows

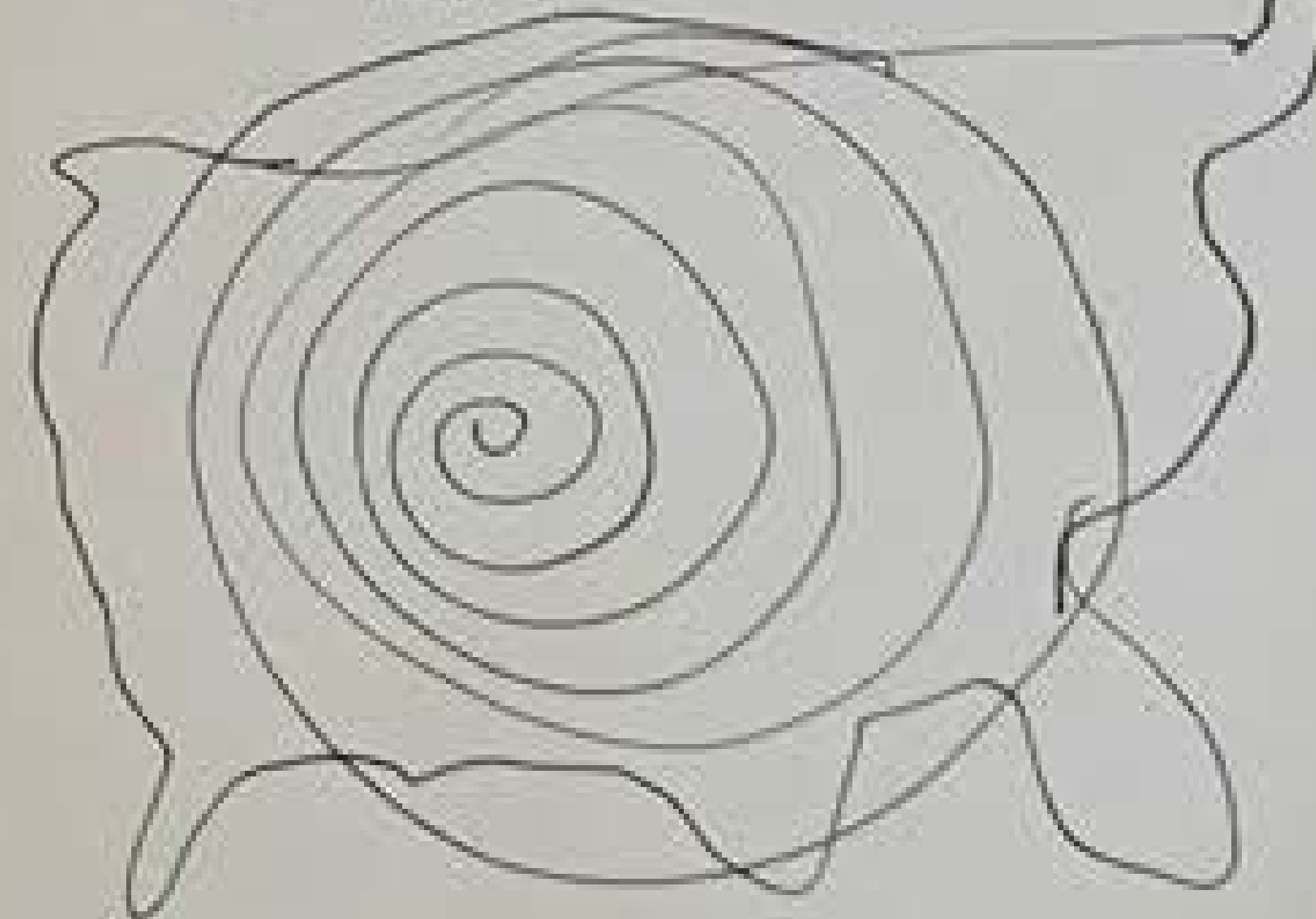
Brave voices

Illustrations

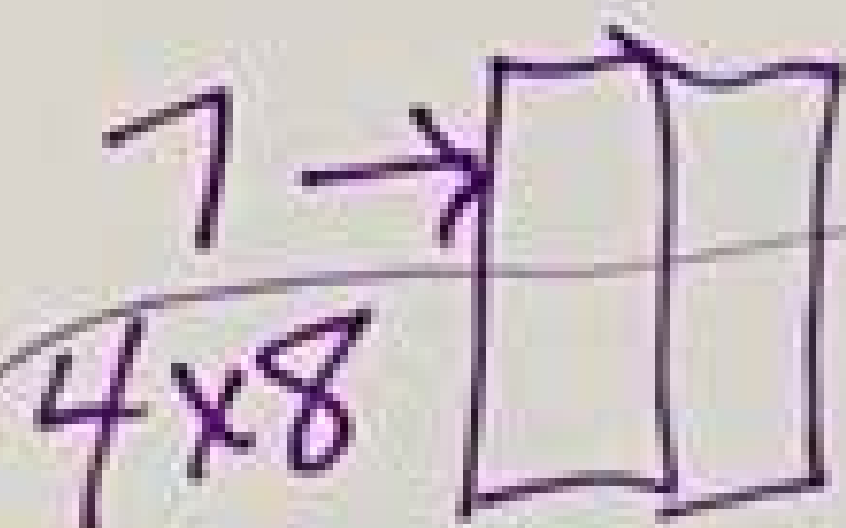
Typography

EXPLAIN RATIONALE/STRATEGY
BETTING LOVE PROJECT.

— MY VISION



1.12.22



OPTIONS:
 ① DiBond - 7 panels
 w. anti graffiti laminate
 + SCRAPs from Thomas.

12/20/21



• Former Iron Cactus site. This section:
 • cover the mess where the posters now are.
 • 29 ft. wide x 11.5 ft. high

Put
black
'tape'
at
top +
bottom.

Shapes at top + bottom made from scraps.

This journal is a disorganized
mess of photos + jottings.



OPTIONS:
 ① BURN VINYL
 ② DiBond - 8-12 max
 panels.

① BURN VINYL
 ↓ maybe vinyl on door.

12/20/21



• Former Iron Cactus site.
 • Circumference: 40.5 ft x 94 inches high

work on the project prevented
 me from regular updates. And
 my handwriting! Not fun any
 more. A new solution is needed.
 This journal appears in awkward
 entries. A hand + writing that no
 longer flow easily. And documen-
 tation that comes in dis-
 connected jottings + thoughts.

1.11.22,
my head was cut open.
Basal cell carcinoma.

my
head

Dreadful
experience.

The smell of
burning flesh

The sound-like
seat car leather-
being stitched

The dozens of shots
of local
anesthetic

But they say it is gone.
5½ hours
later

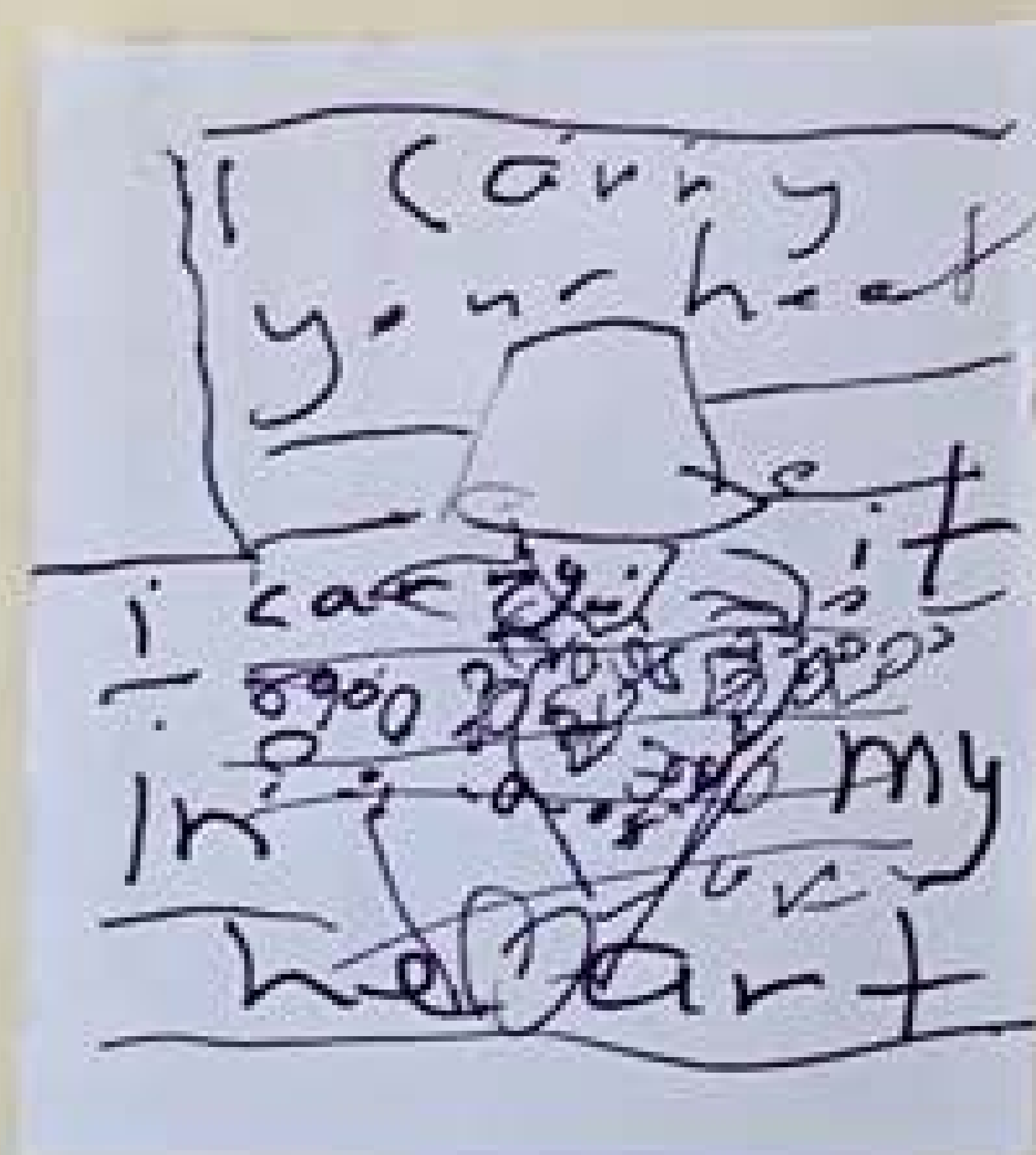
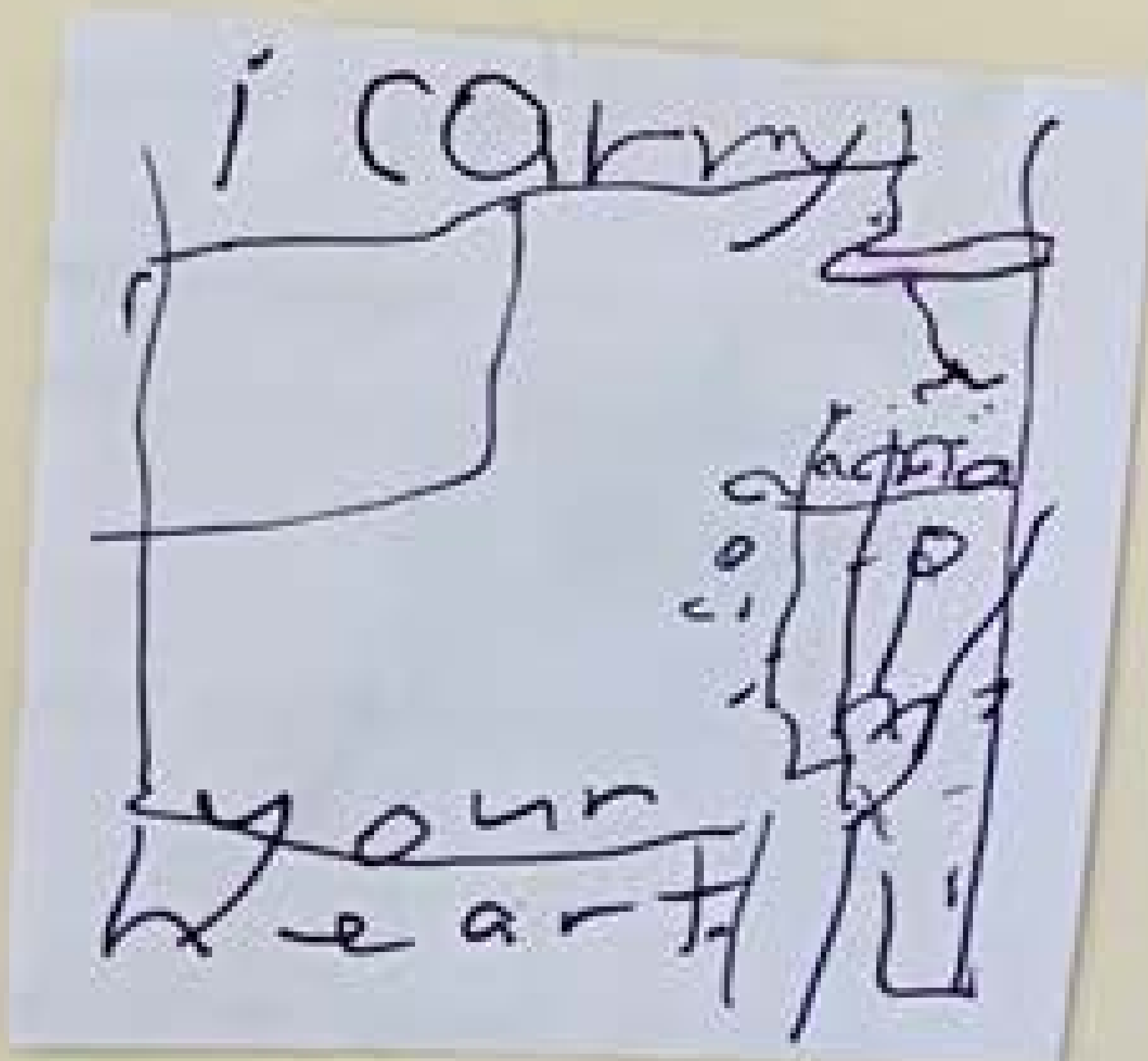


MY ART FOR TALP. WHAT HAPPENED. WHAT'S UNFINISHED.



THIS WAS SUBMITTED.
A RE-WORKING OF THE
DRAWING OF DOLORES.

I WANTED TO MAKE A BIGGER
STATEMENT - WEAVING TOGETHER
A FEMININE IMAGE INSPIRED BY
(1) UNCLE SAM WITH THE CALL TO
SERVE FOR WAR. (2) EECUMMING'S
POEM - I carry your heart. (3) the
suggestion of all the dark tragedy
that Mother USA carries.

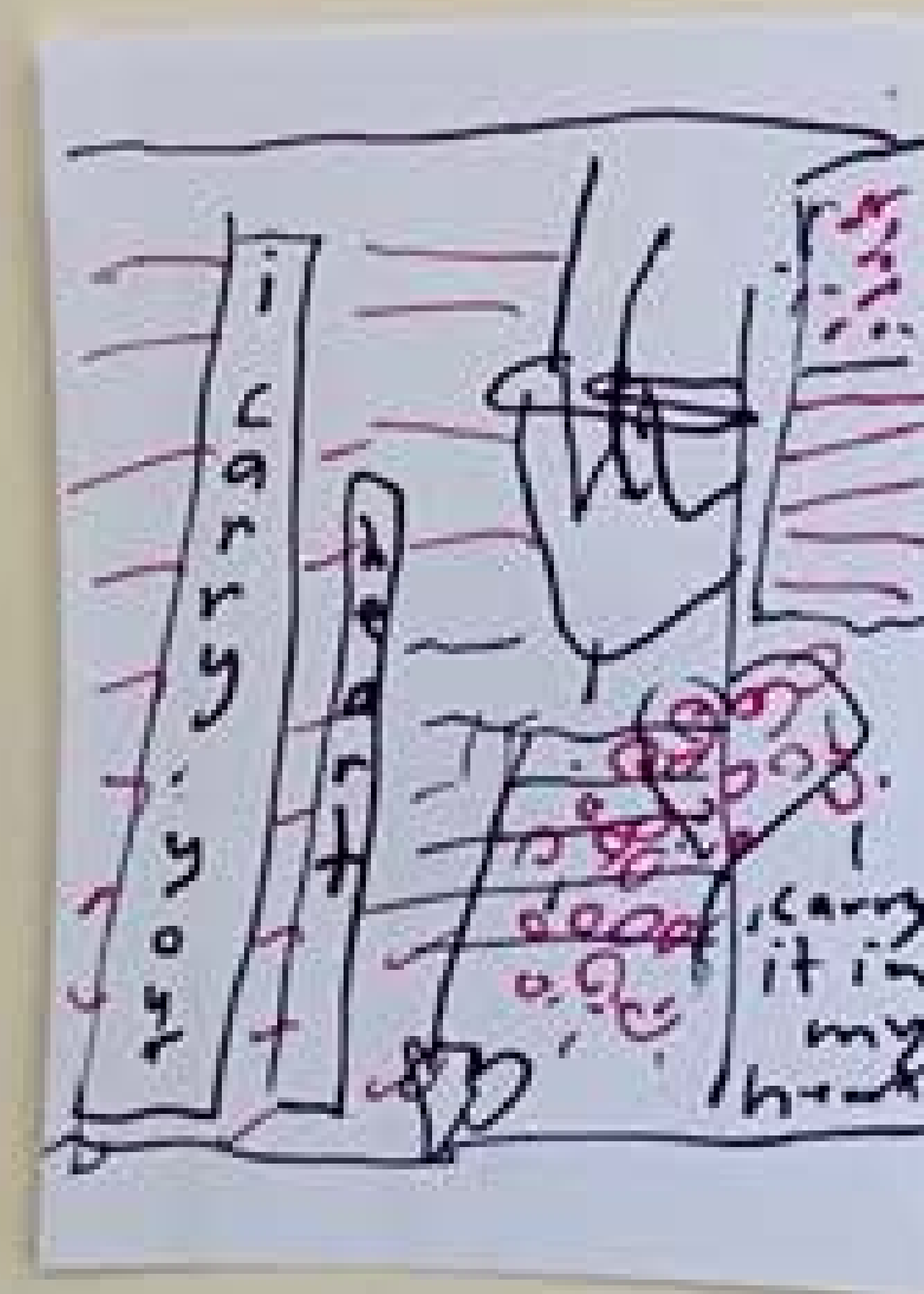
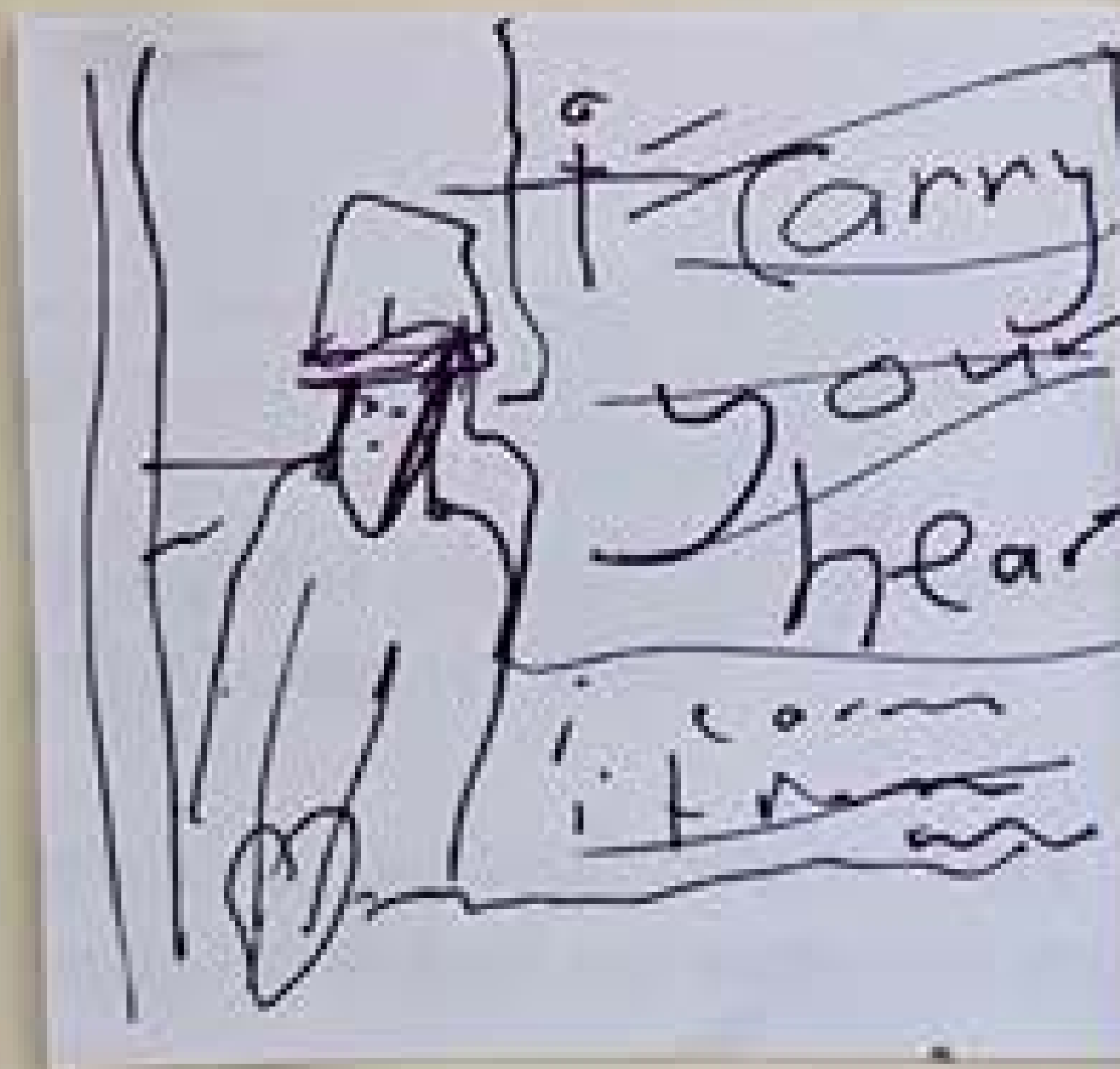
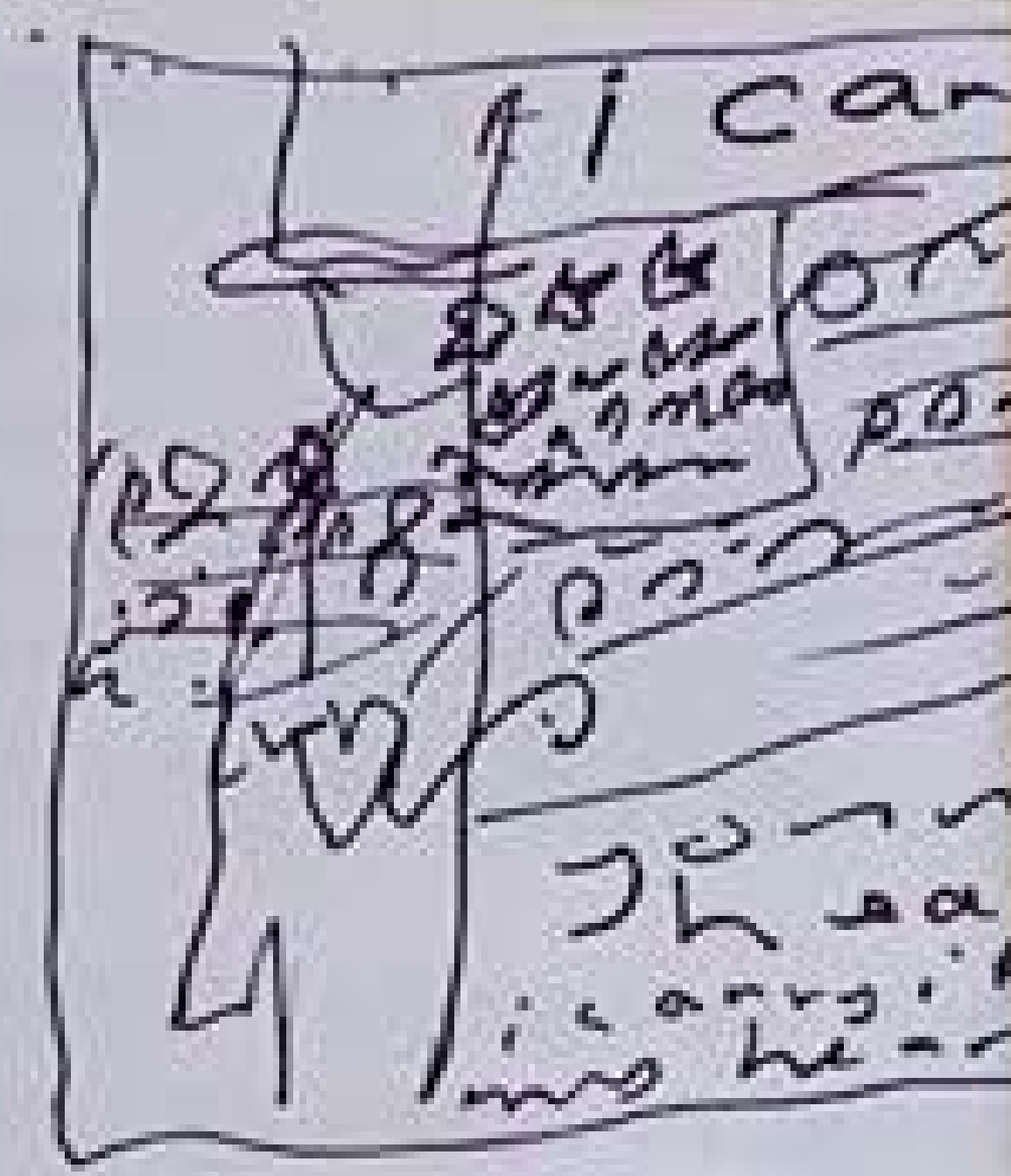


THE
THUMB
NAILS

TALP EXHIBITS

MY UNFINISHED ART

AMBULANCE RIDE

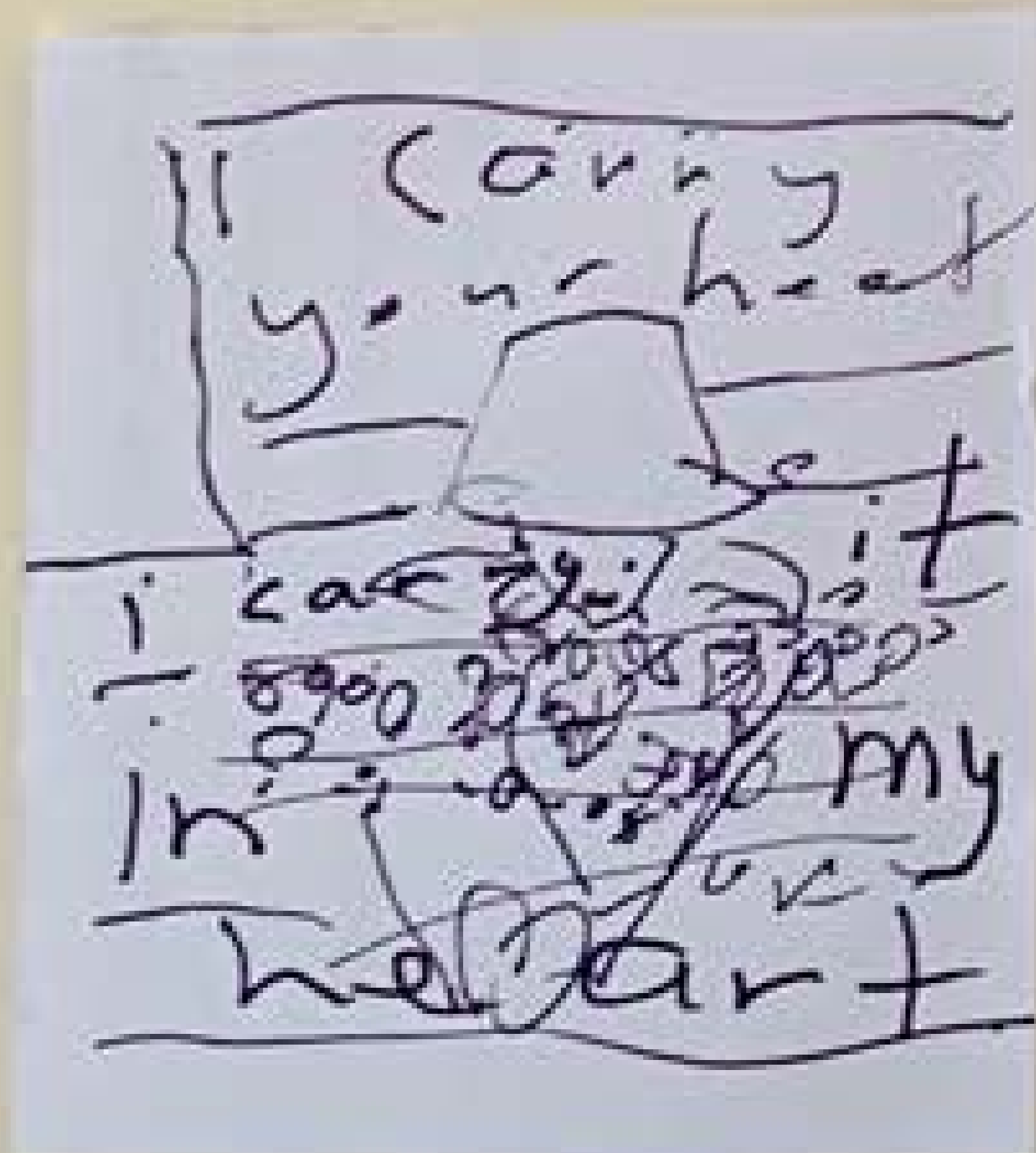


MY ART FOR TALP. WHAT HAPPENED. WHAT'S UNFINISHED.

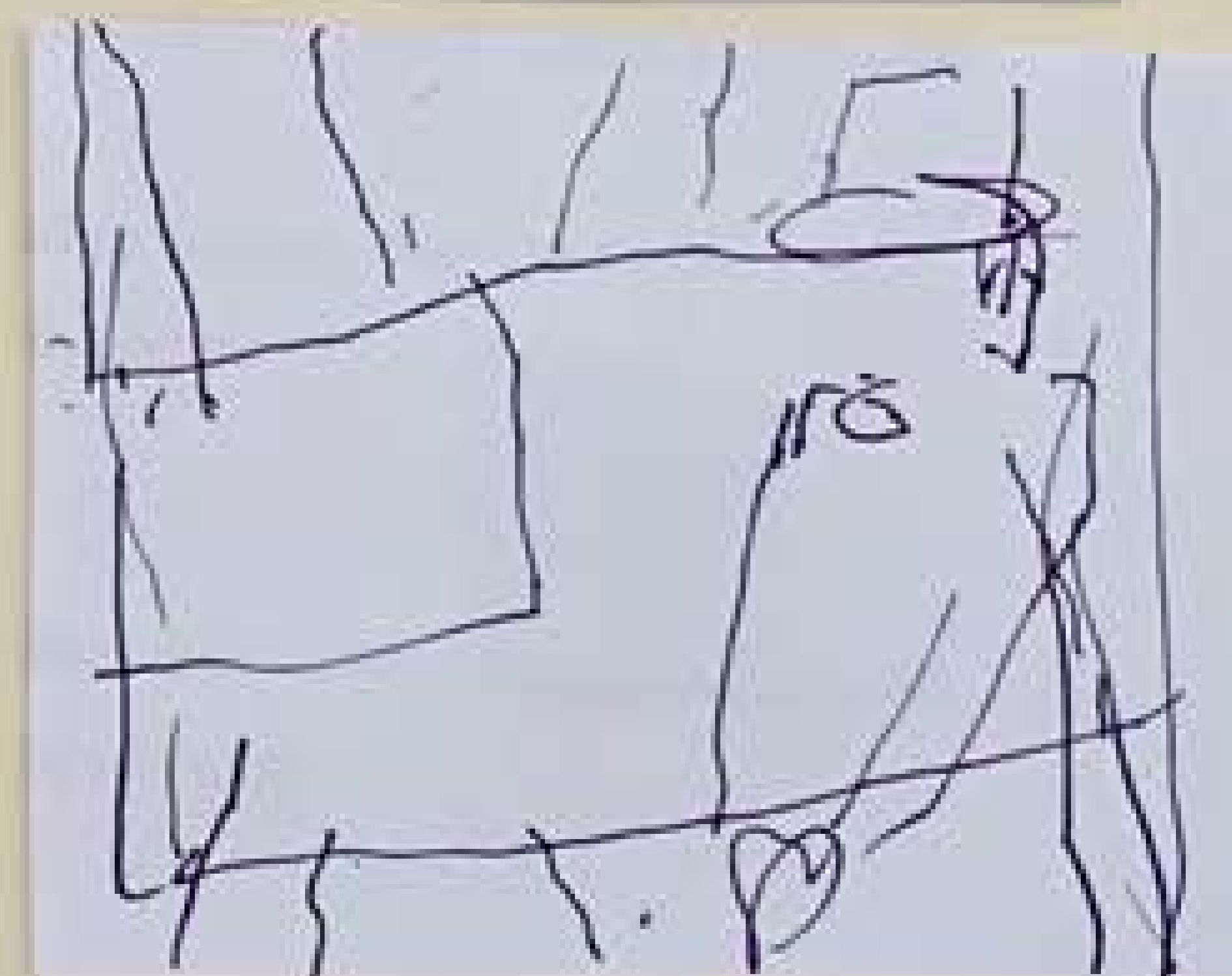
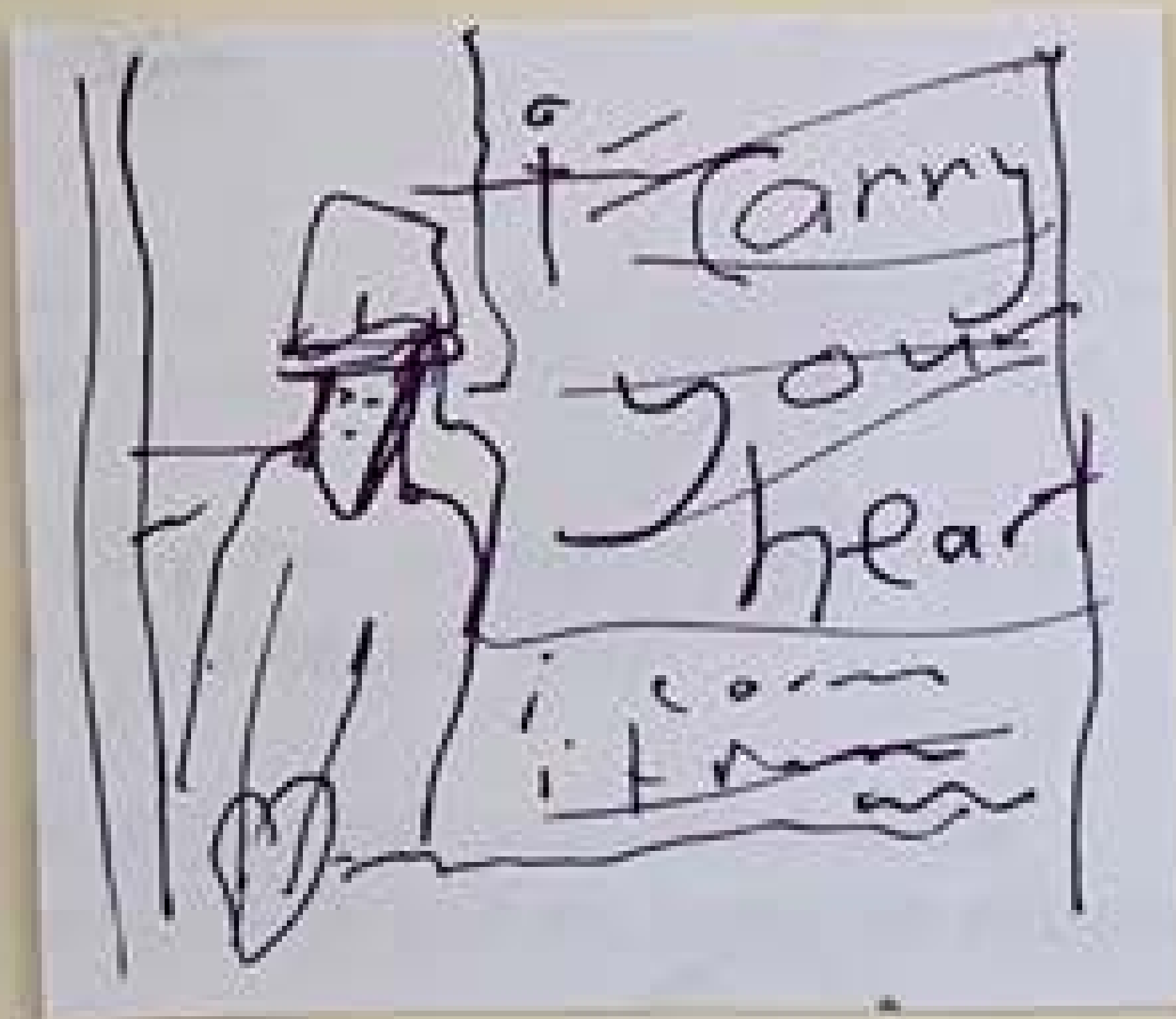
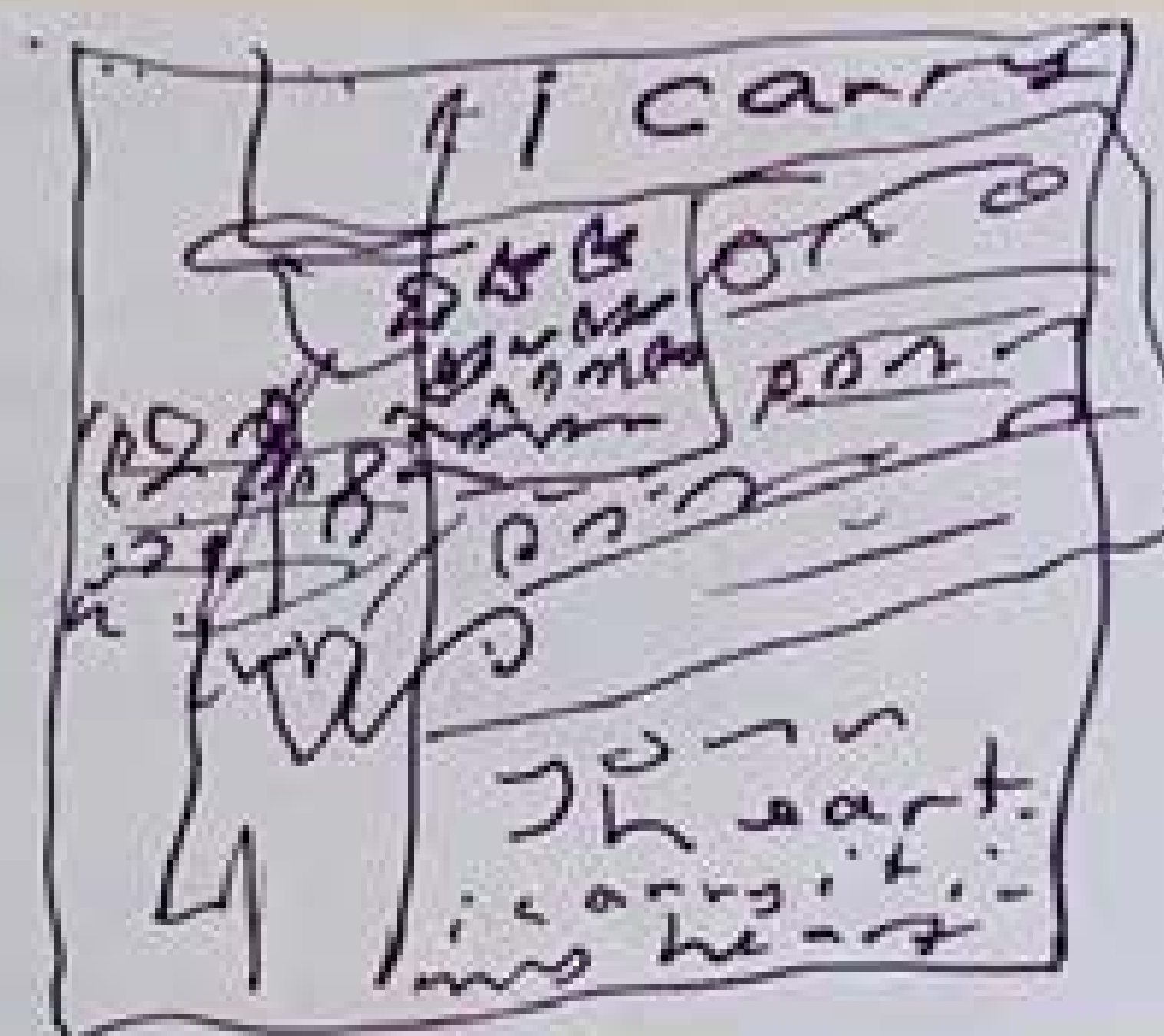


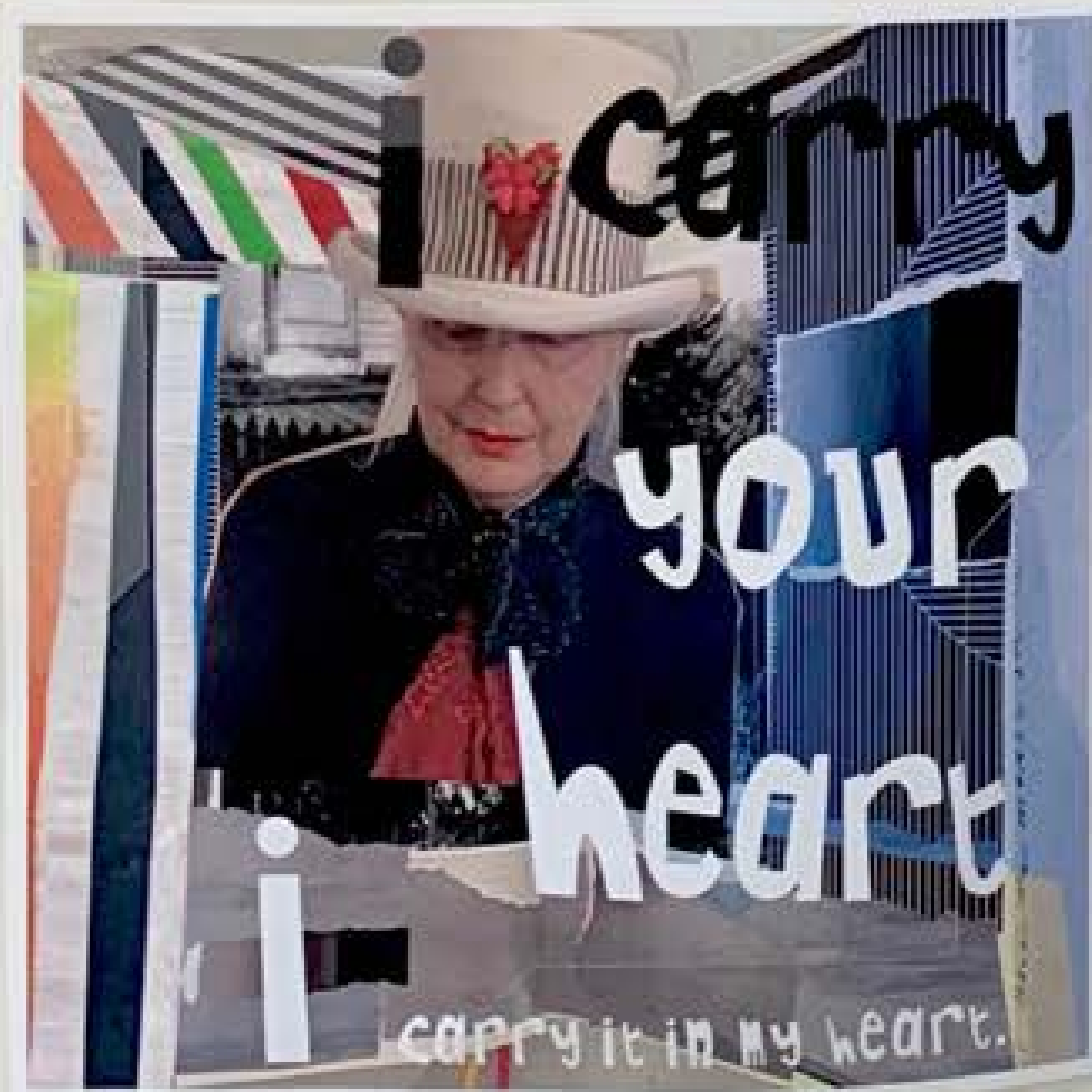
THIS WAS SUBMITTED.
A RE-WORKING OF THE
DRAWING OF D. LORES.

I WANTED TO MAKE A BIGGER
STATEMENT - WEAVING TOGETHER
A FEMININE IMAGE INSPIRED BY
(1) UNCLE SAM WITH THE CALL TO
SERVE FOR WAR. (2) COMMUNITY'S
POEM - I carry your heart. (3) the
suggestion of all the dark tragedy
that Mother USA carries.



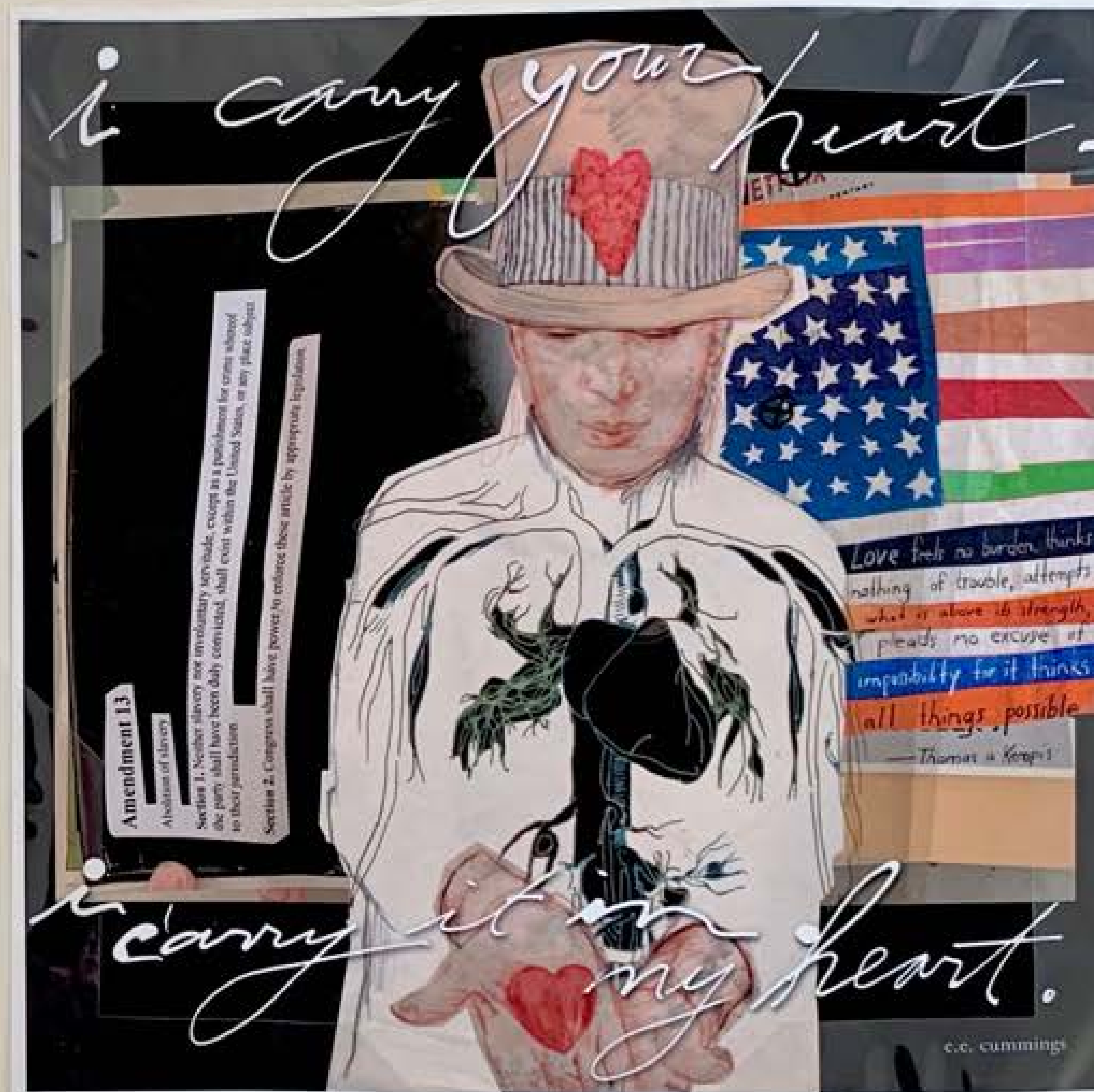
THE
THUMB
NAILS



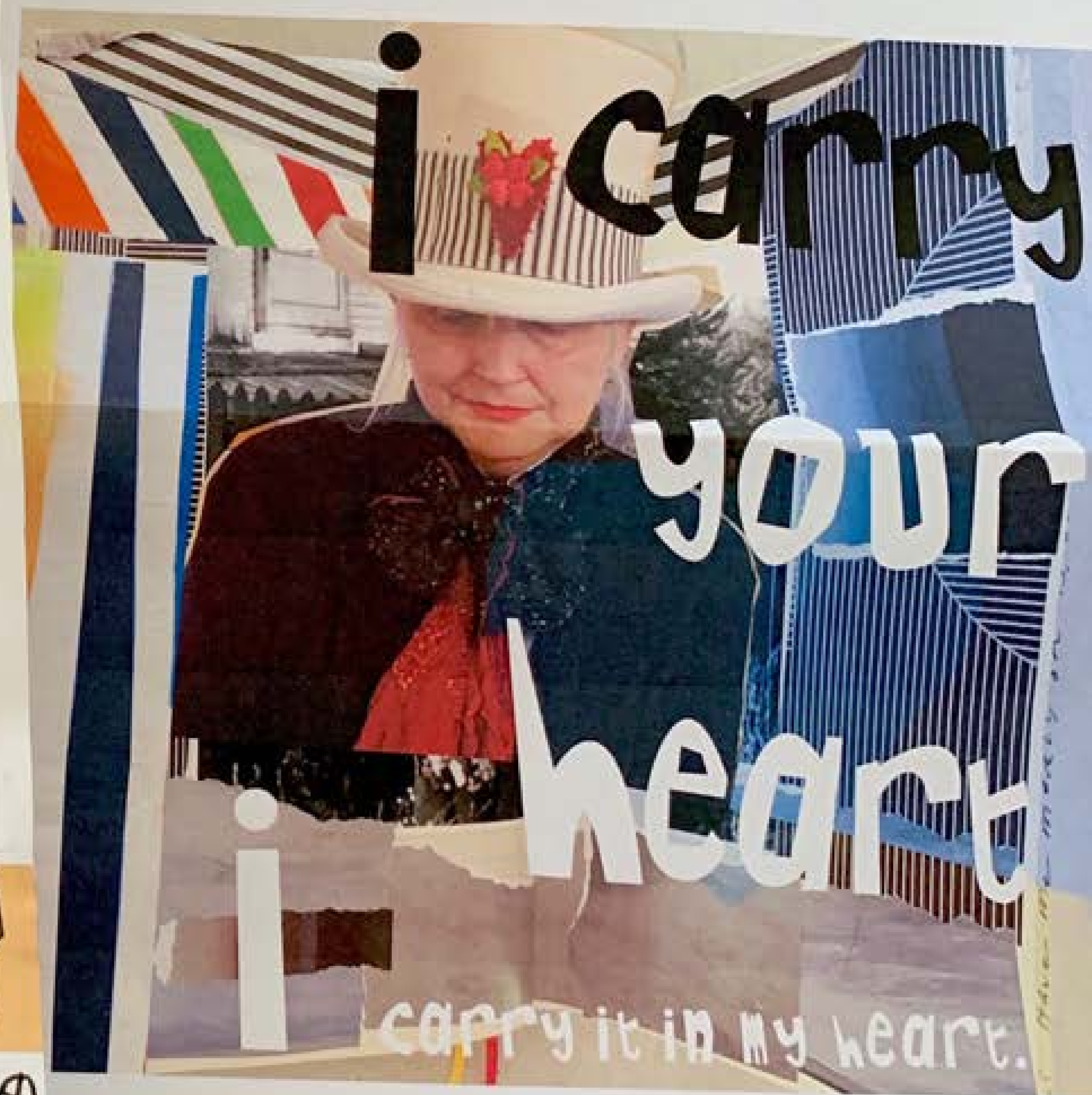
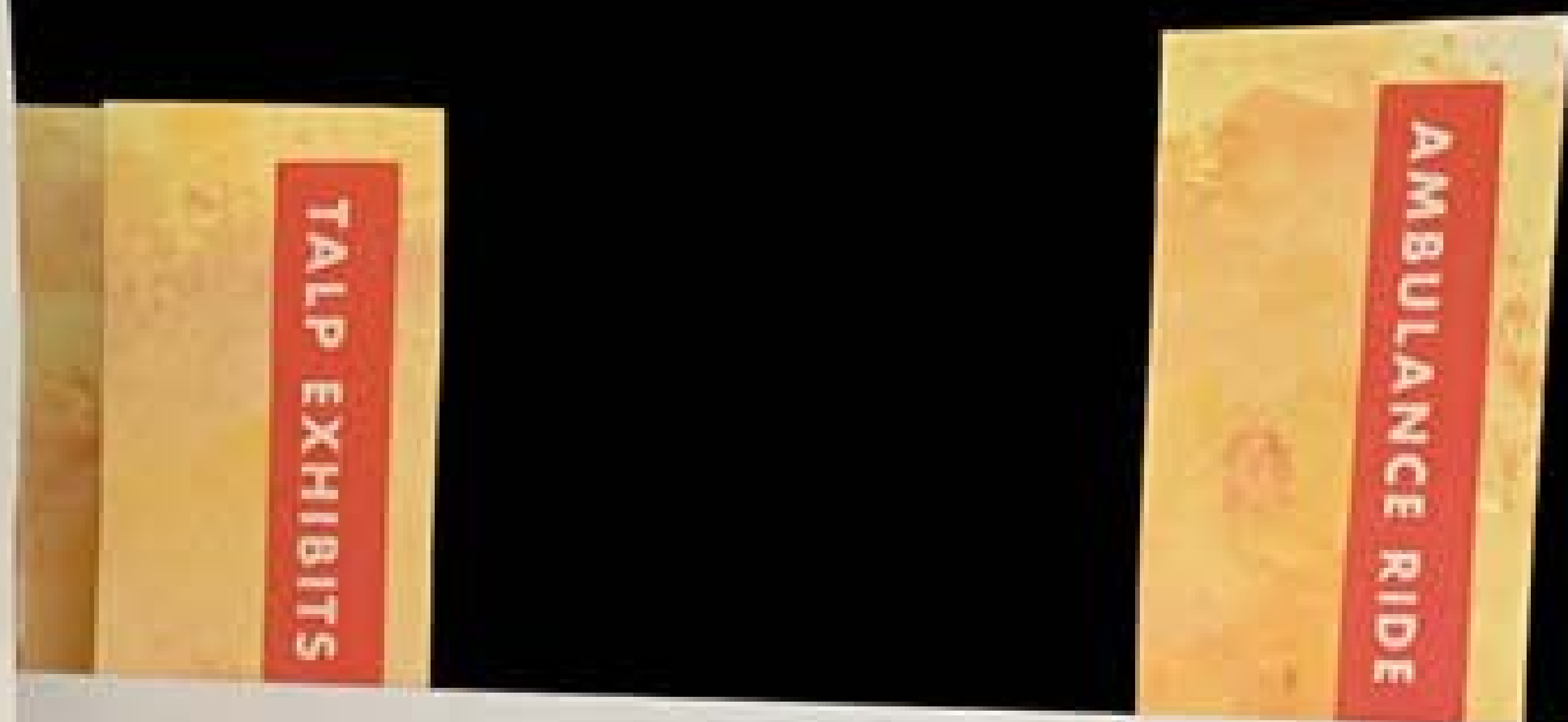
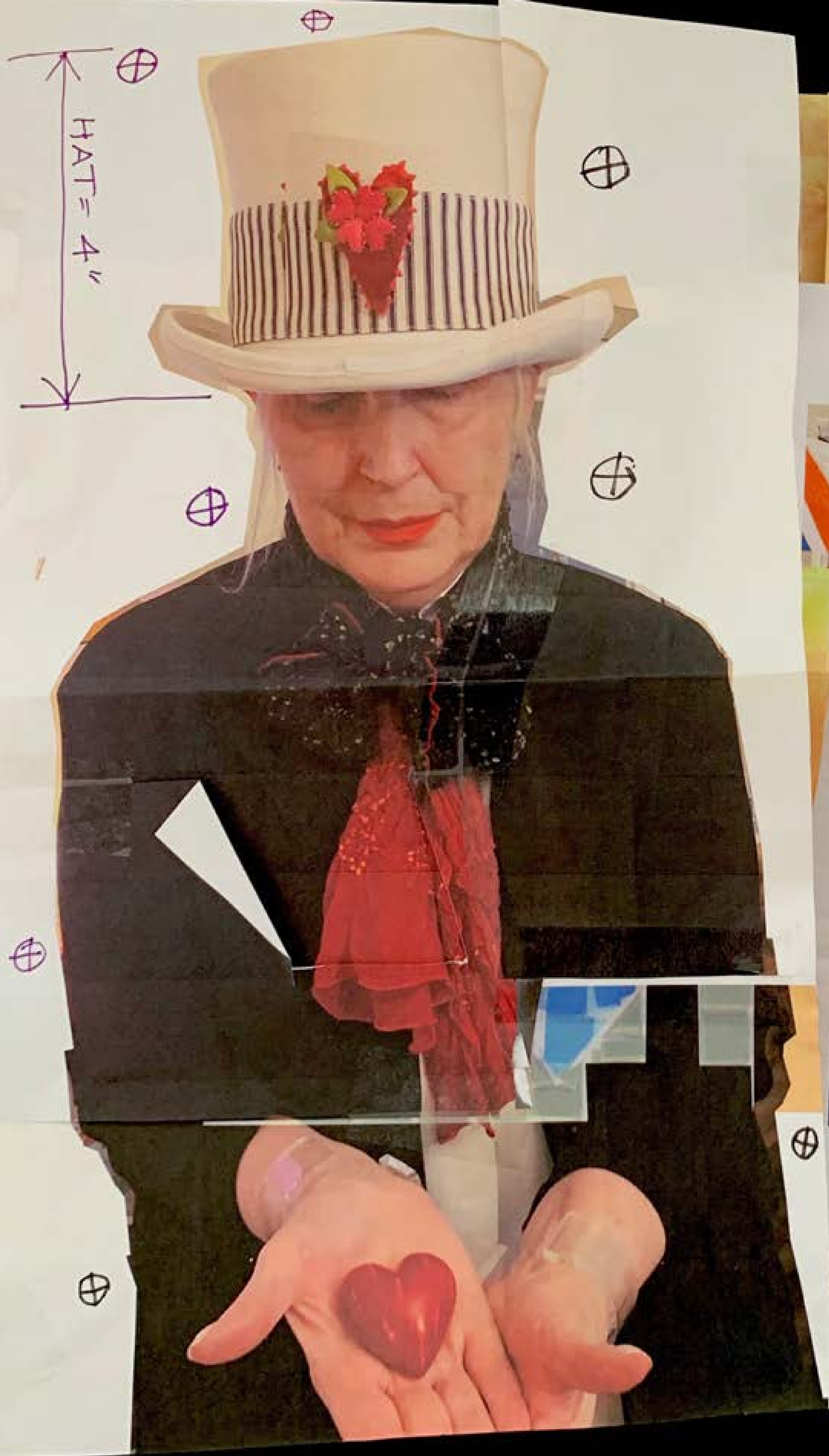


TALP EXHIBITS

AMBULANCE RIDE



incomplete



i carry your heart.



Amendment 13

Abolition of slavery

Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction

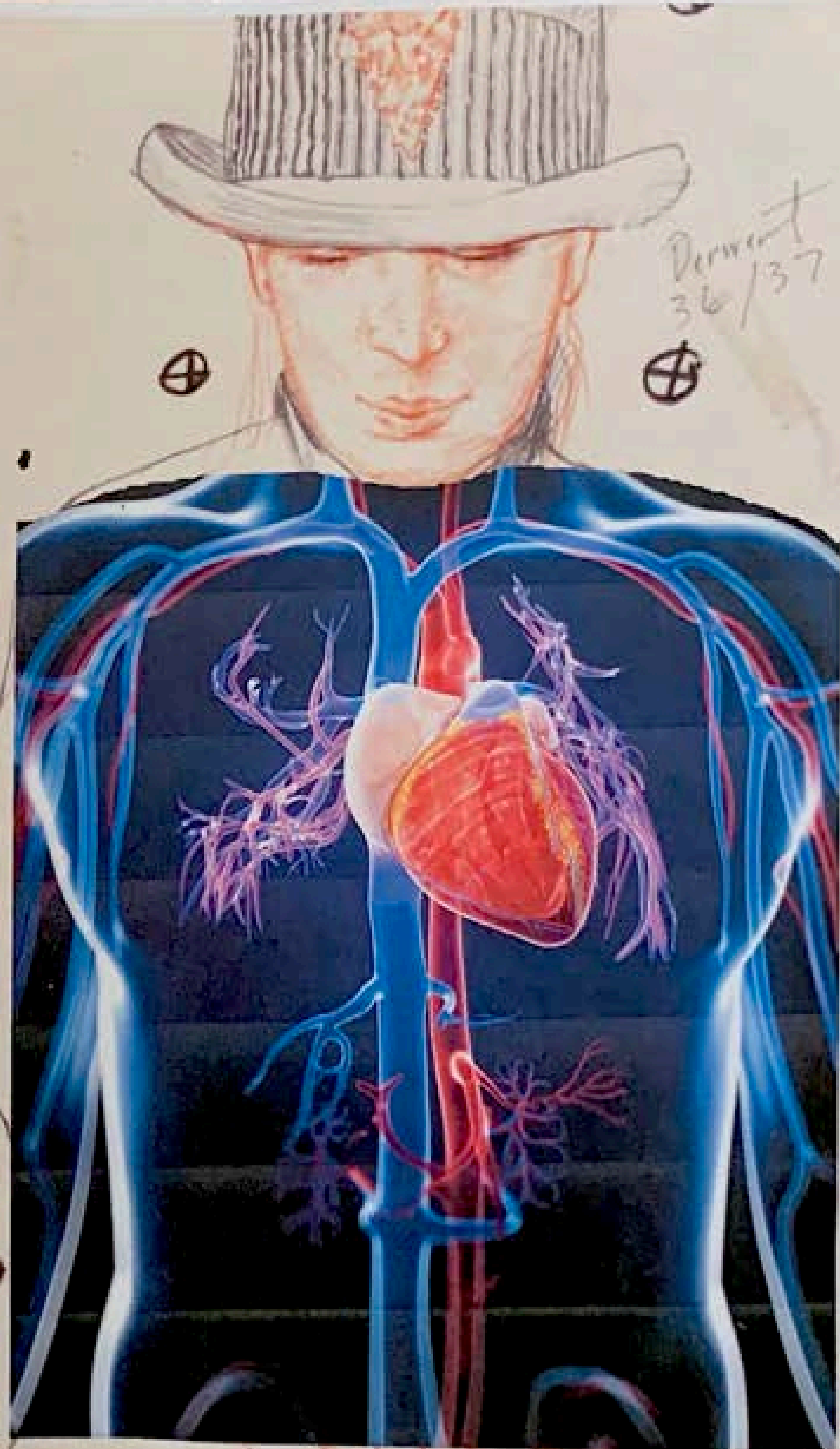
Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce these article by appropriate legislation

OCTOBER 7

carry it in my heart.

TALP EXHIBITS

AMBULANCE RIDE



i carry your heart.



PERSONAL

mom
DAD
GRANDPA ASCHER
GRANDMA ASCHER
GRANDMA BLESSER
EMMA (Aunt)
LILY (")
PEARL (")
Gil, Mike, etc.
Rae, Ethel, etc.
BARBARA B.
LORRAINE
PRINCE
JOHN LENNON
PETER BEARD
CATS
EMILY Dickens
BEATRIX POTTER
BOB BERGMAN
JAN BRUNSON
me
as little girl
DORIS DAY
ELVIS

POLITICAL

SLAUGHTER HOUSES
OIL SPILLS
WILMINGTON INAP
WW1 VETS
WW2 VETS
MALCOLM X
HORSE WARRIORS
NATIVE AMERICANS
JAPANESE CAMP
SUFFRAGETTES
SLAVERY
FORESTS
EXTINCT BIRDS
VIETNAM DEATHS
GEORGE FLOYD
WOMEN
KENNEDY
MILK
TULSA
MY LAI
EMMETT TILL



Love Field Airport



Main
Erwig/Akard



Main St. Downtown Dallas

what's next?

NEED TO DO:

- Announce winners ✓
- Contact " " ✓
- Statements from ✓
- Release forms from ✓
winners
- Products from ✓
winners art.

Look at finances.

- Posters to all teachers. —

Birthday

Release forms
Call Betty

Check → Bernstein —

2021 T. You letters —

Bob re products, tomorrow —

How is LOVE taught? How is non-violence learned?

"Perseverance is more prevailing than violence; and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together, yield themselves up when taken little by little."
— Plutarch, from *Parallel Lives*, Early 2nd Century

HOW IS LOVE TAUGHT? HOW IS NON-VIOLENCE LEARNED?

Little by little.
Enthusiastically.
One beautiful heart at a time.
This is the strategy of 29 Pieces.

But we need more.

The American LOVE Project began as a response to the violent January 6, 2021 insurrection at the US Capitol.

Today, as we close this chapter of the LOVE Project, we are faced with the horror of gut wrenching murders in Texas. Fourth grade children and their teachers in Uvalde were gunned down by a troubled 18 year old with a deadly weaponry. Days ago, citizens in Buffalo, NY were killed by another 18 year old with guns.

We grieve all of these precious lives lost to colossally senseless violence.

In 29 Pieces we work little by little to plant seeds of love and compassion. This is impactful work - done patiently.

SEE THE BRAVE VOICES ART BELOW

We must ask more of each other.

How many more children, friends, fathers, and mothers will die before we codify the sweeping changes in gun laws that most of our citizens want?

THE FOUR PILLARS ON WHICH 29 PIECES BUILDS

1) The IDEALS in the founding documents of the United States of America set the bar high for the vision of liberty and justice for all;

2) Agape LOVE is a deep, serious love - for all. It is the connective tissue between these ideals

and the reality of a compassionate, just nation;

3) ART is our creative vehicle to awaken and engage hearts and minds and plant seeds of love;

4) The WORDS of great visionaries, poets, social justice activists, musicians, writers and faith leaders describe their experience of all encompassing love and show us the way.

IMPACT: THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT

♥ **3,790 artworks** accepted to The American LOVE Project online gallery.

♥ **25 states**, the District of Columbia, and four countries are represented.

♥ **313 art educators** from across the nation participated.

♥ In-person exhibits at Dallas Love Field Airport, the American Airlines Center, downtown Dallas at the intersection of Main and Akard Streets, Grand Prairie, Washington DC, Lanesboro, MN, and many more schools.

♥ Large screen digital exhibits of art at Dallas Love Field Airport and at the American Airlines Center, Dallas.

See theamericanloveproject.org

"Who has not found the heaven below
Will fail of it above.
God's residence is next to mine,
His furniture is love."

— Emily Dickinson, *19th Century*

THE FURNITURE OF LOVE
Many hands built the "furniture of love" for this project. Our heartfelt THANK YOUs are below.

OUR VISION AND HOPE
That every artist who participated in The American LOVE Project, every person moved by a piece of art will be that compassionate individual who will appeal to what is best in human nature in all around them. — With love,
Karen Blessen, 29 Pieces



Four Pillars of The American LOVE Project

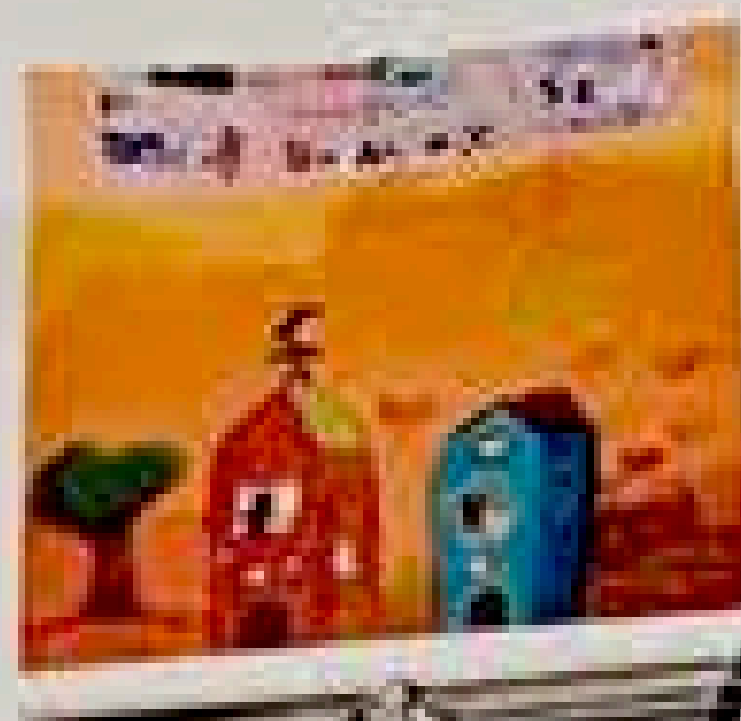
WE LEAD WITH LOVE. THE VERY ESSENCE of love is embedded in all four pillars on which The American LOVE Project is built. From how love repairs and heals, to words of a greater love, expressed by many. Past and present.



1 LOVE REPAIRS AND HEALS the divides that separate us and keep us from working together to solve urgent problems in our country.



2 THE IDEALS contained in founding documents and laws of the United States of America challenge us to create a more just country for all.



3 ART HAS THE POWER to awaken and educate hearts, uplift our voices and inspire positive social change.

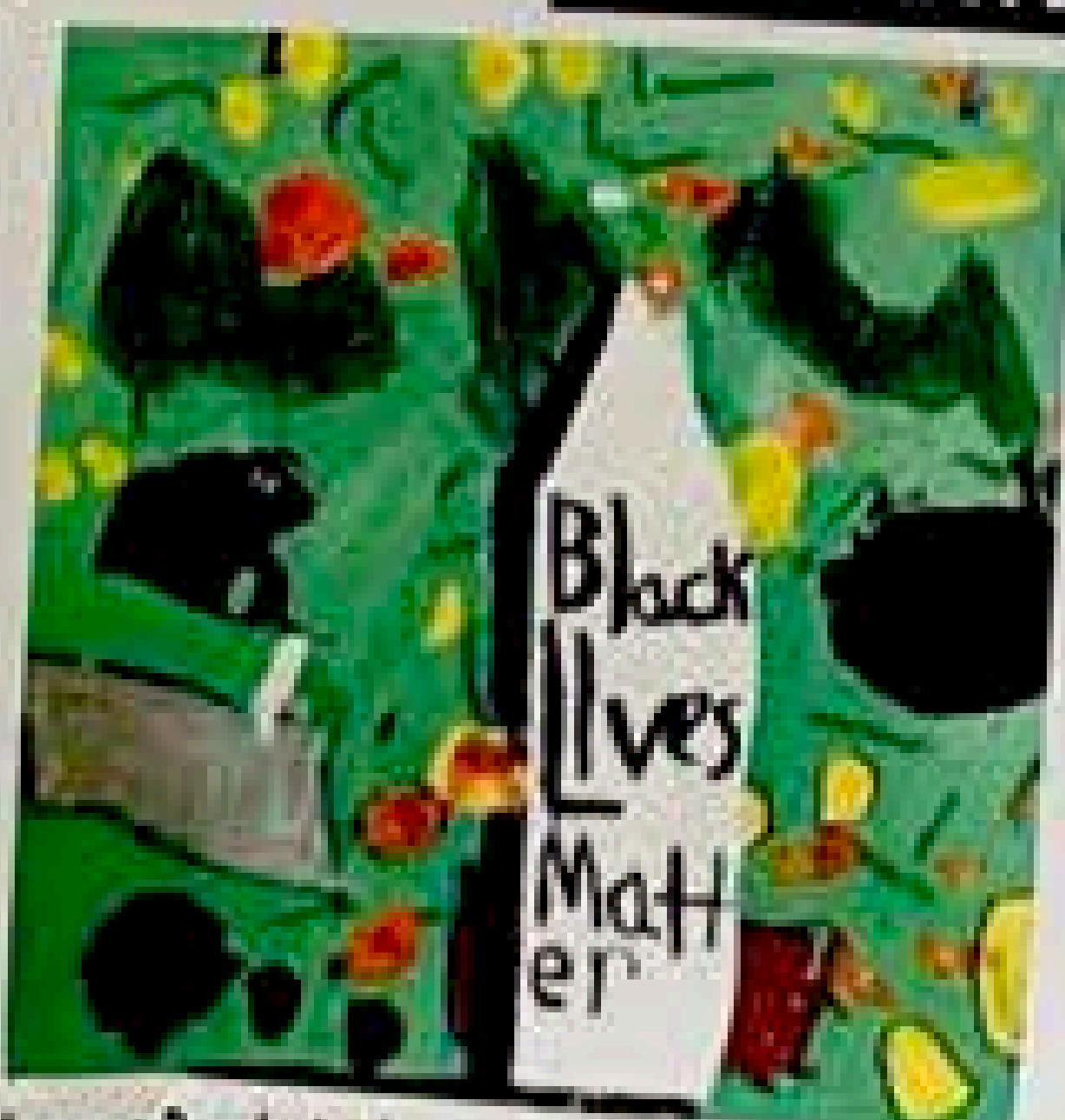


4 WORDS OF A GREATER LOVE from great philosophers, musicians, poets and peacemakers speak through time and remind us of the spark of love in each of us.

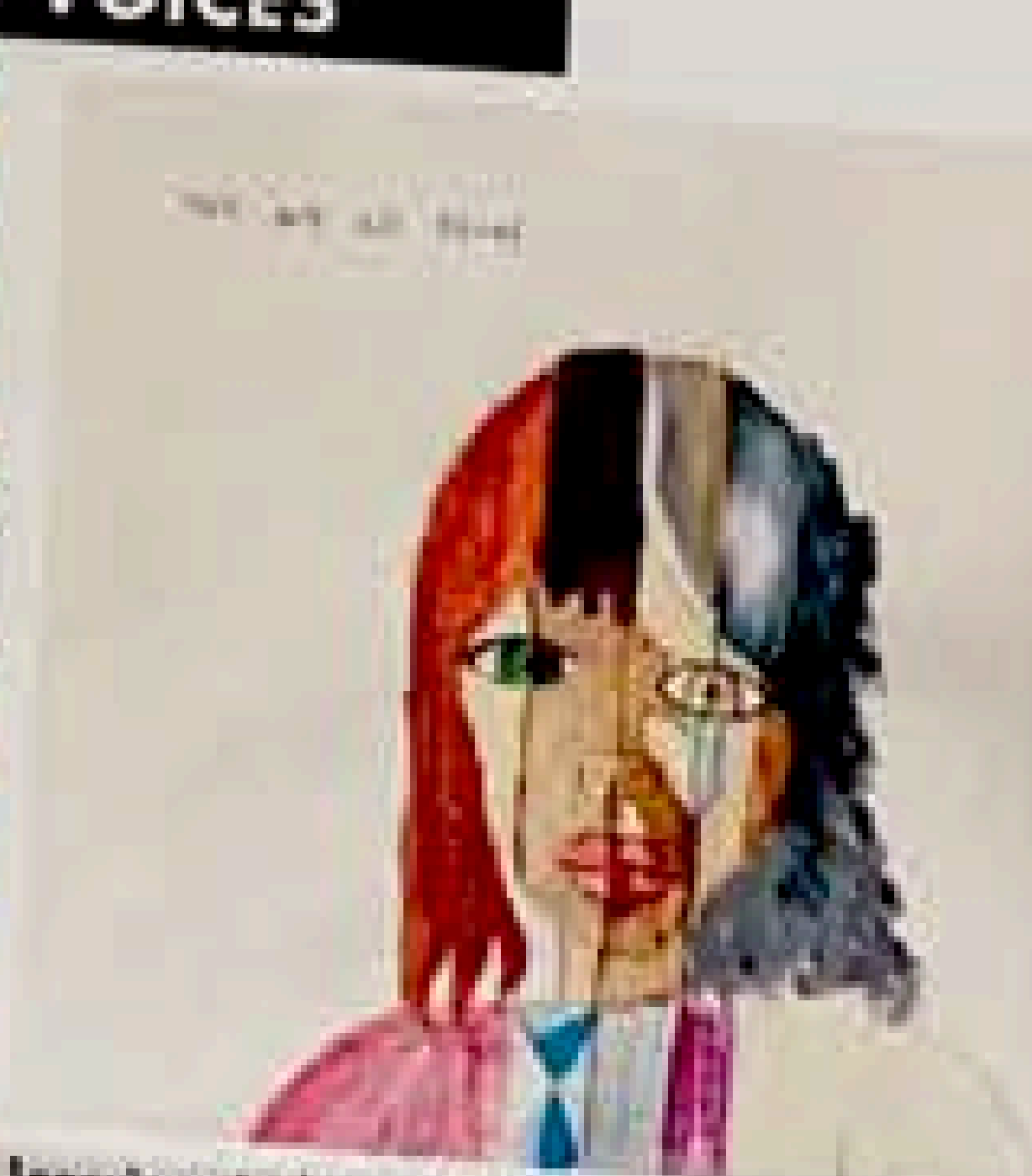
BRAVE VOICES



Lauren Bomba's class, Washington, DC



Lauren Bomba's class, Washington, DC



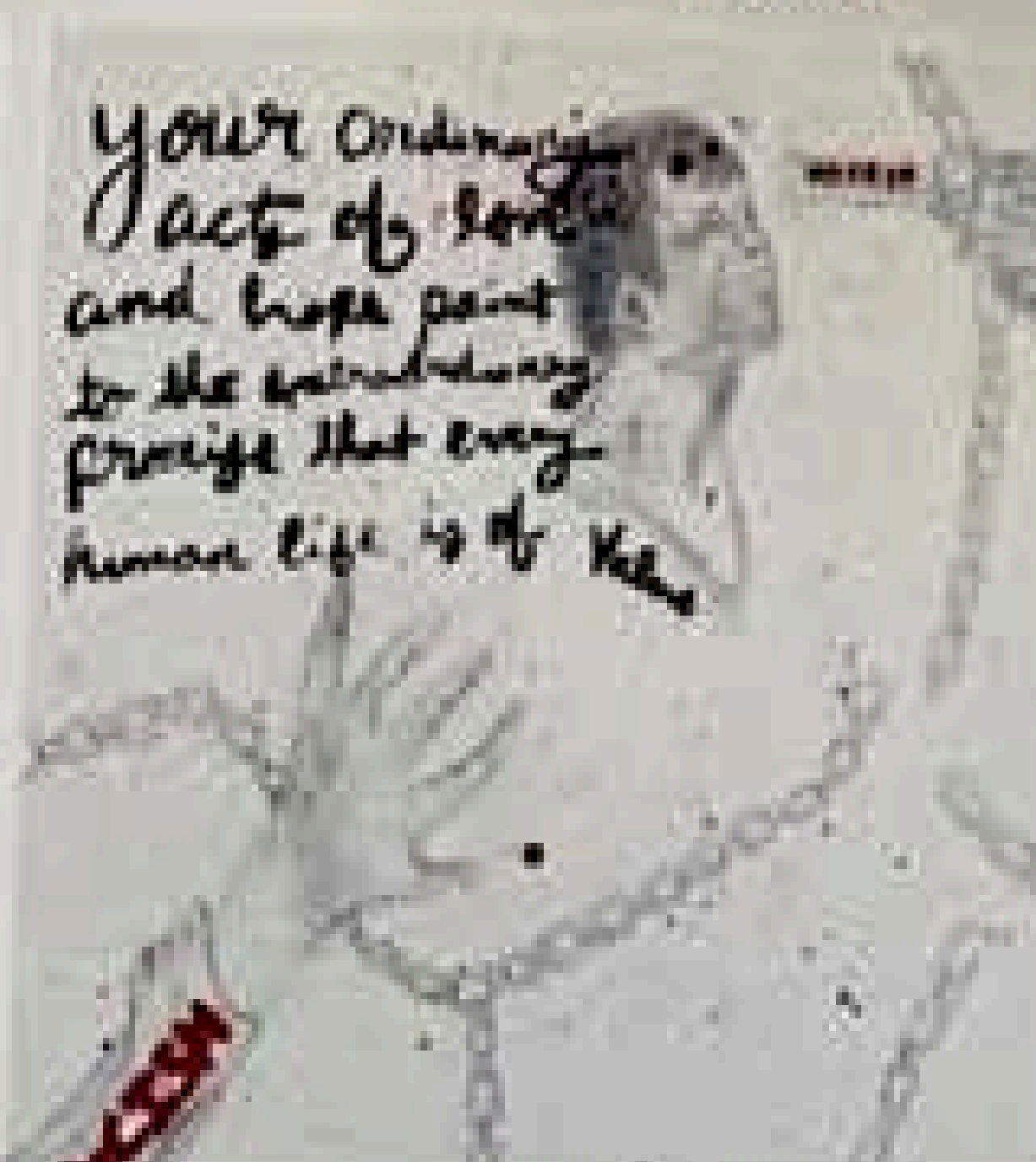
Janevieve Jackson, Atlanta, Georgia



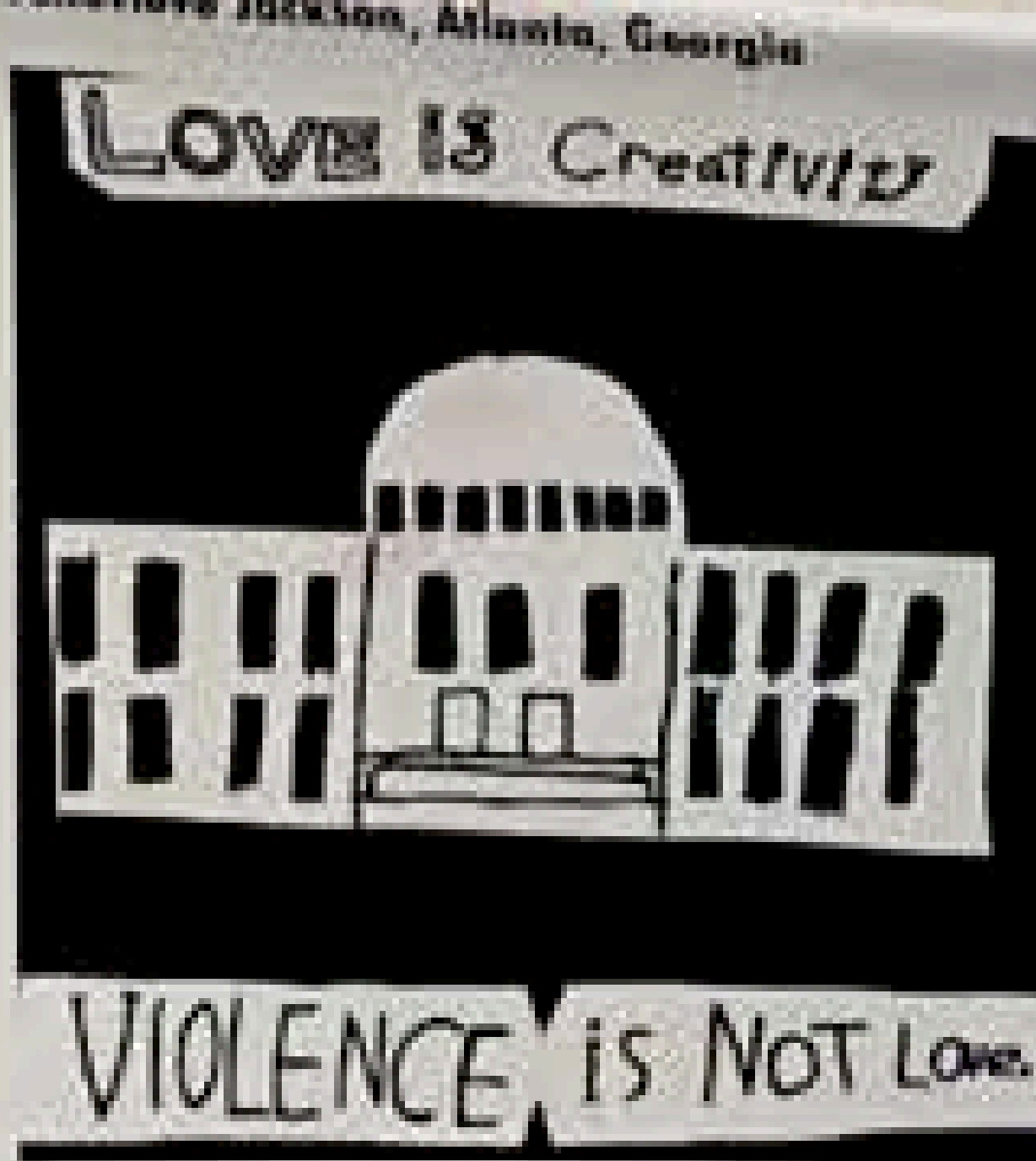
Rosheed Hardy, Washington, DC



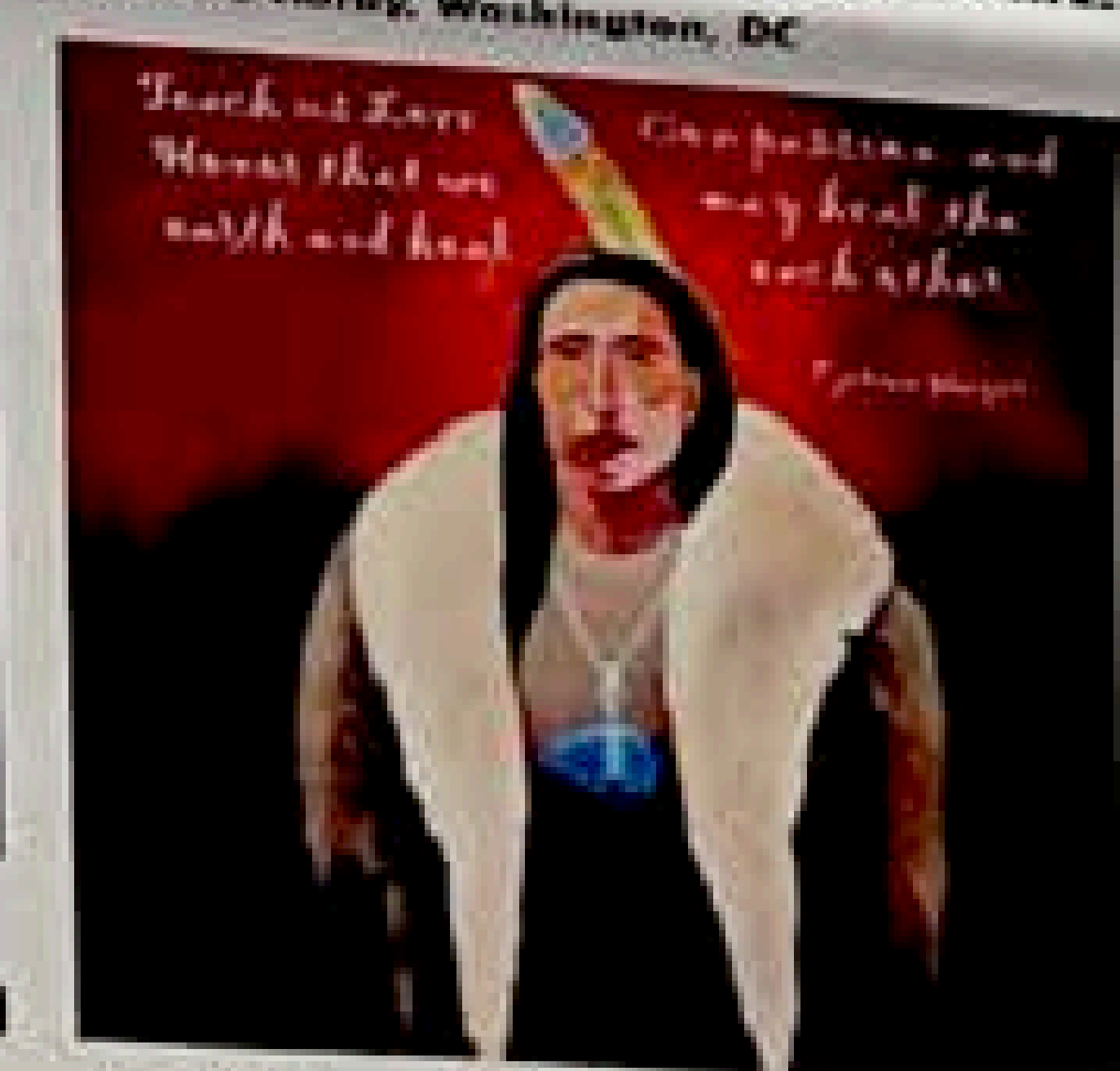
Riley Berner, Lincoln, Nebraska



Rakayah M., Dallas, Texas



Lauren Bomba's class, Washington, DC



Tom McKinney, Bixby, Oklahoma

ital

2) Agape LOVE is a deep, serious love for all. It is the connective tissue between these ideals.

THE AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT
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See theamericanloveproject.org
Airport and the American Airlines Center, Dallas.

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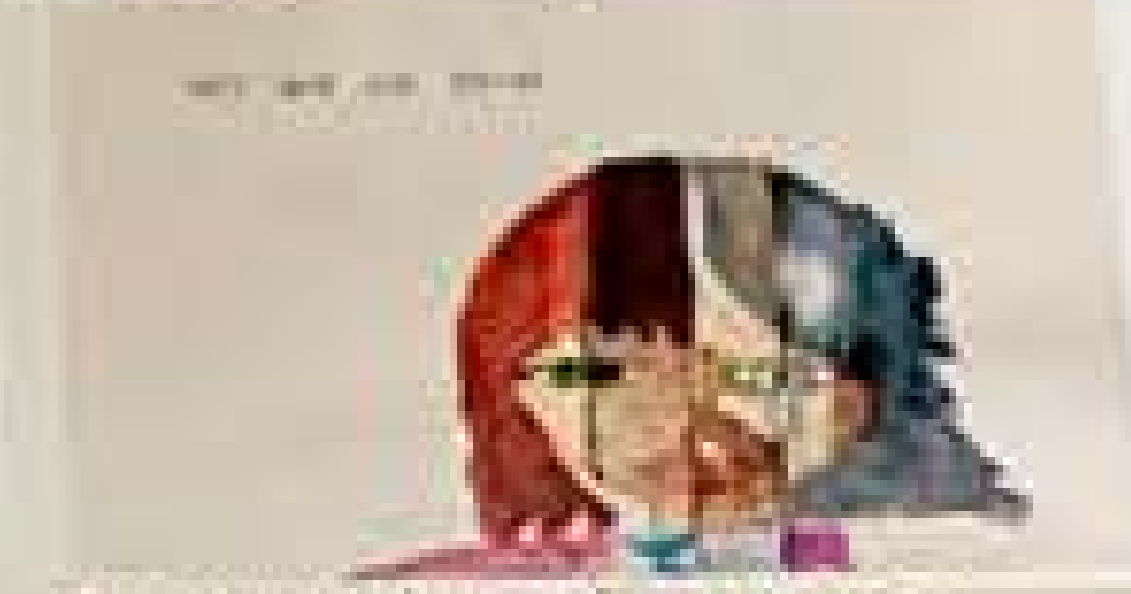
BRAVE VOICES



Lauren Bomba's class, Washington, DC



Lauren Bomba's class, Washington, DC



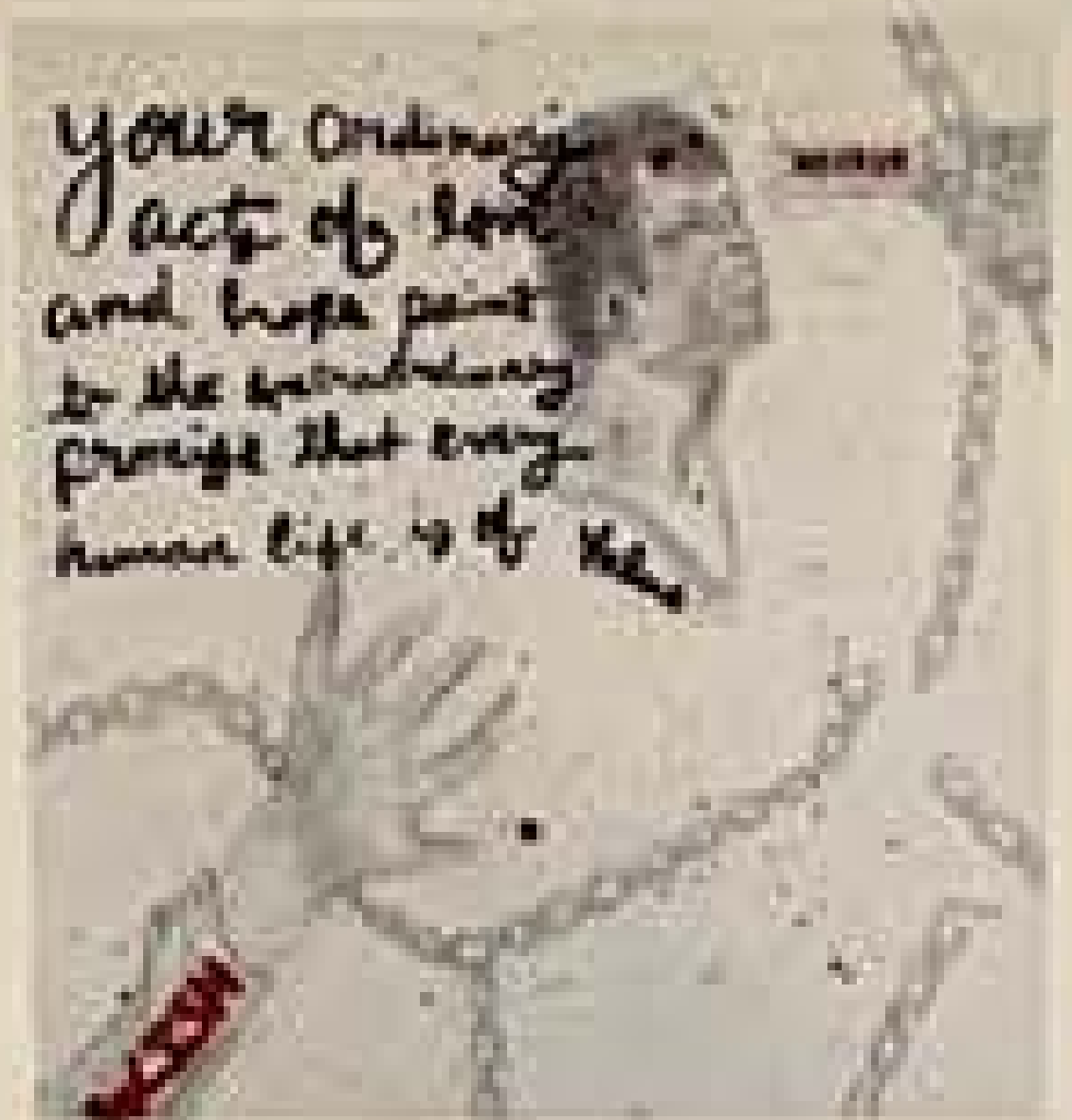
Jenevieve Jackson, Atlanta, Georgia



Rasheed Hardy, Washington, DC



Riley Berner, Lincoln, Nebraska



Rakayah M., Dallas, Texas



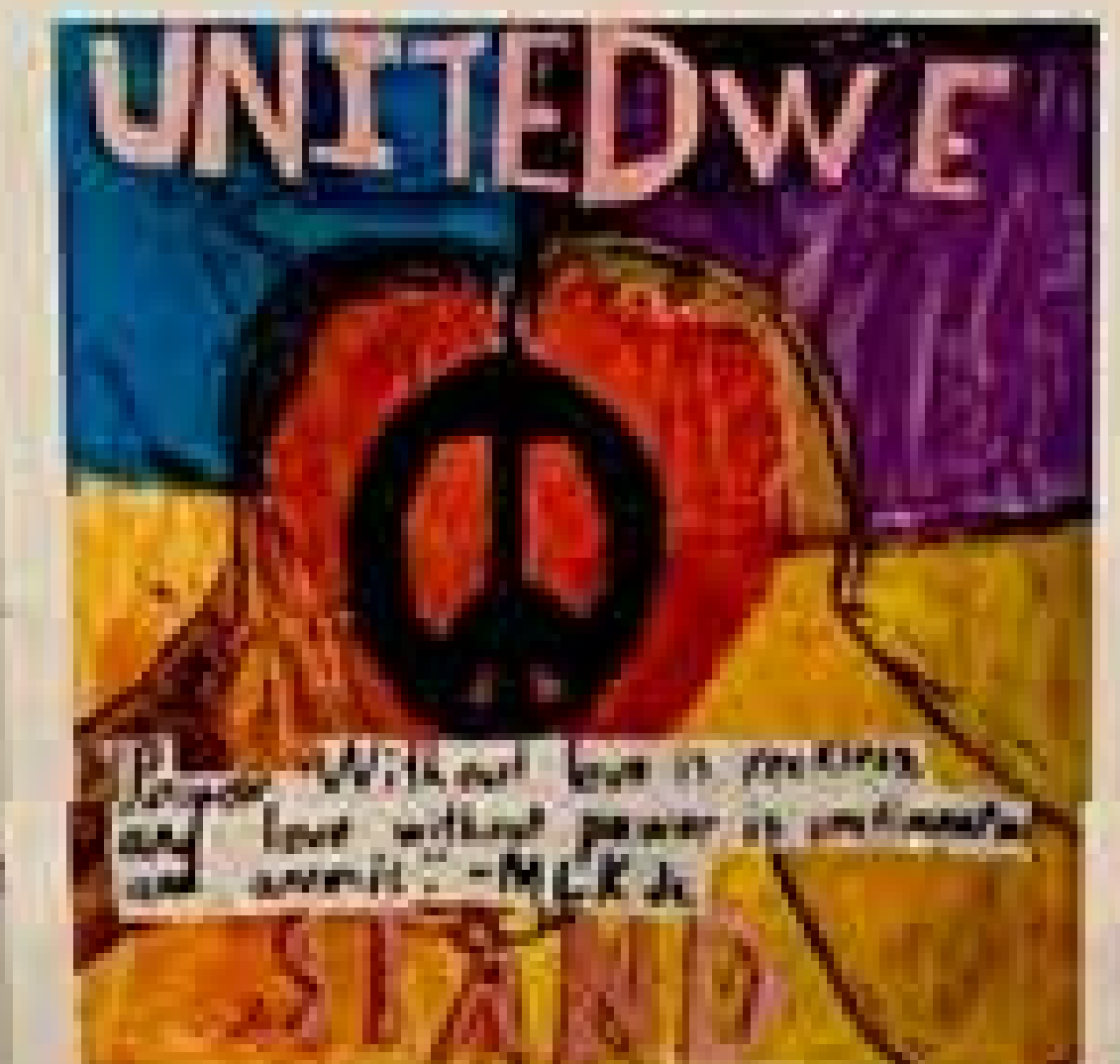
Lauren Bomba's class, Washington, DC



Tom McKinney, Bixby, Oklahoma



Walberto Moreno Sanchez, Washington, DC



D. Loflin, Alledo, Texas



Sienna Tremery, Grand Prairie, Texas



Tami Trish, Garden Grove, California

THE ARTISTS

Thank you for your beautiful messages of love, for your brave voices, your kindness, your artistry!

THE EDUCATORS

You are rock stars. Thank you for the courage to bring The American LOVE Project lesson to your students.

THE 29 PIECES: AMERICAN LOVE PROJECT TEAM

(in alphabetical order)
Karen Blessen, Ramir Camu, Adrienne Hamilton, Jennifer Hancock, Bridget Kessler, Tom Kessler, Mauricio Navarro, Maria Patino, Sarah Salazar, Bob Shema, Judy Stone-Nunneley, Poppy Sundeen, Lynda Transou, Josh Wood, Peter Wood. Photographers: Danny Fulgencio, Dylan Hollingsworth, John Katz. Financial oversight: Cindy Quandt Guerra, Collective Strategies.

Special thanks to Thomas Printworks and Region 10 Education Service Center

THANK YOU



EXHIBIT VENUES

Dallas Love Field Airport
The American Airlines Center
Downtown Dallas Inc
Schools from coast to coast

Grand Prairie Library

THE 29 PIECES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Isbell, President
Sondra Cox, Vice-President
Diana O'Connor, Secretary
Dr. Barbara Miller, Founder
Karen Blessen, Founder
Kelly Nash

FUNDERS

Two anonymous donors
The Rachel B. Williams Foundation
Christy Williams
Jane Johnson
Greg Colgan
The Randolph Querbes Terrell Trust
Texas Commission on the Arts
The National Endowment for the Arts
Friends of 29 Pieces

TESTIMONIALS

"I think it's important to bring this subject to students and adults because we toss around a lightweight, ~~you know~~, Valentine's Day kind of love, and to really stop, listen and feel it out to get a deeper connection... It's an amazing source of energy and spark during these very difficult times we are in right now."

The American LOVE Project has been an honor to be part of."
— JUDY STONE NUNNELEY, ARTIST IN RESIDENCE AND VISUAL ARTS COORDINATOR, GRAND PRAIRIE, TX PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Thank you for creating meaningful work for us to do. I appreciate that it had real value and meaning. It is important to me to use our art space to talk about LOVE because the other classes can't always dive deep because of so many academic pressures."

— LAUREN BOMBA, ART EDUCATOR, MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WASHINGTON DC

"Art—combined with a widespread commitment to our American ideals of justice and equality—can be the means by which we reimagine unity and renew our vision of what is possible when we do all things with love."

— KAREN ISBELL, SONDRA COX, COLLEGIATE ACADEMY, DALLAS ISD

"When I heard about the American LOVE Project, I was immediately drawn to the subject matter. Art has always been my primary outlet for creative expression. In this piece, I wanted to focus on how love drives away fear. It's my hope that the viewers will be inspired to engage in active expressions of love."

There were so many incredible artworks submitted for this competition. I am humbled and honored to be the Adult Contest Winner."

— TIFFANY CLEM, ADULT CATEGORY 1ST PLACE WINNER, RUSSELLVILLE, ARKANSAS

"The purpose of art is profound conversation. Conversation connects us to each other and our humanity. Conversations about beauty and balance, nature and color can bring joy back into our wounded hearts."

— LAUREN BOMBA, ART EDUCATOR, MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WASHINGTON DC

When it feels like our world is splintering, conversations about love can heal."

— SHELLEY THORNTON, ARTIST AND FINALIST, ADULT CATEGORY, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

THANK YOU for creating this positive way for kids to feel like they can make a difference using their art! It was a balm to me as a teacher as well to feel we could talk about a difficult subject and do our part to counteract the negativity with LOVE:) I love the message to kids that you can use your art for good in this world!

With Appreciation!
— LAURIE McLAUGHLIN, WASHINGTON, DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Thank you so much! It was a very meaningful experience! Cannot wait to do this again next year! Thank you again for all that you do for enlightening and inspiring us with your wonderful contributions!

FELICIA SHAW, GRAND PRAIRIE, TX PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"Awesome, thank you so much! Thank you for creating this wonderful project!"

— DANNY HURLEY, THE WINSTON SCHOOL, DALLAS, TX

I think this is a remarkable project because it laid a foundation to the start of the school year that was all about love right from the getgo, and to have these conversations and allow students to express their feelings and thoughts has been so rewarding. The smiles were rewarding."

— SARAH ERICKSON, ATLANTA, GEORGIA

"Thanks so much for involving us in this amazing project! It was a great way to kick off the year and was a constant reminder of brotherly love throughout."

— DR. SARA WOMACK, NBCT FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS COORDINATOR, ATLANTA, GEORGIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"The American LOVE Project builds on the work of the most important people in this country — teachers. LOVE transcends political partisanship — which has become so hard to listen to. We have families and kids and we want them to know that there is more to life than what they are hearing. There's LOVE, compassion, respect. The American LOVE Project gives people from around the country an opportunity to communicate with all of us. It will cut through the rhetoric and be a strong statement unto itself — about LOVE."

— PETER KOHLMANN, PARENTS-NEW YORK, NY

I first came across the American LOVE project as I was looking for a curriculum to begin the school year. This was the perfect way to build the community I was looking for in my classroom. It

— DENISE WEBB, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



1.29.22.

I am losing interest in this project—

After the big push, there are details that need to be taken care of and I don't feel like doing them.

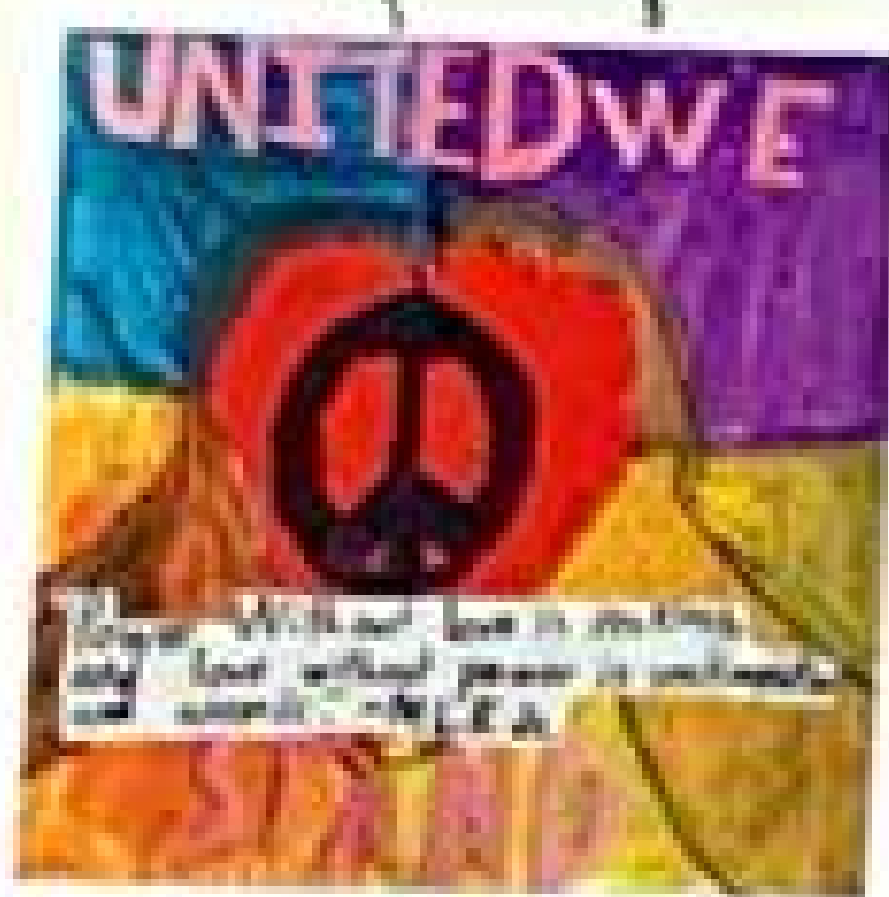
Yet. It must be done.

So. Once again.

It's digging deep.

Staying in the energy of the project.

Being true to the intent.



2.27.22.

The American LOVE Project approaches the final pages of the final chapter.

There are many successes. 3,760 of them. The art. The involvement + engagement shown. The beauty birthed. Seeds of love planted across the nation. We can see the tangible results. The website.

Other people reached + the strategies employed for 'us' to reach a national audience. The open arms shown to us by Dallas. Love Field. AAC. Downtown Dallas.

The dedication, creativity of the team.



3.5.22.

Cari, Tom & their friend
Chad Jones came for dinner
yesterday evening. Lovely night.
Perfect temps

Good meal

Fam photo

Good conversation.

Cari is in Dallas for a
temporary nursing assignment
at Children's Hospital - emergency
cardiology.

Tom Gressack - Cari's boyfriend
is a defense dept. contractor.

Chad is a doctor/psychiatrist
at U.T. Southwestern, with a
specialty in treating patients
with epilepsy.

It was good to have family
again. And Cari is kinda
perfect, I think. Smart, caring,
gentle.

March 17, 2022.

St. Patrick's Day.

Last Friday. 3.11.22.

ambulance ride

With no foreboding
I woke up at 6:00
the bathroom, felt
wonky. Got up from
thought it was
Severe dizziness, no
light, blurry vision +
edge of blacking

I thought I
stroke, or aneurysm
from, or some
of the creepy mo

Jan. 11.

I woke Kelly and asked
him to call 911 for an ambulance.

They came quickly.

Tom sharp young man.
Could've been the drama actor

3.5.22.

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again. And Cari is kinda
perfect, I think. Smart, caring,
gentle.

March 17, 2022.

St. Patrick's Day

Last Friday 3.11.22. My first
ambulance ride.

With no foreshadowing, no warning,
I woke up at 6:00 a.m., went to
the bathroom, felt very unsteady +
wonky. Got up from toilet +
thought it was curtains.
Severe dizziness, nausea, flashing
light, blurry vision + feeling on the
edge of blacking out.

I thought I was having a
stroke, or aneurysm. Or brain
tumor. Or some unwanted result
of the creepy motts surgery on
Jan. 11.

I woke Kelly up and asked
him to call 911 for an ambulance.

They came quickly.

Tr. sharp young men.
Could've been TV drama actors.

Smallish. Muscular. Right into the bedroom. Did blood pressure - tested for stroke (no).

heart attack (no).
I walked to the ambulance with my arm around the one with glasses. He drove. They got me to sit on a gurney + rolled it into the ambulance. My first ride. Very bumpy. The EMT in the back with me told me about having Covid twice. + his father in law got very sick from it.

At the hospital - Baylor ER - things were pretty quiet. Routine stuff. The ER folks could see Kelly at the door trying to get in. They said "I don't know what buttons he's pushing because he can't come in that door."

The ER folks took over + transferred me to a rickety OLD bed in Room E-65. The whole place looked a bit shabby - not like the orthopedic hospital I was in - in Frisco.

The EMT guys made fun of the beds then quickly. He'd gone to the public entrance + they put a big sticker - E65 on his chest + sent him in.

The cast of characters:

- 1) A nurse - Tiana - heavy set Black woman. Nice, friendly. Put an IV in, took blood.
- 2) Dr. Mazur. Lives in Ft. Worth. Small - (petite) She sometimes stays with her brother in Lakewood. She said a month ago - everyone had Covid. Many not so much.

She did the simple stroke exercises. All good.
Finger to her finger to my nose.

Ordered EKG. All ok.

She asked if I wanted to wait for a brain MRI. I expressed concern about the months surgery and my fall downtown in early February.
Yes to that.

[An aside. It's been challenging to do anything with continuity + follow through these past 2 weeks while I'm supposed to be on 'staycation' - that has worked in fleeting moments only. Between the surprise TCA report sprung on me, a final report for the Hudson Fdn., my medical emergency, Betsy's needs due to chronic loss, P. Nut + Sparky + geriatric kitty needs, and the

So a big guy named Gordon appears to take me to the room for an MRI. Gordon is big, hovering, a little uncertain. He begins to wheel me through the labyrinthine tangle of hallways that is the Baylor complex. Past framed photos of Baylor illuminaries, past rooms with swinging door entries. Is that a cafeteria? A storeroom?

→ big, heartbreaking event/news/images/loss of life/culture/destruction to the environment of

WAR in the

UKRAINE,

it's been challenging to find a slowed down concentration.

It all leaves an impression of -
a little dingy, old, not really cared
for. Most of the employees we
pass are overweight - do not
exude purpose or intelligence.
Very different than impressions
of the hospitals in San Miguel
and Queretaro - where there was
vitality, sharpness. And very
different than recent impressions
of UT Southwestern - where
the buildings/facilities/people gave
more of an impression of modern
professionalism.

So, Gordon wheels me (on the bed)
through all this, onto an elevator,
where it is just he and I.
In the same moment, I look & see
a bat tattoo on his wrist & as he
is saying that he's only been
on this job for a month.

That he got the job though,
no one thought he would.
And my flashing thought was -
well, I hope I'm not alone
here on this elevator with a
psycho.

We get to the MRI room without
incident, where I get transferred
onto a slab that will insert
me into the MRI contraption.

But first, a woman with
a Caribbean accent and piles of
braided hair comes & leans onto
the railing of my bed - her
face about 18 inches from mine.
Her hands are very dry & chapped
looking - probably due to the
constant washing from COVID
precautions & all the antibacterial
goop. She has a tattered notebook
with handwritten notes.

She goes through a checklist —
hesitantly, repeating items.

Am I wearing jewelry?

Any metal? (Watches — in my
new joints.)

And I don't remember the
other questions.

Her posture and nonchalant way of
leaning into me was unusual —
conspiratorial, a little too close.

She leaves, and a slightly
bedraggled man with long unkempt
hair approaches + asks all the
same questions. He has a thick
Southern accent. He says the
woman was a trainee.

His name is Mark.

He explains what will be
happening with the MRI. He gives
me a squeeze thing like is the
top of a basting syringe to baste
a turkey — and that is

the PANIC BUTTON.

I am lying flat, holding the
PANIC BUTTON, and he wedges pads on
either side of my head, puts my arms
tightly at my side, and I am
squeezed into this noisy contraption.

Oh — he gives me cheap rubber
ear plugs, which he first squeezes
into shape with his hands.

[It's challenging to tell this story
without sounding kind of critical
of the people / the facilities.]

While from my point of view —
it is all about me — I
remind myself that the last
two years of Covid have been
ROUGH + ROUGH + ROUGH on
health care workers.

Are they doing their best?
I hope so.]

The facilities, again, do not
leave the impression of the
gleaming, modern surgical room at
Baylen Frisco. It felt more like

being wheeled into an untidy high school science room.

And I have to remind myself what most people think/feel/remember when they've walked past my leaning, musty garage, past our chain link fence, to my dusty studio?

Or past our unkempt laundry room, the litter boxes?

These impressions are strong & probably not positive.

So, where ~~does~~ does that leave us all? Imperfect people. In imperfect situations. Aiming to be kind whatever the picture.

Expecting commitment & caring & compassion — and not always being/giving or receiving it. But TRYING.

Back to the MRI.

I fall into the mantram, which carries me through 30 minutes that sound like a nail gun a foot away from my ears. Ridiculous sounds, and I do wonder, REALLY? This is the best we can expect from 21st century medical equipment?

I think back to my back to back experiences five years ago in San Miguel, Queretaro and then Baylor Dallas.

The doctors, nurses & facilities in Mexico were sharp, professional. They did 2 days of testing my heart & lungs for a pulmonary embolism. All ok, but Dr. Dimmitt wanted to do a few more tests back here at Baylor.

Mexican docs — professional / sharp. Baylor technicians & equipment — nonchalant, a 'rickety' impression.

Back to the MRI room.

I hear Mark's voice and it is over. I'm extracted from the machine, and my head is reeling.

The dizziness/vertigo is very strong. When I sit up to transfer back to the bed, I am overcome with dizziness and throw my arms around Mark. Not good.

A guy (not Gordon) is there to take me back to ER. It is around 10:45 a.m. I've been at the hospital more than 3 hours. It's freezing cold outside this day. The transport guy is Black... says very little.

I get back to the E-65 room in emergency, and before I'm hooked back up to the monitor I ask to go to the bathroom. I can walk, with help to the bathroom - down the hall.

I return to the room, and from this moment on, come + a Hutton do not exist.

No one ever comes back to connect me to any monitoring equipment. Though I ask for something to drink + a light snack, nothing ever appears.

Kelly goes to find something to eat. I sit in the bed + text friends, call Steve Burke + tell him I won't be able to help Betty that day.

Kelly returns and I suggest he go home for a bit and see to the kitties, etc. He does. Roads are not icy or slipping as had been predicted.

By 2:00 p.m. or so, I was feeling hungry. I called Kelly + asked him to bring me a snack - as no one from the ER crew had come in, or noticed that I was not monitored - for several hours.

7-86
I could write a mean/critical/
scathing account of a day in
ER.

I tell myself-they have
more urgent things to attend
to, but I don't observe a lot
of activity. I do hear the staff
yukking it up amongst themselves.

Kelly returns with a snack.
I'm hungry. Still no medical
personnel.

Finally around 3:30, 4-
Somewhere in there, Dr. Mazur
is back, and she says, oh, the
MRI result came in hours ago.
While she is talking & narrowing
down the diagnosis to a benign
Vertigo 'Seize', Dr. Dimmitt
returns a call I've made to him.
Dr. Mazur says to go ahead &
talk to Dimmitt. He says
that it's a Vertigo 'Seize' or
'Seizure', explains the bit about

crystals in the inner ear,
and recommends 2-3 days of
rest and 2-3 weeks of
taking it easy. (I immediately
mentally extend my time
off - (kind of) - from 29 pieces, for
2 more weeks.)

I'm shown the Epley maneuver
give Meclazine - which doesn't do
a damned thing but make
me sleepy. We stop at CVS
and Kelly picks up the
prescription + some ice
cream.

We were both pooped + asleep
by 9 p.m. I slept for 13 hours.
The next 2 1/2 days were
not great. But by Tuesday, I
felt confident enough to go up +
down the studio stairs.

I don't like my sarcastic
critical tone in telling this.

These were my impressions.
> till:

They were there to care for me when I didn't know what was going on.

They were correct in diagnosis. I do not know what else was going on. I can never have the full picture. Just my limited point of view.

The men frame was there. I don't recall feeling fear, so much as the feeling that something was off — and (with my experience of the vertigo) it might be life-threatening.

WHAT DID I LEARN?

1. I was compelled to blab what was going on to friends. No secret for me.

2. In many ways, I found that friends had experienced it and didn't talk about it. Transon Knitts

Dana Reynolds + Don
my friend Jeremy
student Sara, I believe.
Miller

It is common for women
to feel this way.

3. Not so unsettled by it if it happens again.

4. BAM. You can go to bed feeling A-ok then Bim BAM Booms. Mine was a fortunate diagnosis.

These were my impressions.
> till:

They were there to care for me when I didn't know what was going on.

They were correct in diagnosis. I do not know what else was going on. I can never have the full picture. Just my limited point of view.

The men were there.
I don't recall feeling fear, so much as the feeling that something was off — and (with my experience of the vertigo) it might be life-threatening.

WHAT DID I LEARN?

① I was compelled to blab what was going on to friends. No secrecy for me.

② In doing that, I found that MANY friends had experienced vertigo, and didn't talk about it.
Lynda Transon
Debby Knitts
Shelley
Sibyl Dona Reynolds + Don
Rosemary Moreno
Gretchen's friend Jeremy
Alexis's student Sara, I believe.
Ute Miller
Sandra McLean
It is common for women over 50.

③ Not to be so unsettled by it if it happens again.

④ BAM. You can go to bed feeling A-ok then Bim BAM Boom. Mine was a fortunate diagnosis.

⑤ The practice + the mantram work. Kelly + I meditated together in the hospital. The mantram was repeated + repeated.

⑥ In moving into this new decade, I need to take care of some things.

A. A set in bag.
Passages.
Lotion.
Lip moisturizer.
Mints.
Mantram Book + pen/pads.
Hair squishers.
A beret.

B) Brandon

C) Journals → NE.
Print tags for each.
Include my bio on each.

⑦ The balance between worst case scenario, leaning and Joy and Possibility requires thought + preparation.

For another day. And another page.

A. What are the worst case scenarios? *Not hard to imagine.*

B. What are the joyful possibilities? *A serious artist.*

What are the practicalities and what are the serious + engineer of joy at 70+ for me + those I come into contact with and/or serve?

⑧ I am not special. I thought of Prince - dying alone in his home. The fortunate ones may die as they'd hoped + planned. Whatever my time is, whatever the means, I want to die at peace, with my mantram on my lips. If I am fortunate enough to have someone who loves me nearby, that would be nice. If I were missed after I die, that would be nice, too.

Life is short and can end abruptly. I knew this of course, but that was an 'in-your-face' reminder.

NOW - ONE WEEK LATER.

No hints at all of Vontage. Thank God. I am grateful.



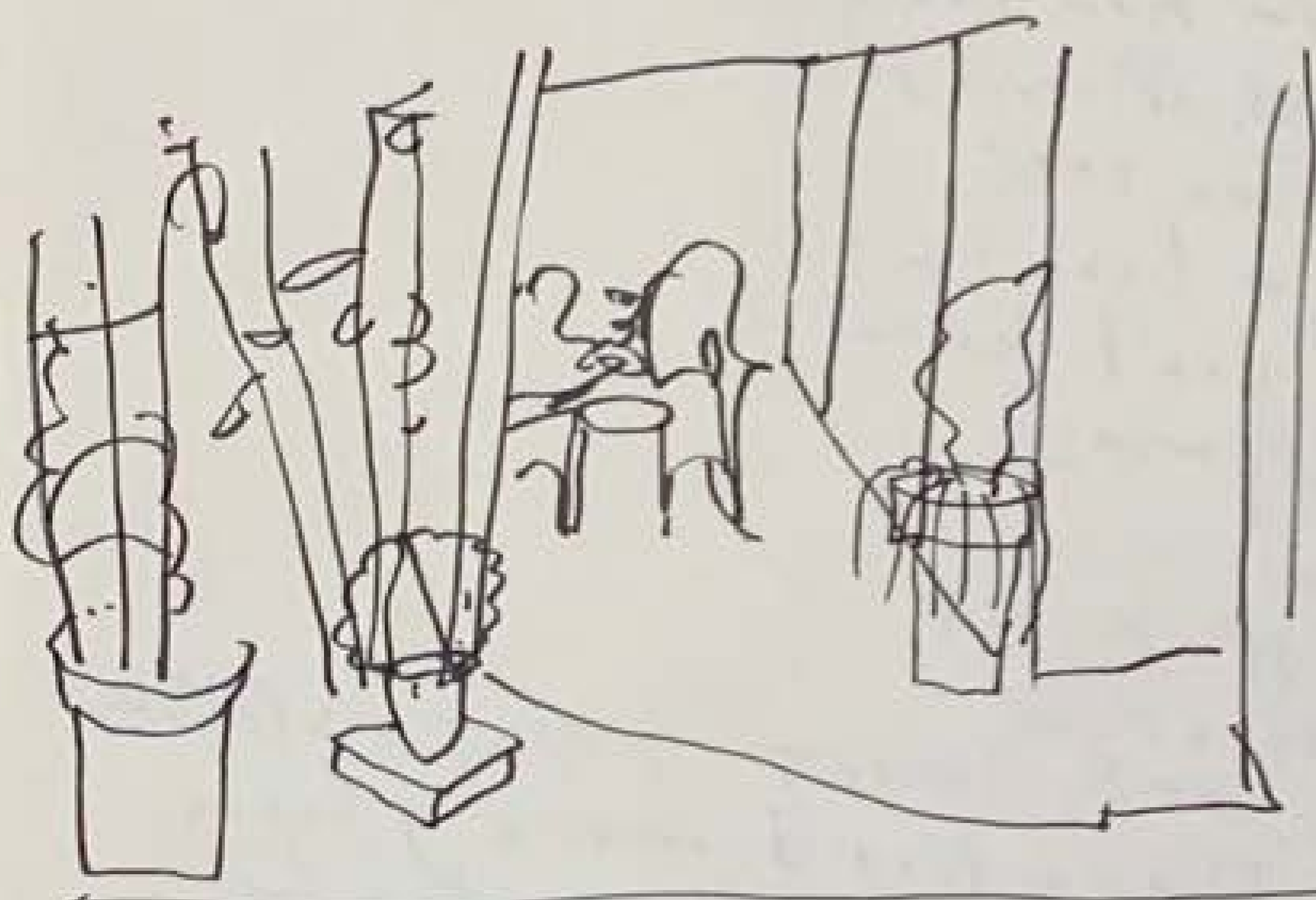
MARCH 27, 2022
LIFE DID END ABRUPTLY
2 DAYS AGO FOR
NANCY MARTIN KOEN.
STUNNING news.
NMK was in her early
40's I'd guess. Married
to Jason. Two sons.
A beauty & a beautiful
spirit. I don't know
what happened.



I've SET UP KITTY
HOSPICE in our
BEDROOM. OUR SWEET P. NUT + SPARKY
ARE 22. They've lived more than
a lives — rallying after setbacks,
small + life threatening. This time
we are near the end though.
P. Nut drags her back legs. Neither
eat more than a few licks of
food. Dr. Roark is coming next
Saturday, but they may not last
till then. They were litter mates —
sister + brother. They may go out
together too. So many losses. For us.
For so many.

I DISTRACT MYSELF WITH GARDEN PLANNING. The extreme cold combined with the typical extreme heat have limited bio-diversity.

BACK



40 - mandevilla
10 - Geranium?
10 - Purple p. vine

60



Hibiscus - 40
Mondo - 50
Liriope - 50
3 evergreens - 30
Zinnia - 10

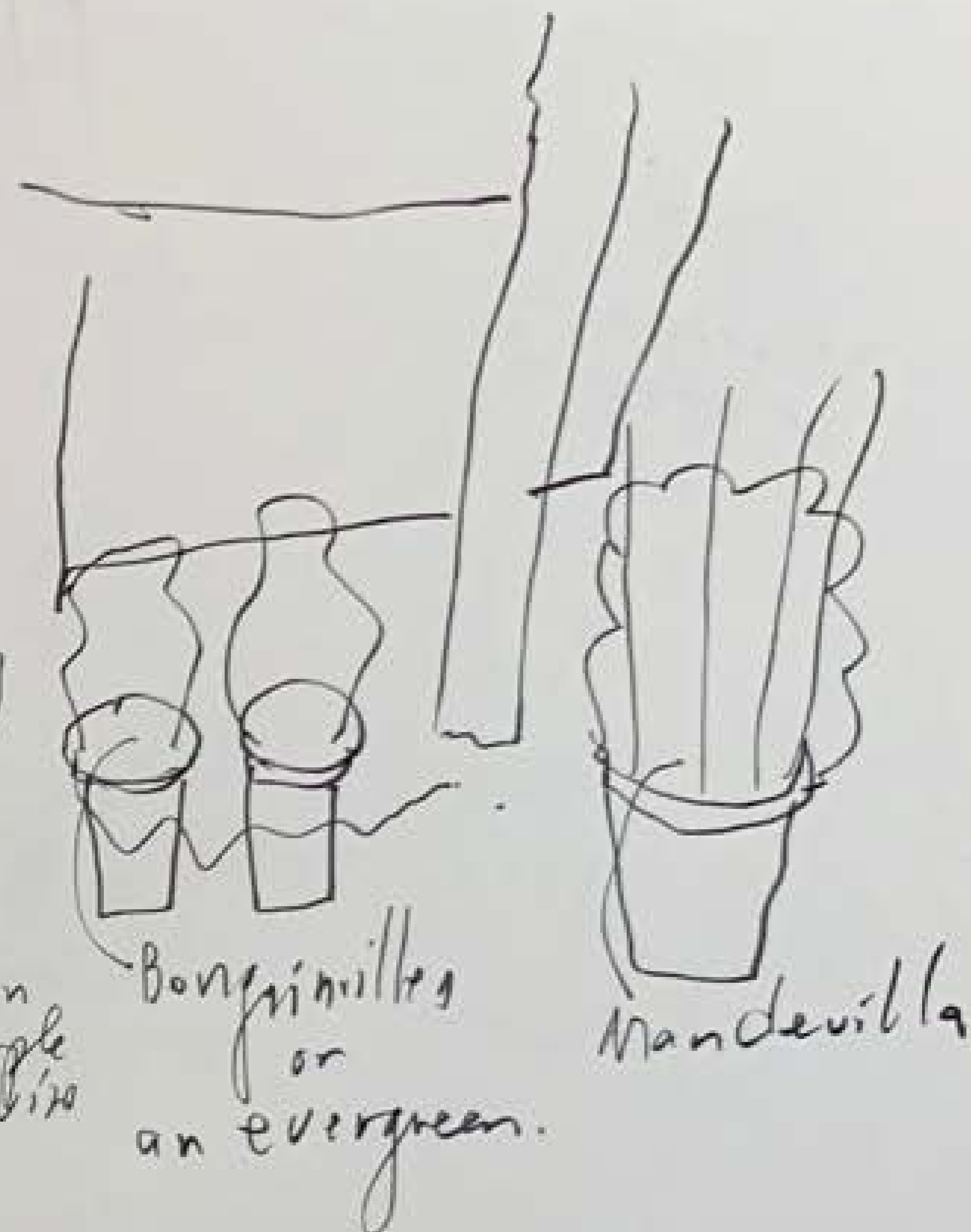
440+

YARD

purple potatoes?
bulb? Verberna

2 Bougainvillea
100 - Bon
10 - Purple p. vine

110+



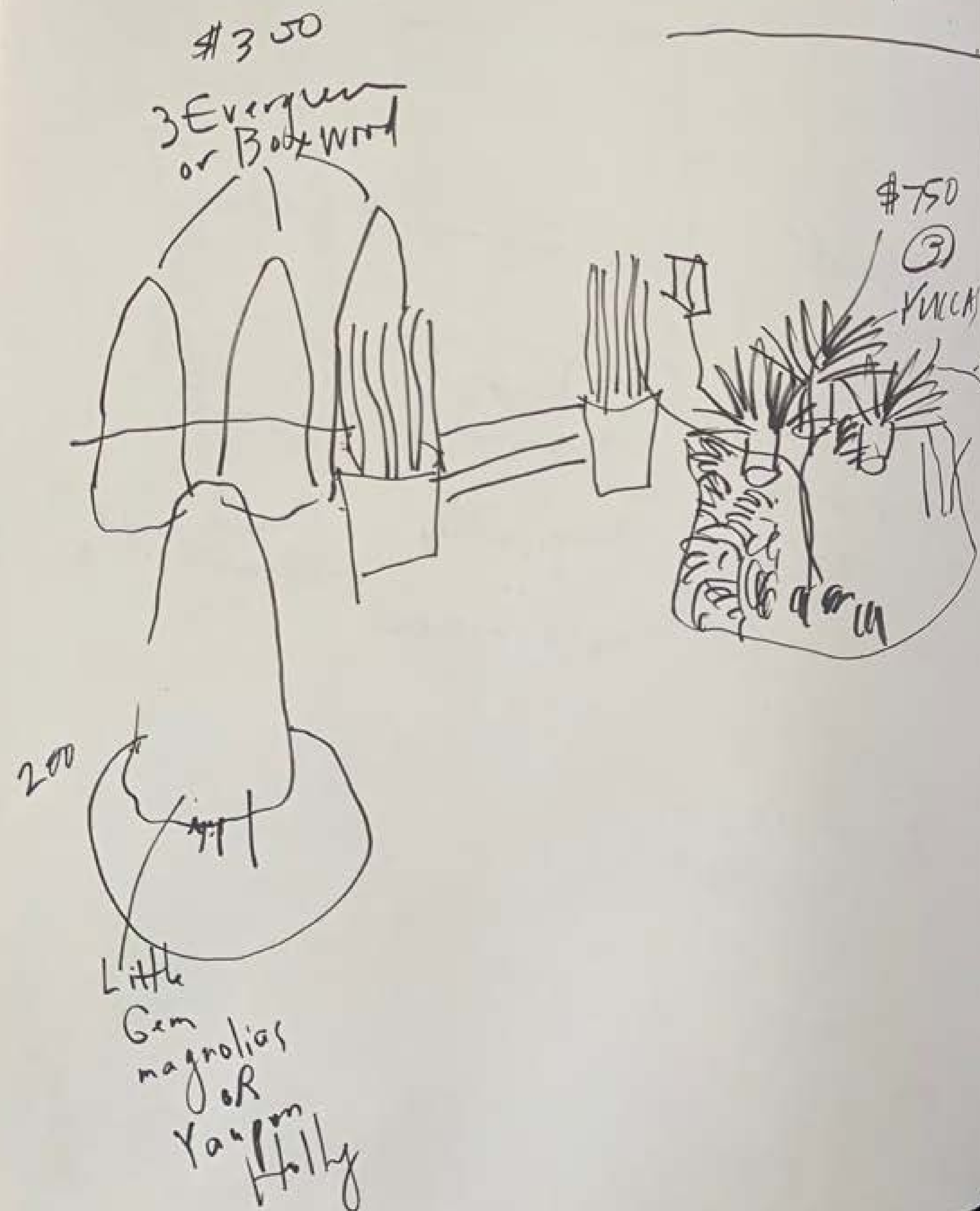
Bougainvillea
or
an evergreen.

Mandevilla

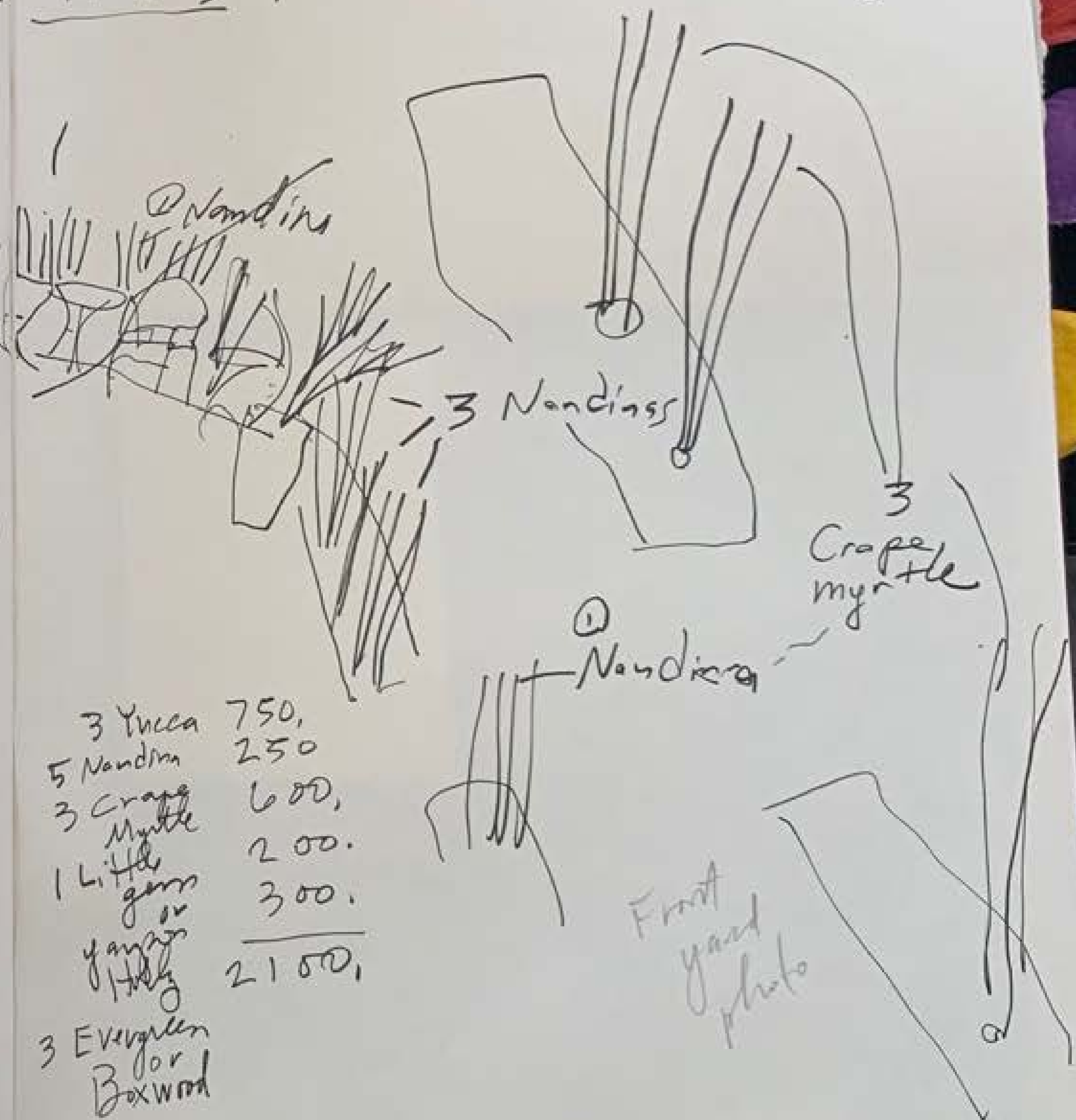
Approx. \$610 in back

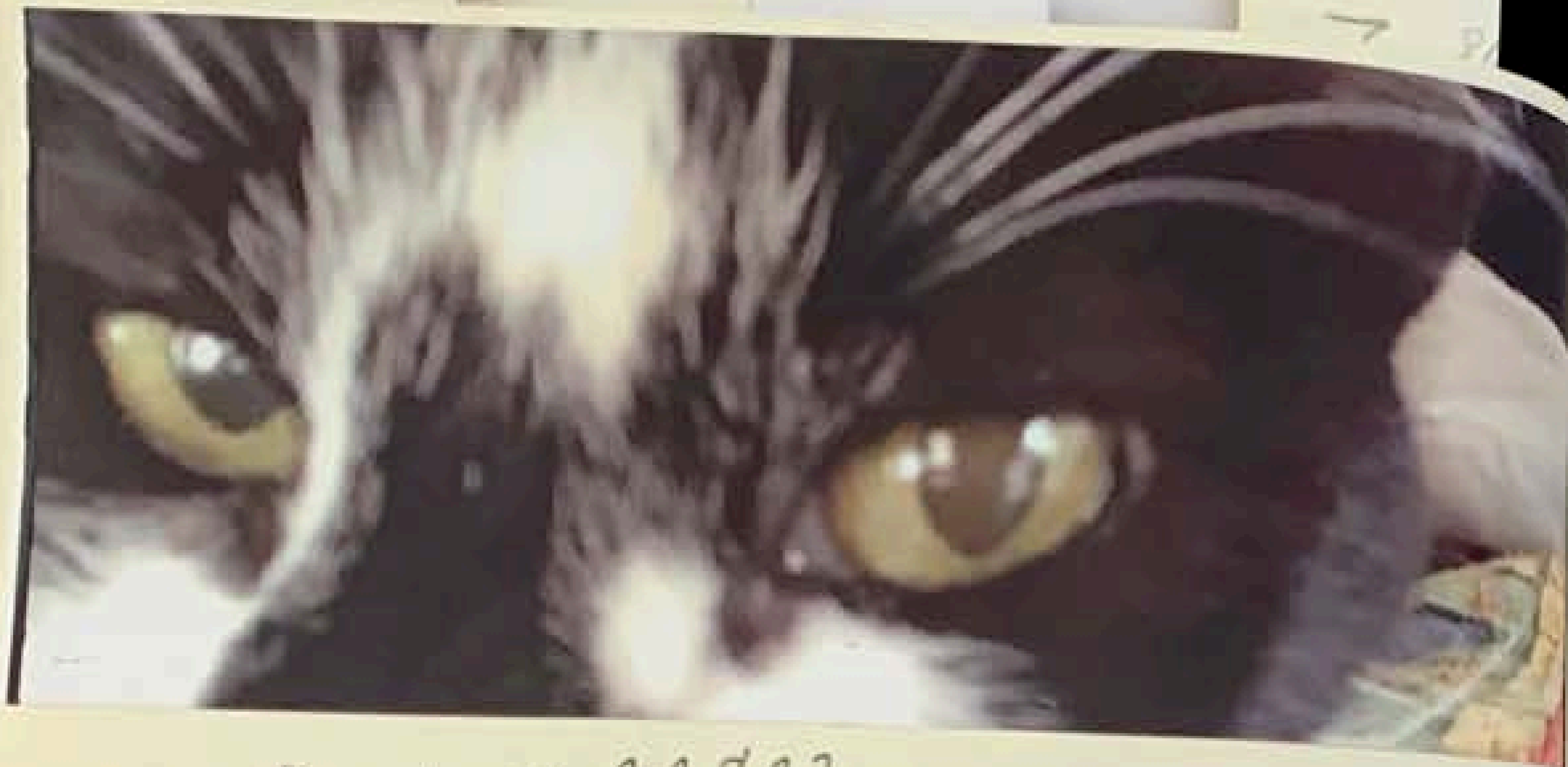
New backyard photo

FRONT



YARD. 9.27.22. First Butterfly.





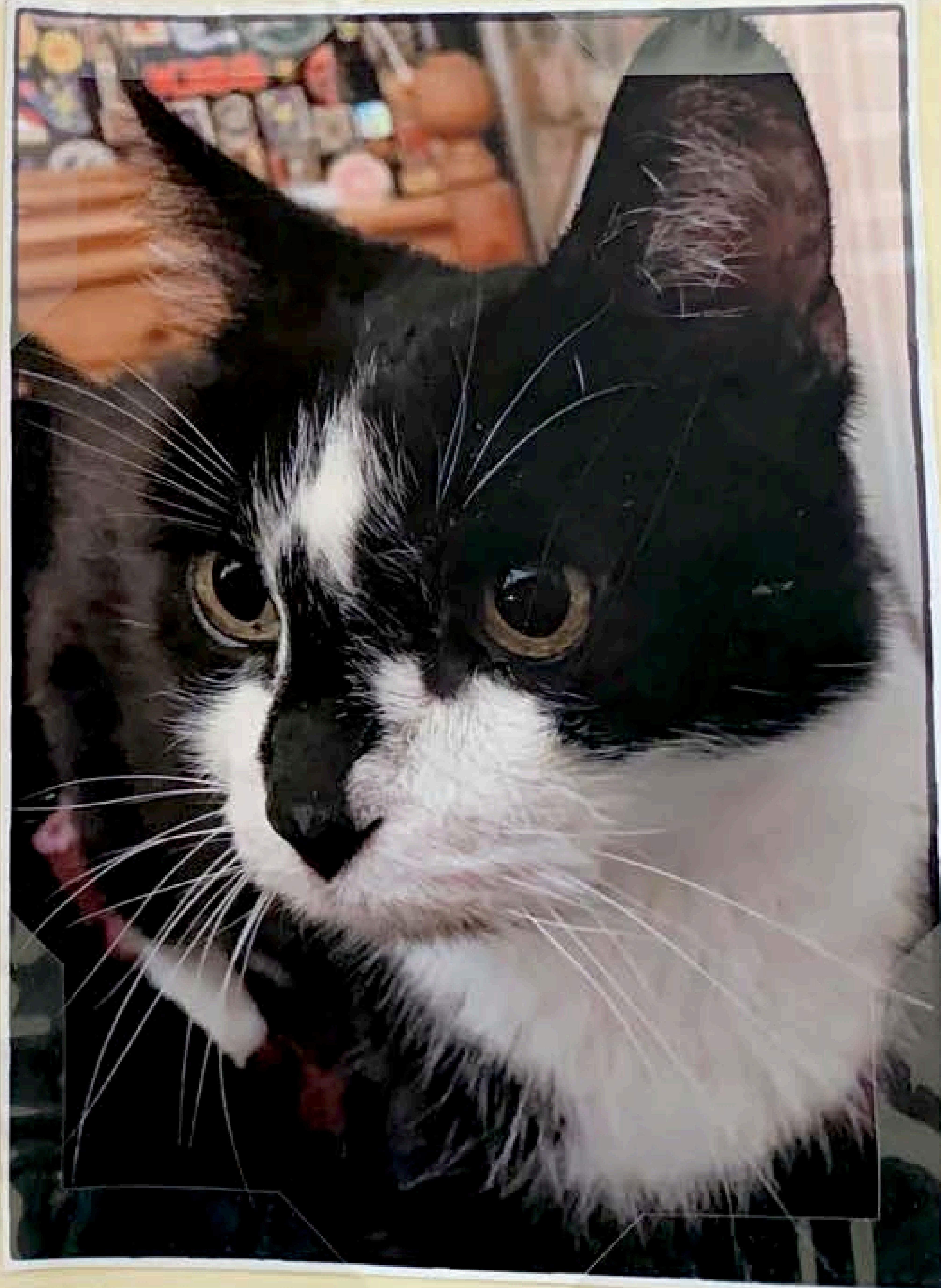
11 P.M. Evening of 3.28.22

P. Nut is BARELY ABLE TO WALK, YET SHE PULLS HERSELF UP THE LITTLE STAIRS TO SLEEP ON THE BED - NEAR ME, SPARKY IS HERE TOO. I NEVER THOUGHT HE'D BE LAST MAN STANDING,



2:45 P.M. 3.29.22

I've made calls to LAP of LOVE - at home euthanizing. Dr. Roark can come Saturday (she now lives in Austin) but P. Nut may need help before then. Sparky remains close to P. Nut + to me. We both hold vigil for P. Nut - on the big bed.



P. NUT



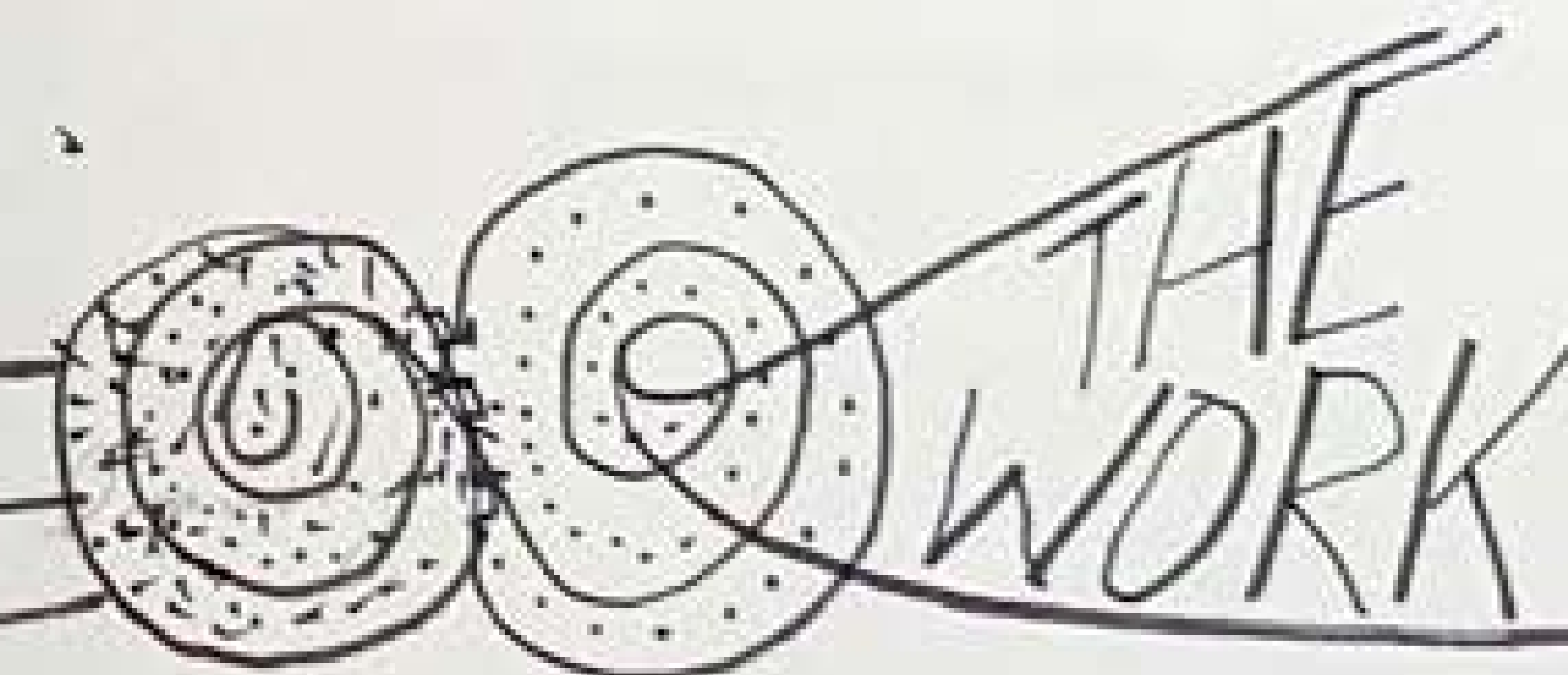
The PROJECTS NOT ONLY FULFILL A
 'CALL' they also focus my energies —
 synthesize all the feelings, sadness,
 disbelief about how unkind the
 world can be. That all flows
 into the projects.

A performer channels it to the
 stage. An athlete to the
 competition. I channel it to
 the work.

Feelings

SADNESS

DISBELIEF



Until the last days, she has looked
 bright eyed. I wish she could take
 her last breath peacefully — as we
 are here on the bed together.

P. Mont Co.



3.30.22

Our PRECIOUS P.NUT is gone. Dr. Emily Wilson of Lap of Love came at 9:30 am. and very gently euthanized our sweet girl. It was time.

I'd awakened at 4:30 to the sound of P.Nut falling off the little stairs we have for Sparky to get on the bed.

Somehow she'd dragged herself to the end of the bed + fell off the high end of the stairs where she was lying.



I bolted up and cleaned her up + brought her back to the bed.

I'd made the bedroom kitty hospice central. She would not lie on the floor. As weak as she was she dragged herself across the floor. It was agonizing to watch.

I was in tears the whole day, unable to answer phone calls to talk about it.

For the last 2 days, Sparky was by her side.

He is now the last man standing.



I miss HER more
than I can say.

How fortunate that
I was on staycation
these past weeks,
so that I could
be with her as
much as possible.

It coincided with
my VERTIGO 'seize'.
So we were hanging
out together a
lot. In bed.

Her favorite
place



Her face
would press
over the
end of
the bed



Alexandra Mitchell came over the
night before to say good-bye to P. Nut.
She arranged for her handyman
to help us dig P. Nut's grave.

We walked into the house from
burying P. Nut to a message that
Janette was in ER in Omaha,
with pneumonia. So Kelly began
plans to drive there.

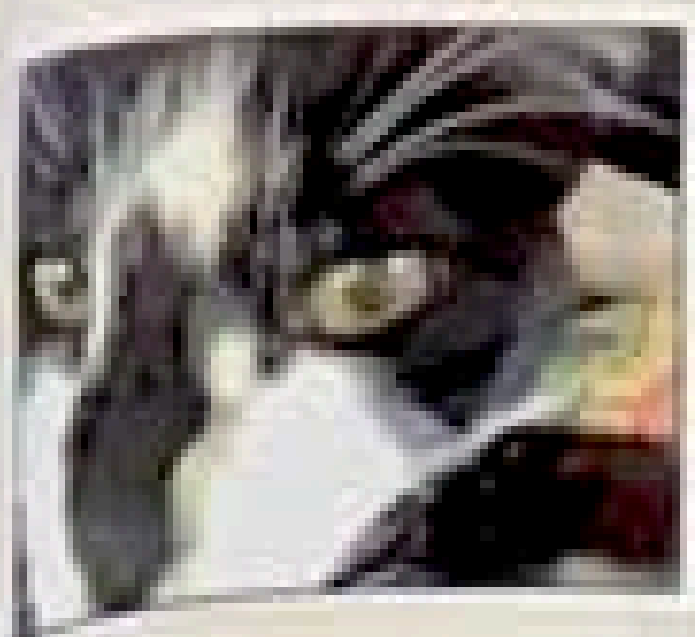
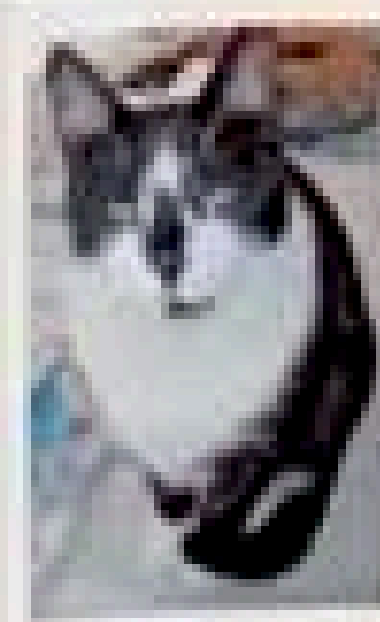
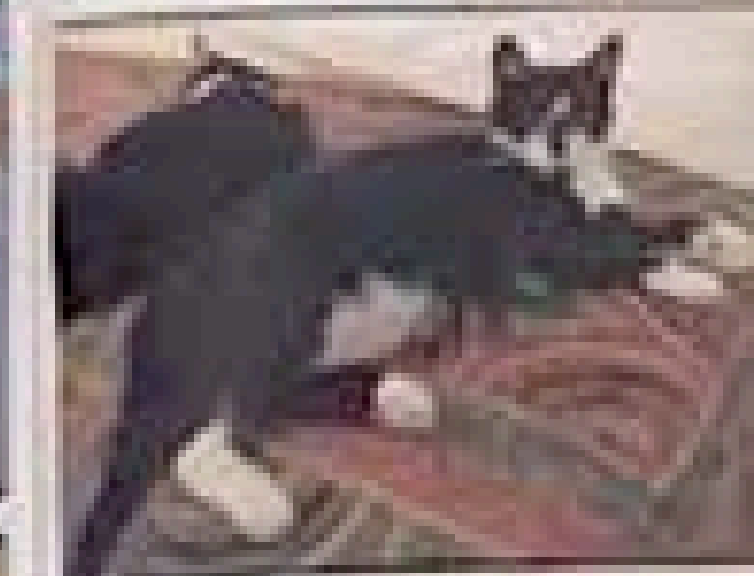
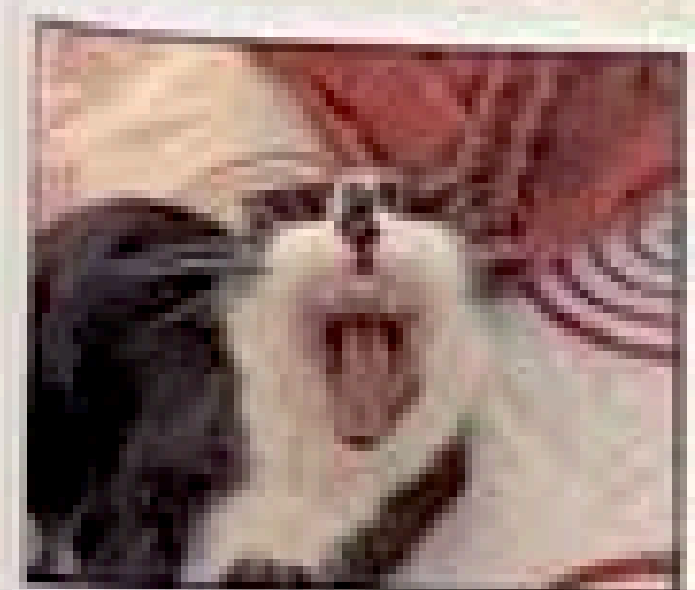
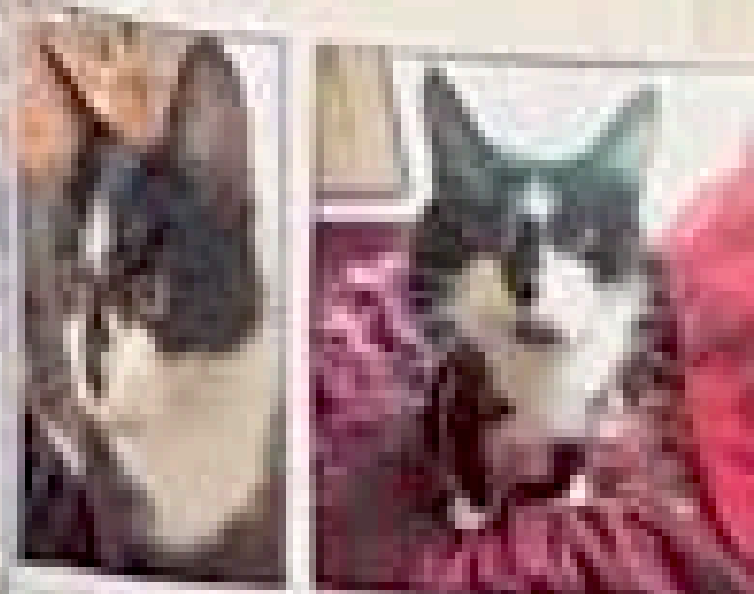
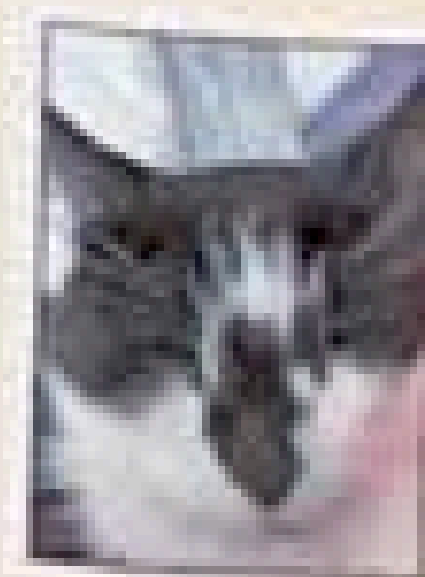
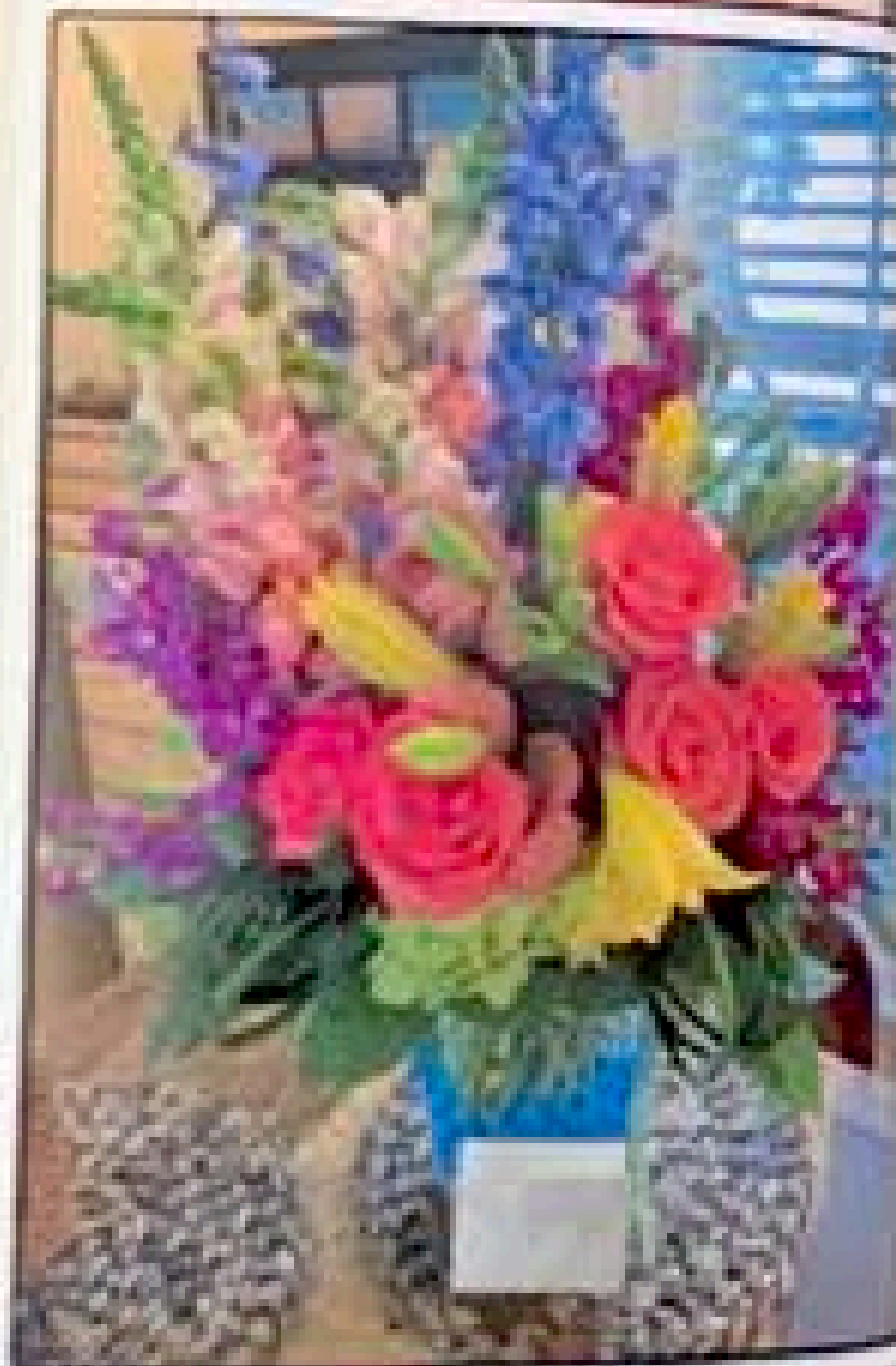
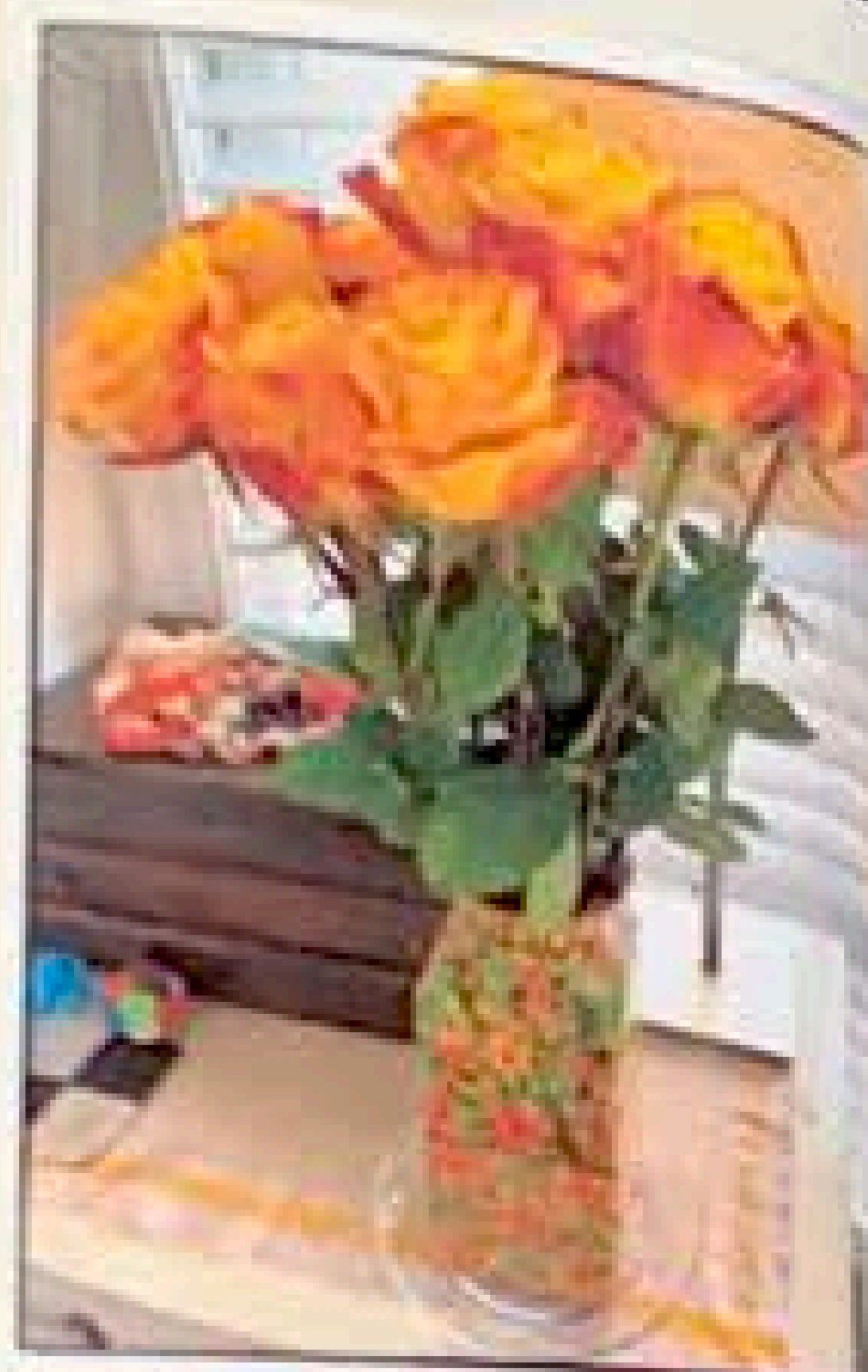
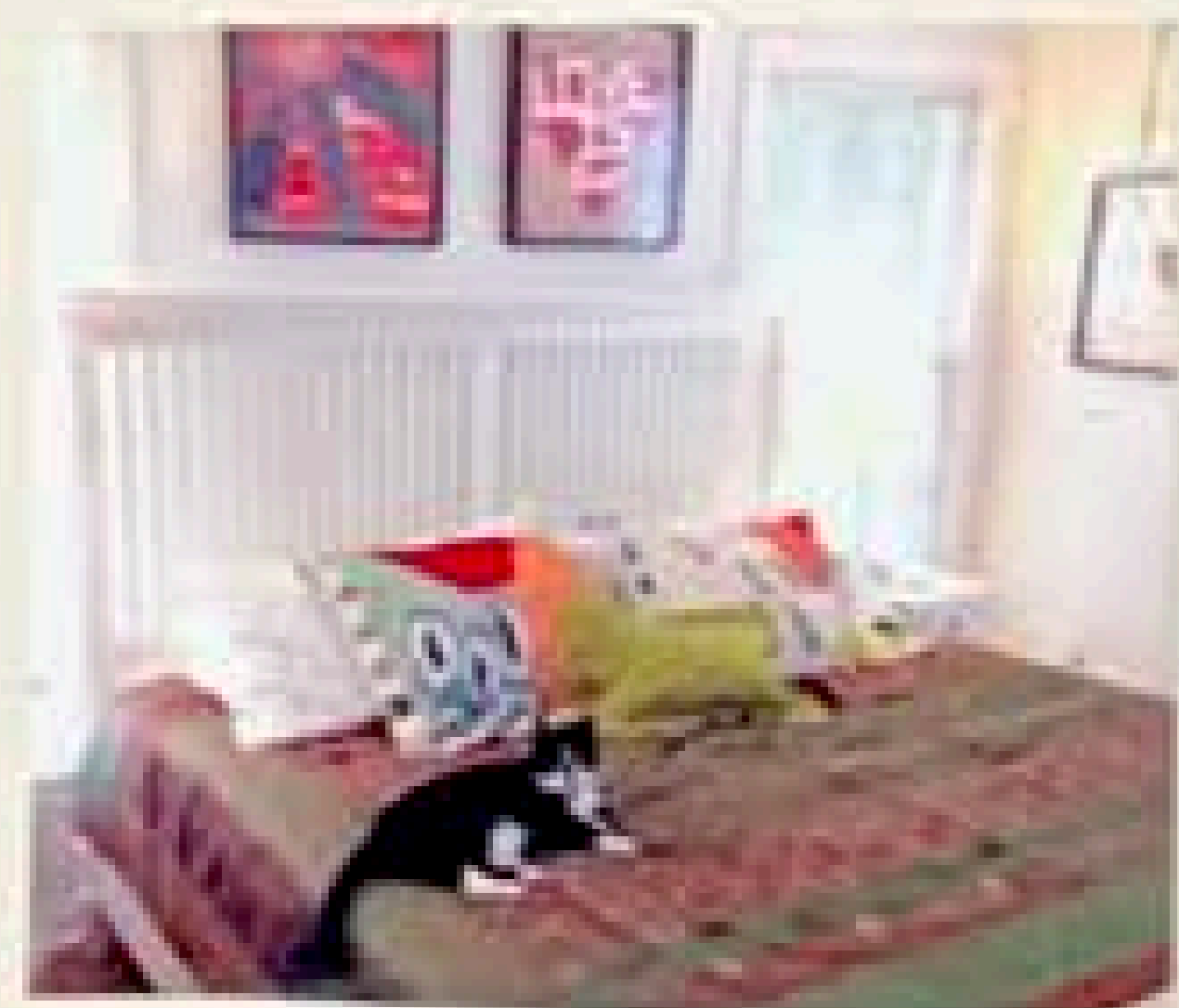
4.1.22

Kelly is in Lincoln. Janette was
released & back to Brookstone.
Kelly will see her tomorrow.

Alex sent an
outrageous bouquet -
addressed from P. Nut,
Lynda Trauson bright
flowers and a card.

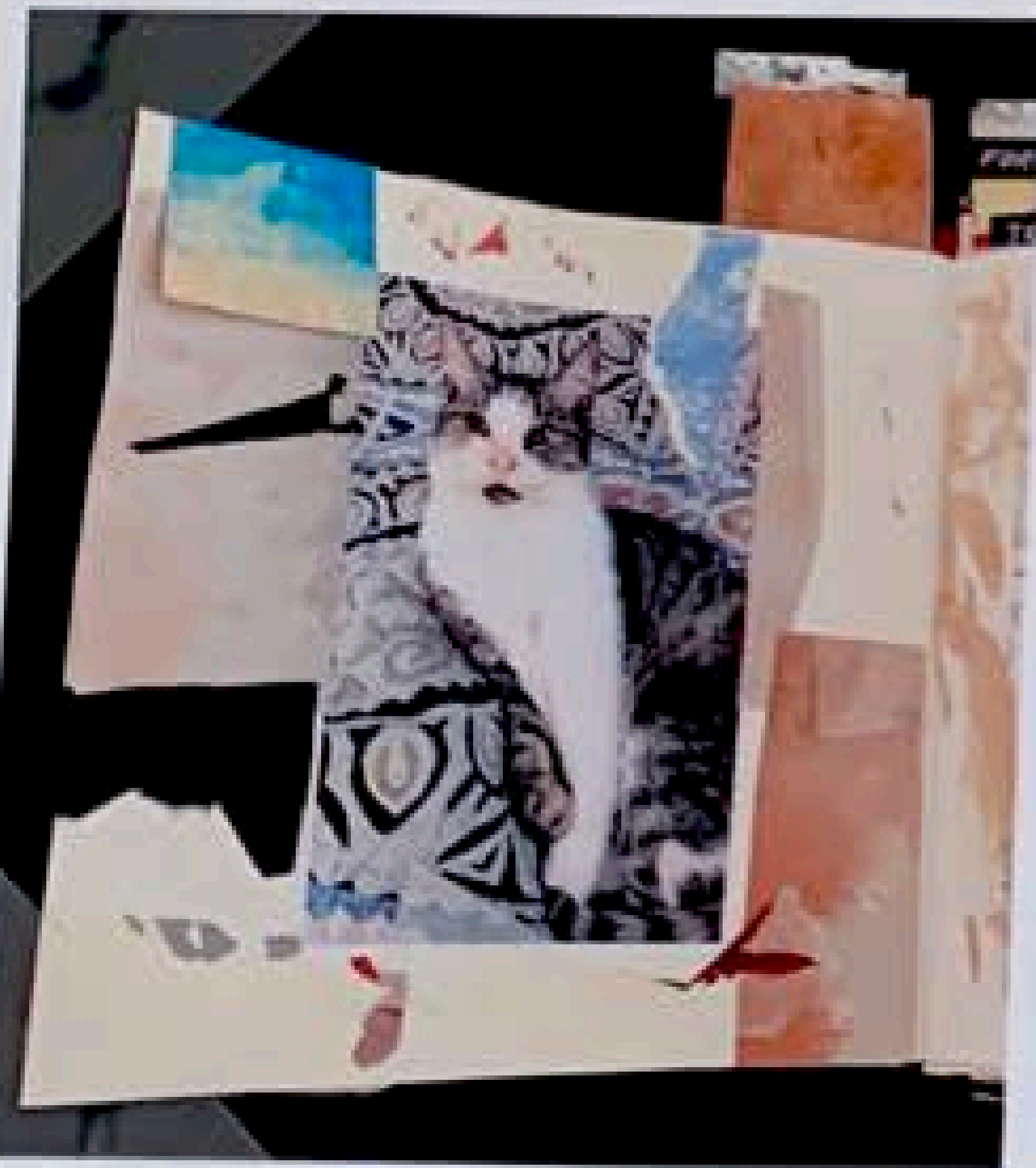
Rosemary brought flowers.
Everyone was very kind.
It's a litmus test of
social skills and
empathy about loss.
Katie texted:
"It had a great run."
Well. I guess she did.

I'm glad that I made a
few short videos of P. Nut -
to remember her and
that purr.



IN MEMORIAM

SPARKY



We said goodbye to Sparky
on June 2, 2022, at the age of 22.
After P. Nut died, Sparky lived



another 2 months. He'd been
deaf for quite a while, and
became blind within days of
P. Nut's passing. I miss him.

These pages are from
the something BEAUTIFUL
journal.

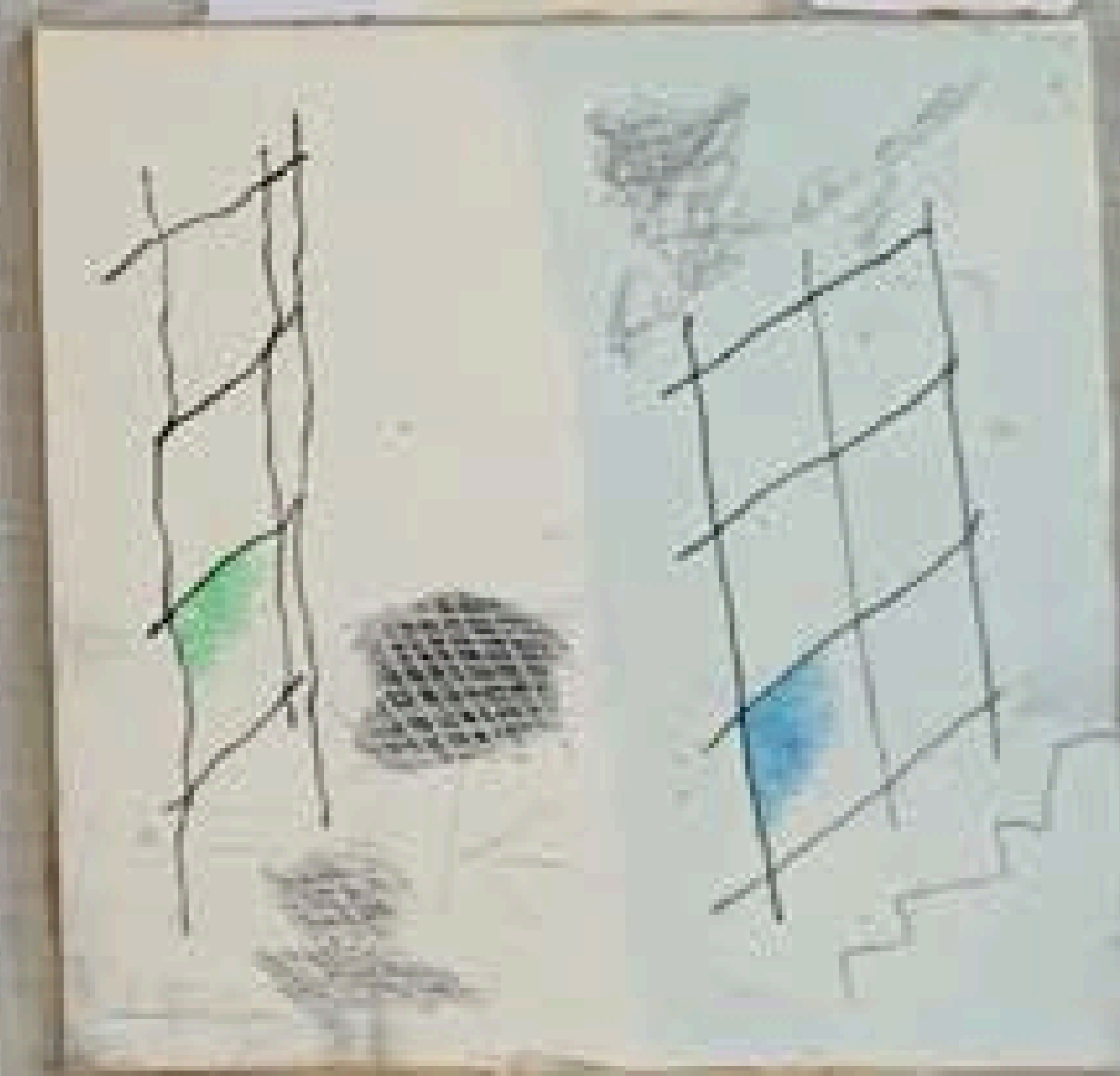
where there is

GREAT LOVE,

There are

ALWAYS MIRACLES.

— WILLA CATHER





LOVE IS THE ANSWER, ART IS HOW WE GET THERE.

LOVE IS THE ANSWER

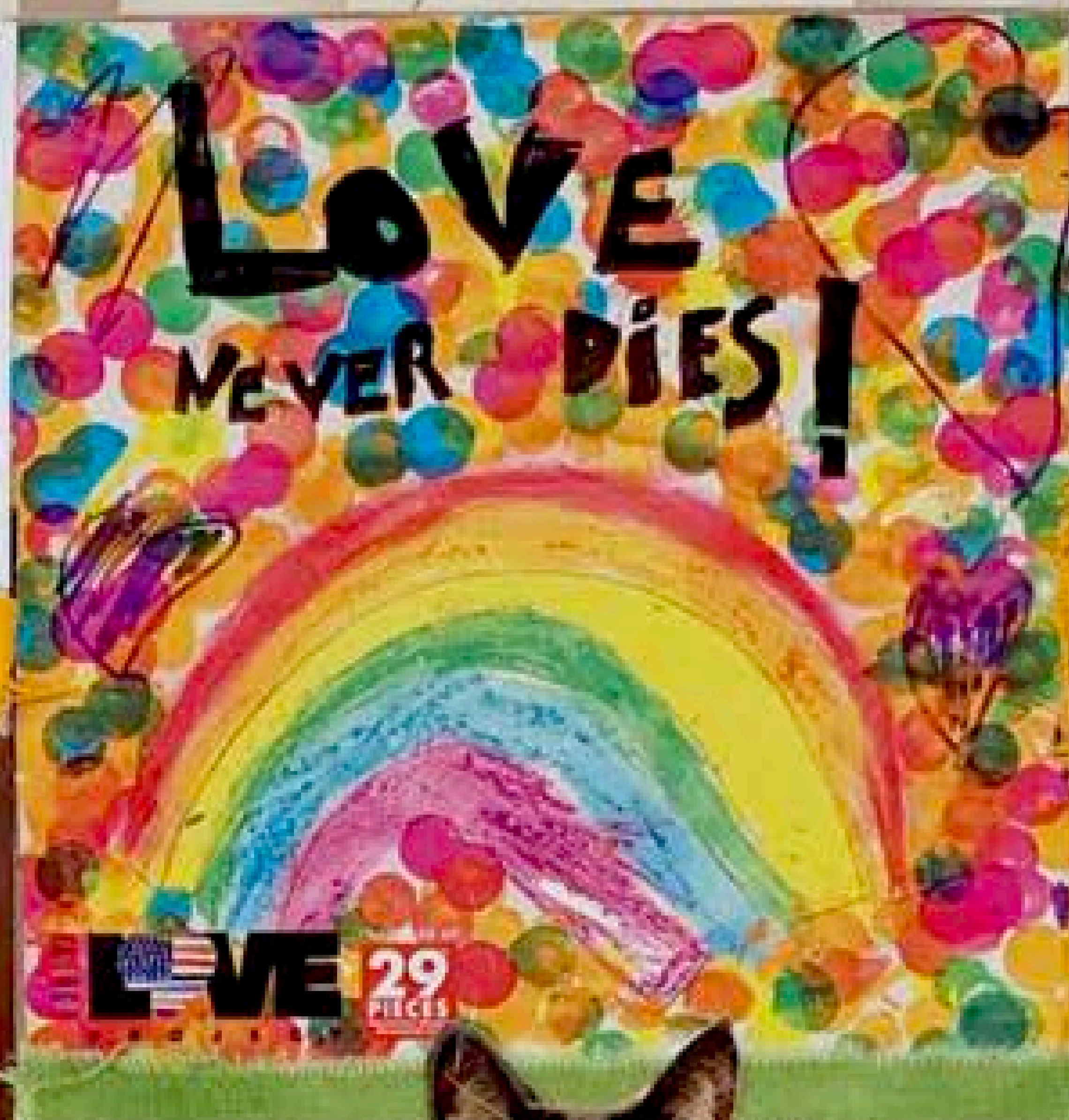
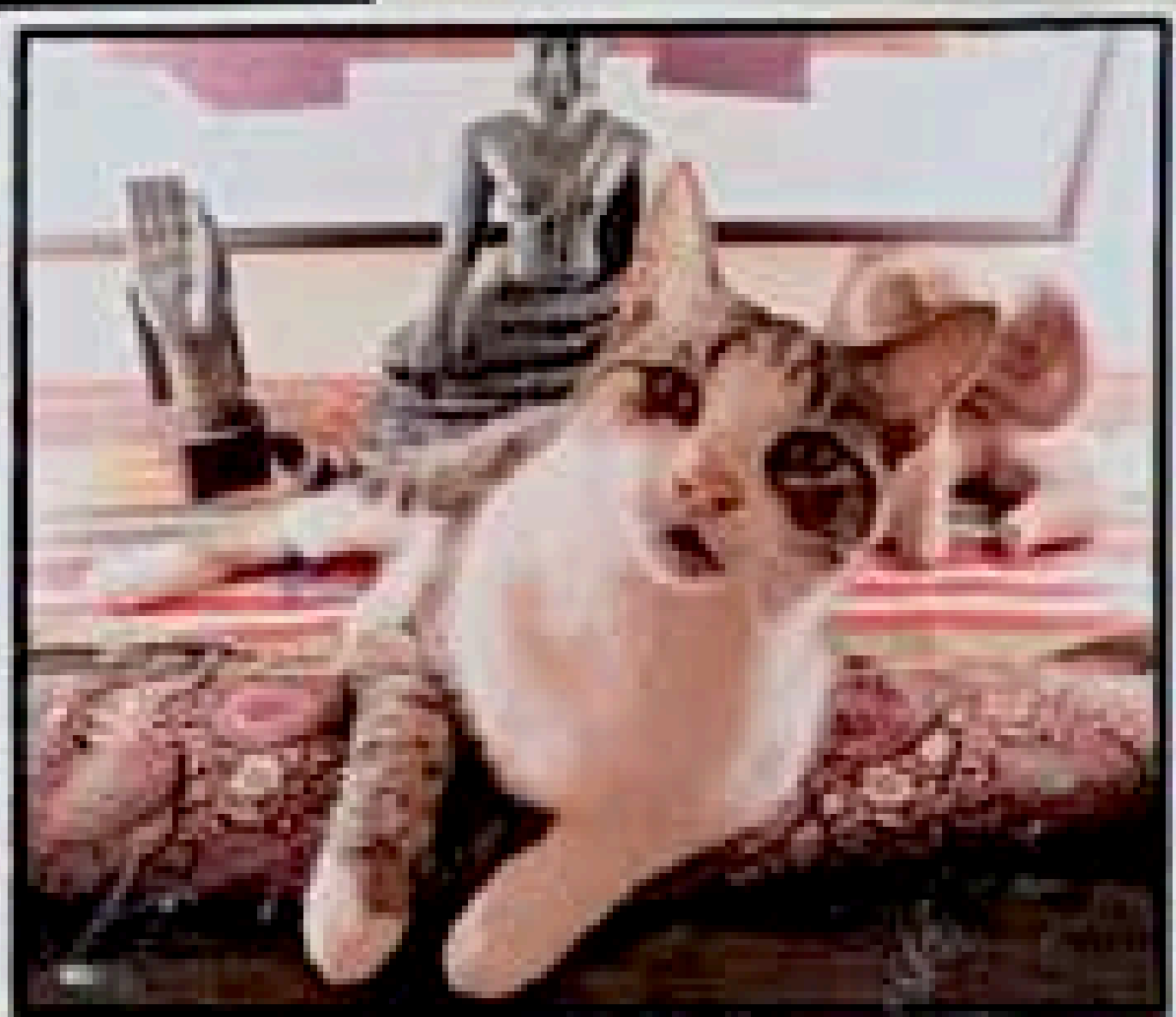


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29
PIECES

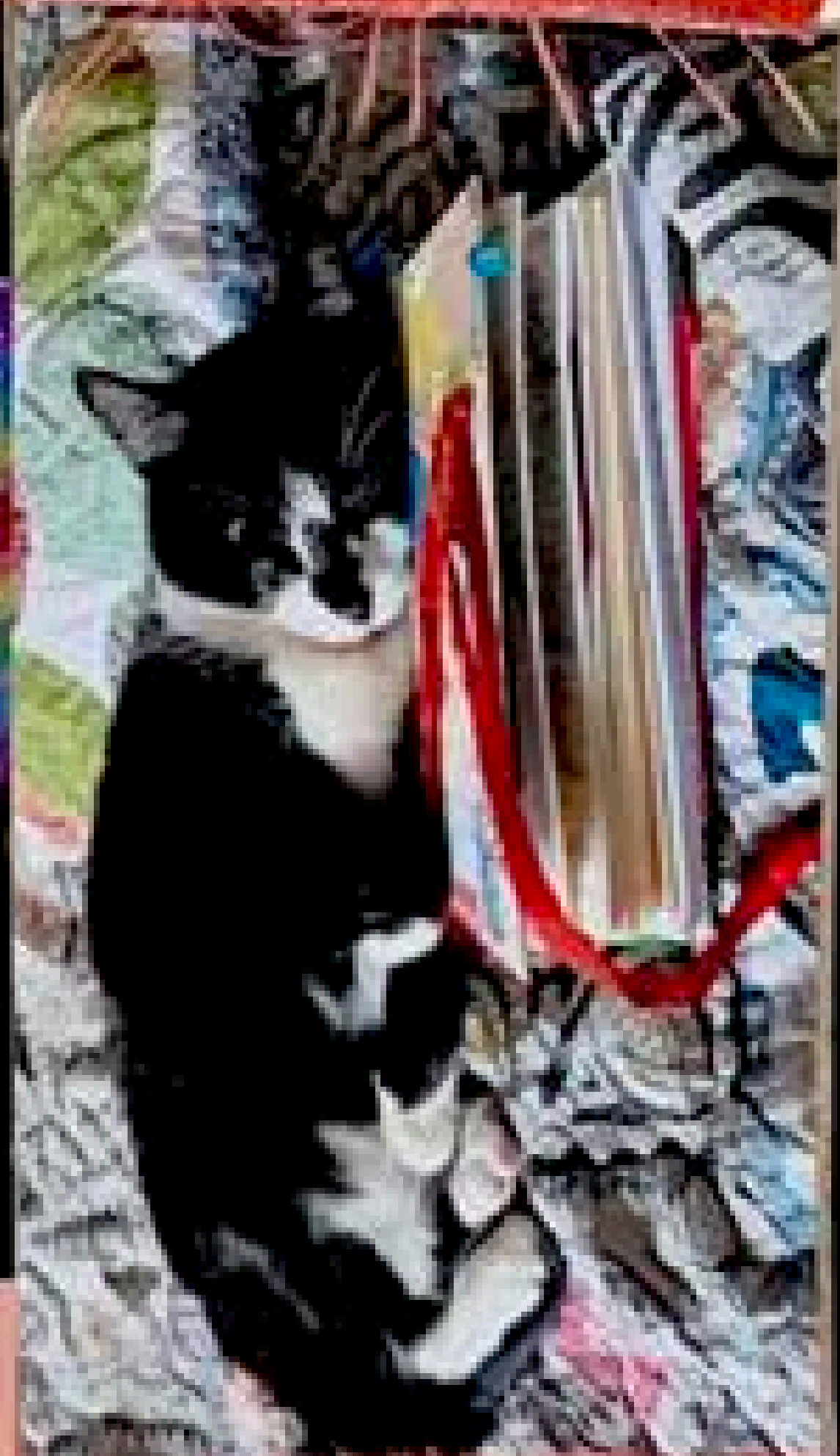


AMERICAN

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LOVE IS THE ANSWER.
ART IS HOW
WE GET THERE.



LOVE IS THE ANSWER

