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"Katherine Bradford, With Love, From Maine" *TheGuide.Art*, theguide.art/event/katherine-bradford-with-love-from-maine-canada/. Accessed 20 June 2023.

With love, from Maine

Presented online by Canada, "With love, from Maine" reveals a new body of work conceived by Katherine Bradford during the two weeks she spent self-quarantining at her home in Maine, having left New York amidst the intensifying COVID-19 crisis in early April.

Despite having a studio in the area, Bradford could not safely access the space without potentially putting others at risk. Her go-to medium of acrylic-on-canvas, meanwhile, was not a viable option at her house. Commandeering her kitchen table, she began creating small-scale paintings by applying gouache to handmade paper; as a material, the latter ultimately proved durable enough to support the layers of collage seen in some of the pieces—while also lending a satisfying weight to each richly-hued scene.

Across "With love, from Maine," Bradford's signature style is apparent: from backgrounds rendered in solid blocks of color, to stylized depictions of humans as forms reduced to limbs, torsos, and featureless heads; rather, through attire, posture, and other expressive physical gestures, these imagined subjects retain cohesive, even compelling, elements of personal identity.

The figure of a diver, suspended in mid-air as though hovering above rather than plunging toward a body of water, is a ubiquitous presence in Bradford's paintings, with two such examples, *Early Morning Swim* (2020) [pictured] and *Dive From Yellow* (2020) included in the show. The diver's angle of attack often emulates that of Bradford's flying superhero—another reoccurring motif that, in this exhibition, she alludes to in *Superhero Gathering* (2020).

Befittingly, "With love, from Maine" introduces a new character to Bradford's repertoire: the titular subject of Nurse (2020).