

JKß – JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKß

classical realism, from hounds to humans & more!

News & Journeys of Joy! :: Vol. Seventeen, Number Three :: August 2021

Greetings!

I hope you are healthy and happy! Please join me as we journey through Summer 2021.

June 20, 2021: Father's Day. I wish I could say hello to my parents and hug them. I'd like to tell them I love them and appreciate their dedication and advice. Mom, thank you for advising me 40 years ago, not to marry a man who is 17 years older than I. Daddy, thank you for telling me I should take some time off; I got back to art, first with painting in the late 80s, and with sculpture in the early 90s. I think of you often.



Yesterday's 75 miles an hour winds certainly cleared dead - and live - branches from trees! Brian helps me gather branches, twigs and leaves to cut for our yard waste bags.

It took at least an hour and a half. Good news! The temperature dropped from the mid 90s to the low 70s. Our neighbor Pam sent the picture, above, of a tree that fell two streets away.

June 20, 2021, Sunday, 6:08am: Brian and I are on the road to Colorado. From the debris on the streets, our subdivision appears to have taken the brunt of the storm. Good news! The temp is still a comfortable 73.

5:40pm: We arrive in Loveland! Surprise! A map in CarPlay loads from my iPhone to my Tahoe screen. It says we are 12hrs and 8 minutes from home!

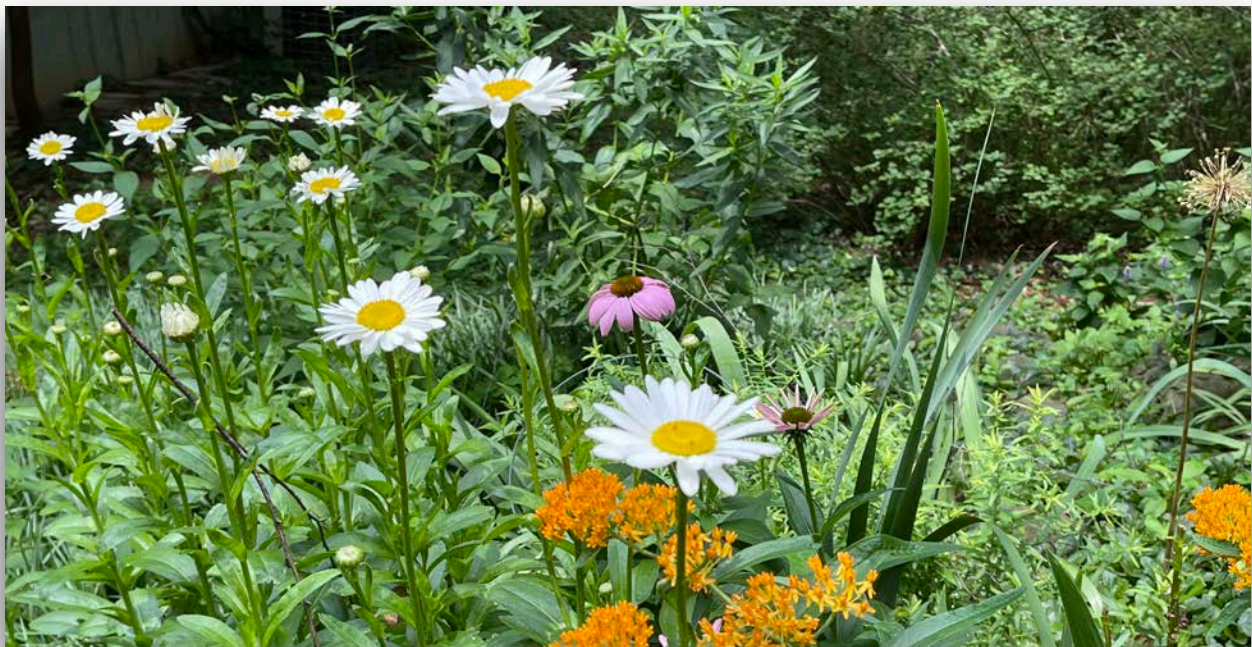
June 22, 2021, Tues., 6:31pm: We drive CO-34 beside the Big Thompson River through Roosevelt National Forest to Estes Park. I need this after chasing wax all day.

RE: *"Dreaming of Tomatoes, Too"* MS, I had no idea a 3D print would have tiny rings all through it. I retexture each surface and fill tiny bubbles. Each "DOT Too" wax takes 4 hours to chase. Monday: one "DOT, Too" wax, Tuesday two "DOT, Too" waxes...

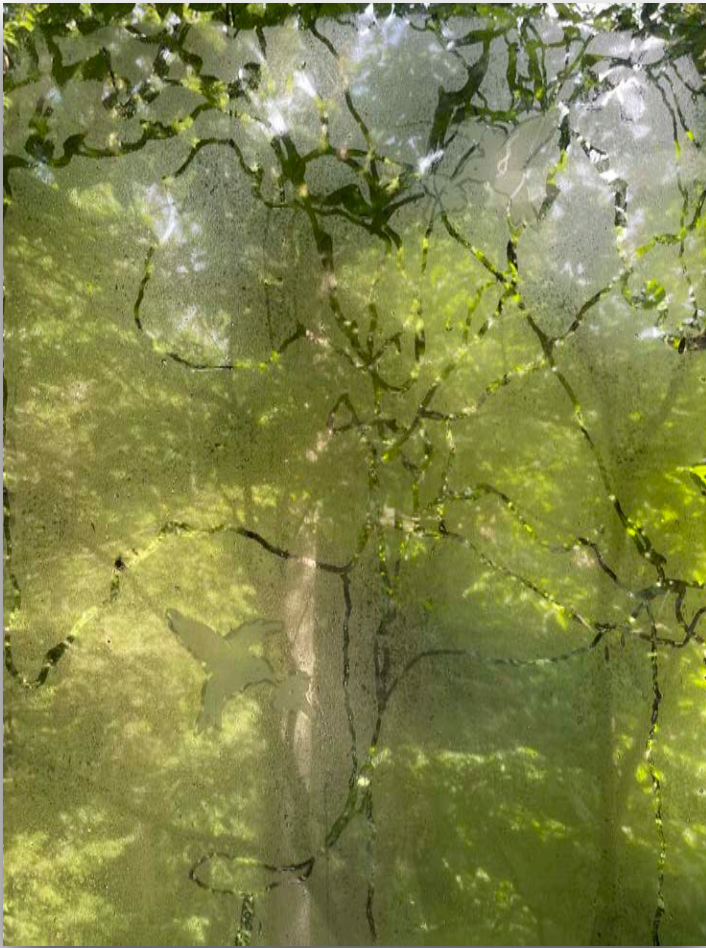
June 23, 2021, Wed.: *"Merry Sunshine"* half-life, takes 6 hours to chase. I chase two today. Wow! Did we have leftovers for dinner???

June 24, 2021, Thursday: *"So Good to See You, Too"* is a 5-6 hour chase. Chasing two makes for a very full day. I will take the third one home to chase. Tonight we celebrate with a nice dinner at the Fourth Street Chop House. Thank you, Brian!

June 25, Friday, 8:40am: We head to Eaton, CO to deliver waxes, and then head toward home. The day is pretty: 68 degrees at 10:18. I'm grateful that Brian drives.



June 27, 2021: We are home. In time, I want to expand my native plant area for pollinators.



June 28, 8:34am: It is 71 degrees and what percent humidity? This is the pattern on one of our steamed windows.

I wash our front door and sidelights. It's mold season in St. Louis!

July 3, 2021: "ANIMAL GROUPS" curated by David J. Wagner, LLC, opens at the Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum in Logan, KS. Thank you for inviting me to participate in this show.



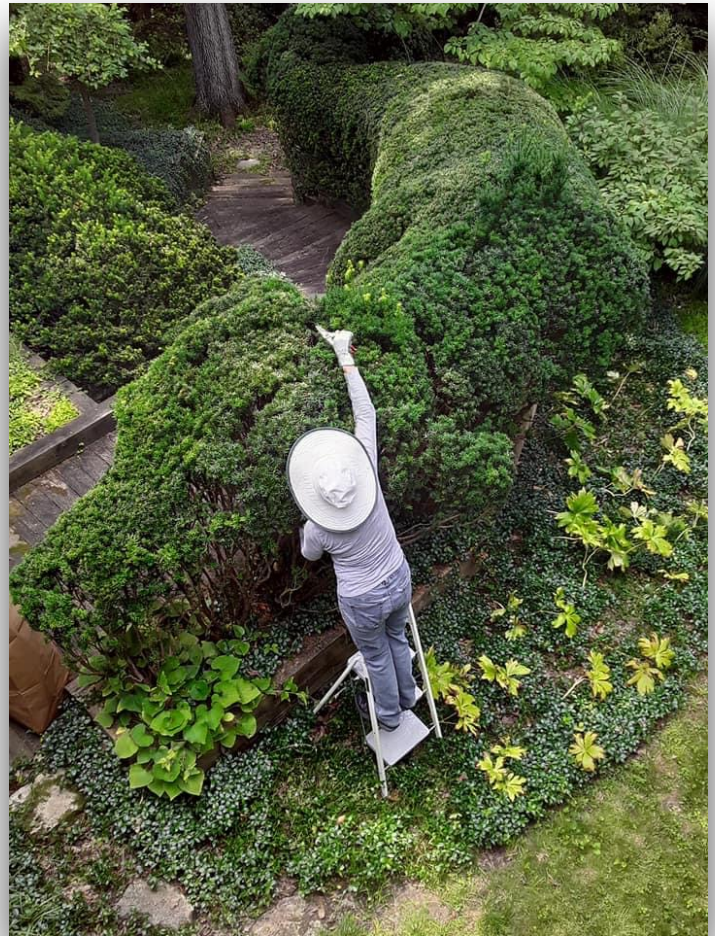
July 4, 2021: 8:37am, 68.3 degrees! **Happy July 4th!** Ellen & Frank visit!



July 5, 2021: We visit the World Bird Sanctuary and Lone Elk Park.

July 9, 2021: I take advantage of relatively cool weather and prune my topiary of Edgar.

Next year I want take it down by 5 inches. It's really hard to reach the top!



July 12, 2021: “*So Good to See You, Too*” is commissioned in standard long hair. “*So Good to See You, Too*” will be the mirrored life-size standard long hair version of this bronze.

Thank you, Alan!



July 15, 2021: “*Sunnyside Up*” SS is accepted for the Allied Artists of America 108th Annual Exhibition! The show will be at the Salmagundi Club of New York. NYC.



July 25, 2021: Brian, “I miss our dog.” *We miss you sweet Beau ...*

Three friends, including my marvelous Dr. Varsha Rathod, come for dinner. Thank you, Mary, for the cucumbers, and Varsha for the flowers and chocolate cake!

July 26, 2021: Mask mandates are on the rise for the Delta Variant of Covid-19. Vaccine Mandates are on the rise, too. If only everyone had been vaccinated...



August 3, 2021: The Art Renewal Center catalog for their 15th Annual ARC Salon International Exhibition arrives! It is 431 pages and weighs FIVE POUNDS! I am so very honored to have my "*A Good Life*" MW included among the finalists in the animal category. Nearly 5000 international artists entered this show of which 2000+ were accepted as finalists. Congratulations to those who made the shows at Sotheby's in New York and Spain. I am thrilled to be a finalist!



August 7, 2021, 7:33am: My Surprise Lilies are glorious!



August 8, 2021: Yay! A hummingbird visits my feeder many times!

August 9, 2021: The Wildwood Garden Society meeting is all about Chocolate! Until Dr. Oz shared... Who knew???

Dark Chocolate

According to Dr. Oz

- keeps you looking and feeling younger
- helps control your blood pressure
- helps avoid wrinkles
- keeps your skin younger
- helps you stay slimmer

The graphic has a light blue background. On the left is a red heart with a stethoscope around it. On the right is a small pile of dark chocolate shavings.

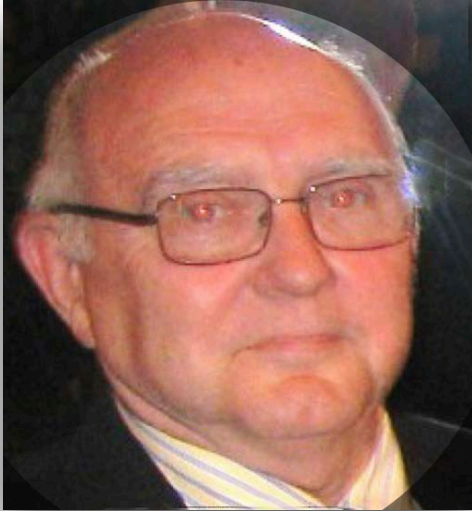


August 9, 2021: *"Inspiration" Smooth* and *"Inspiration" Wire*, bronze medals are on their way to the AMSA Members Exhibition at University of Detroit Mercy. American Medallic Sculptor Association. *"Inspiration" Smooth*, *"Inspiration" Wire* and *"Inspiration" Long*, in bronze, are limited editions of 10 each. Below is *"Inspiration" Long* in pewter.



August 12, 2021: The Pietro Montana Memorial Award for *"A Good Life" SS*, arrives from the Hudson Valley Art Association. Was Pony Express faster? The award with \$800 check is postmarked July 28, 2021. *"A Good Life" SS*, 6/20 is the only *"A Good Life" SS* available. If you have always wanted it, now is the perfect time to order.

I take payments!



In Memoriam...

August 14, 2021: Tim Callison, who, with his wife, Marilou, was a dear breeder of award winning standard smooth dachshunds, passed away August 12. He was 76 and Marilou is



86. Yesterday, I helped place 4 of their 13 retired show dogs. Our fourth dachshund, Ch. Rosegate Sophie Tucker, right, was bred by them.

One person will breed a pair for showing and continue the Rosegate kennel name. Marilou is happy! Rest in peace, in your garden, sweet Tim...



Our elderly neighbors

Our neighbors of 37+ years announce they are moving to an Independent Living facility on September 1. Don has been declining, gets dizzy and fell on their driveway recently. He could not get up by himself. Jan immediately knew it was time and called. You will be missed. Best wishes, friends...

Our ninety year old friend...

Bob, the perpetual optimist who lives with his 90 year old wife in St. Joseph, MO, has had an operation postponed until September 9. May it be completely successful!

I am so Lucky!

I LOVE my husband Brian! I am lucky to have met him 45 years ago! We met thanks to my first husband and friend, George, who introduced me to BMWs 1967. Then I bought a BMW1600 for \$2700! BMW owners were so rare we flashed our lights when we saw another BMW! In 1976, Brian and I met at a BMW Club Christmas party. *We are lucky* to have our good health! May it continue... ;-)

I LOVE my doctor! The man I dated prior to Brian introduced me to DR. Harvey Walker Jr. and Preventive Medicine. Dr. Varsha Rathod has been my doctor since Dr. Walker retired in 2000. She's helped me through two bouts of a-fib, first in 2001 and then in 2015. We know the 2015 incident was caused by a tooth infection when I was working on my life-size "Merry Sunshine" Golden Retriever in Colorado and I could not get to my dentist. Dr. Rathod worked with my marvelous arrhythmia doctor, Dr. Andrew Krainik, to get me off all heart meds within a year! Yay! She got me off heart meds in 2001, too!

Varsha shared this tip: FLOSS, FLOSS, FLOSS and use DR. TICHENOR'S PEPPERMINT MOUTHWASH! Get it at Walgreens. It looks expensive at \$8+ a bottle, but, when diluted by 5, it is far less expensive than other mouthwash.

I LOVE my exercise teachers! Thank you, dancer Diana Barrios Whitman, Sonya Hulsey. and Sue Lawrence. My OsteoStrong teachers, Erin Emily, and Shannon are great recent additions. You are *all necessary treats!*

I LOVE my new Pilates teacher! Ginger Hedrick is very aware of alignment, and, she is *NICE!* She was trained by Joseph Pilates' protégée, Romana Kryzanowska, who started training with Joseph when she was 16.

In all fairness to my prior local Pilates reformer teachers, Ginger is one of only two from whom I have taken Private reformer classes. Ginger's classes are never boring!

Ginger's most memorable tip so far: STAND LIKE A COUGAR, ready to pounce! Put your weight in the balls of your feet and lean slightly forward with your chest up, shoulders down and belly pulled up and in. This supports your lower back. I find this works when you sit and walk, too! Between her advice and a heating pad, my sciatic nerve pain is nearly non existent.

Many thanks to all of you for being in my life!



August 15, 2021: Otto, a new collector's boy, could almost have modeled for "*Dreaming of Tomatoes, Too*" which is the mirrored version of Otto's pose shown above.



After cutting Shasta daisies I realize I had cut off a stem with an attached Monarch chrysalis! I put the stem in a bit of water and dangle the chrysalis over the edge in a pot with parsley on our deck.

August 16, 2021: Brian drives us to the Illinois State Fair in Springfield. It is great to see goats, sheep, cattle, swine, and rabbits, and it was a load of fun to watch little kids learning to milk a cow!





August 17, 2021: Happy Birthday to Friends - my former husband George, Brian's and my friend Francisco, and Don, the lucky husband of a new collector, Pam, who gave him a "Sunnyside Up" Long, 1:6 Scale. Thank you!

The American Artists Professional League
Inc.

August 20, 2021: The American Artists Professional League promotes me to Signature membership! I especially am honored because AAPL, which is affiliated with the Art Renewal Center, ARC, promotes realism in art and I am all about realism!



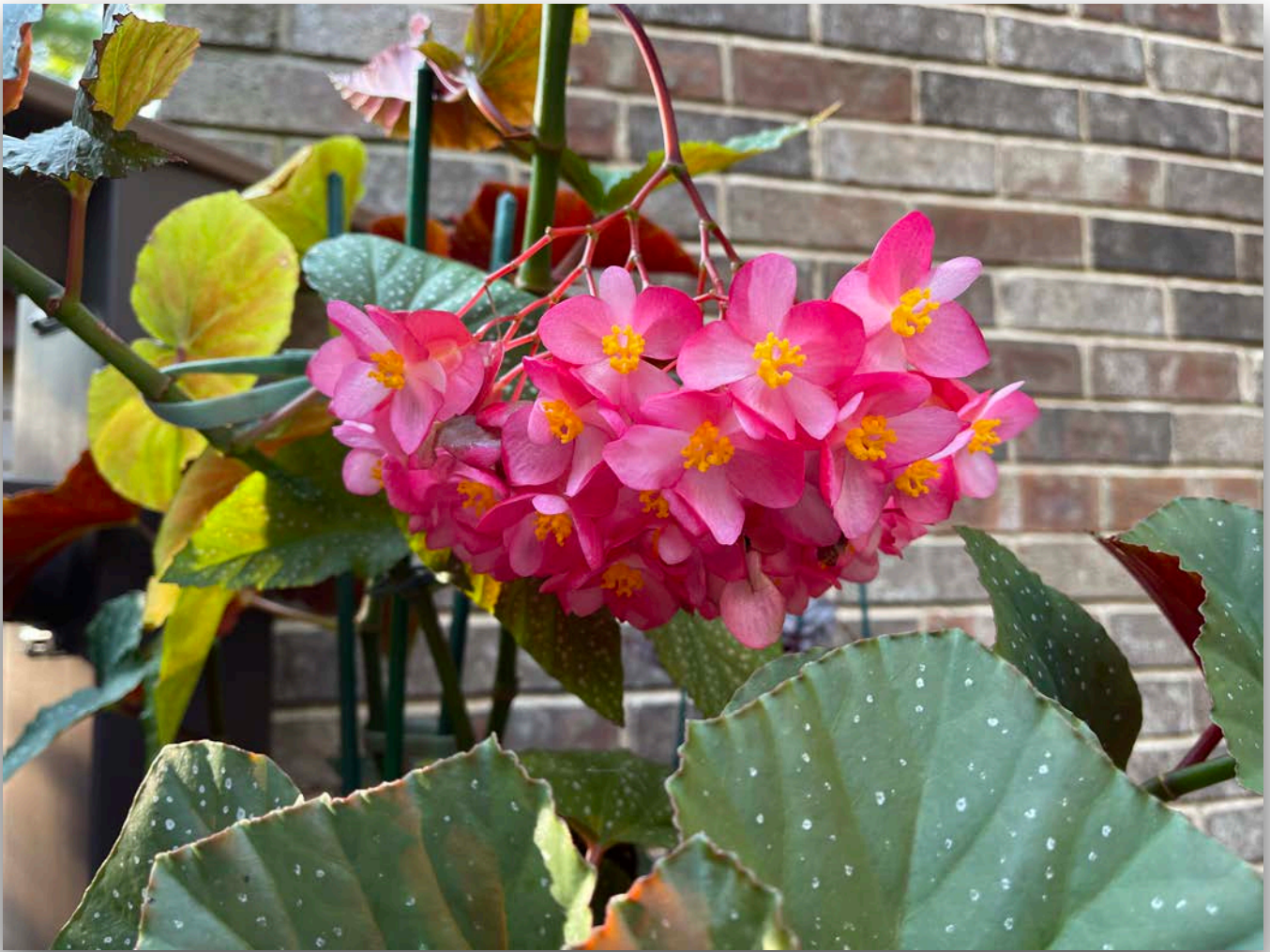
Happy Saturday!

August 21, 2021, 7:41am: Nice surprise! My chrysalis has released its Monarch on my parsley plant!

10:17am: It has flown away! Be safe little jewel!

3pm: Brian lays down for a nap and says, "I wonder where your butterfly is. They make tags for butterflies." I wanted to touch it before but did not want to possibly harm it.





August 22, 2021, 8:15am: My Angel Wing Begonia blossoms are open! Happy Sunday! I admit I miss checking on the Monarch...

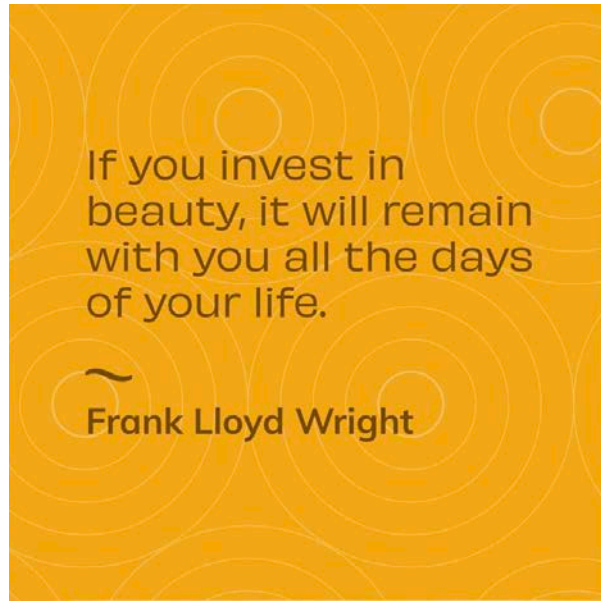
The Everly Brothers...

Don Everly, of the Everly Brothers, dies today at age 84. The most successful rock'n roll act to emerge from Nashville in the 1950s, Mr. Everly and his brother, Phil, who died in 2014, once rivaled Elvis Presley and Pat Boone for airplay, placing an average of one single in the pop Top 10 very four months from 1957 to 1961. I love listening to their recordings.





*My mold maker needs to close his mold storage unit.
NOW is the perfect time for you to order a life size
"Merry Sunshine" or "A Squirrel's Dream"
while the molds are available.*



See, touch and be touched by my work in theses shows...

Thru Sept. 5, 2021: **"ANIMAL GROUPS"** Celebrating the Reopening of the newly renovated Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum

Sept. 2-19, 2021: **108th Annual Exhibition**, Allied Artists of America, Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY.

Sept. 15, 2021 - Jan. 15, 2022: **"ANIMAL GROUPS"** Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

Sept. 28 - Nov. 17, 2021: **AMSA**, American Medallist Sculptors Association, **Members Exhibition** in the McNichols Campus Library of the University of Detroit Mercy.

Thru June 2022: **Performance in Sculpture**, David A. Straz Center for the Performing Arts, Tampa, FL.

Thru August 1, 2022: **Allied Artists of America**, 107th Annual Exhibition.

Online: See the award winners works here: <https://cdn.flipsnack.com/widget/v2/widget.html?hash=1pioas8hp8&bgcolor=EEEEEE&t=1540204623&play=1>

Into Perpetuity -

2020: **National Sculpture Society**: Fellows Invitational Exhibition. Online:
www.nationalsculpture.org

2021: **The 15th ARC Salon Finalists**, images and awards are posted on their site
here: <https://www.artrenewal.org/Salon/Finalists>

Please stay hydrated and healthy!

Thank you for being in my life!

Joy

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