

# **Isolation and Inspiration**

**by Becky Bense**

April 30 - May 27, 2022

*Inspiration and Isolation* features work done at the end of 2019 into early 2021. Becky Bense is a longtime member of The Governor Wentworth Arts Council (GWAC) and is currently Grant Chair overseeing the Art in Library Grants and the Art in Education Grant program. She is pleased to do so as she was recipient of a GWAC art award in 1985, and enjoys giving back!

Originally from Tuftonboro, Becky currently resides in Bradford, New Hampshire. Always a painter, it was her teachers in high school, Lee Gridley and Nancy Piper, who helped inspire and encourage her. Their positivity and technical skills established a strong foundation that have served her in art and life. Becky went on to minor in art at the University of New Hampshire, and continues to develop her craft, learning through exploration and study. Most recently she has enjoyed working with artists Carol Douglas and Doris Rice.

*Inspiration and Isolation* represents a transitional time in Becky's art journey. These paintings reflect the loss of her father during the pandemic. Like many of us, she was using the time to organize her space, when she came across a trove of oddly shaped high quality paper. In a move that would make Ted (her father) proud and a testament to her Yankee sensibilities, she began to paint on them. Using what she had on hand turned into inspiration to paint these curiously lonely, yet somehow comforting, paintings. Many of them feature color studies on the edges. Originally she thought to edit those out, however, with the guidance of her teachers and a clever framer they were kept as part of the work and lend another unique quality to her work.

You may contact her and see more of her work at [www.rsense.com](http://www.rsense.com).

