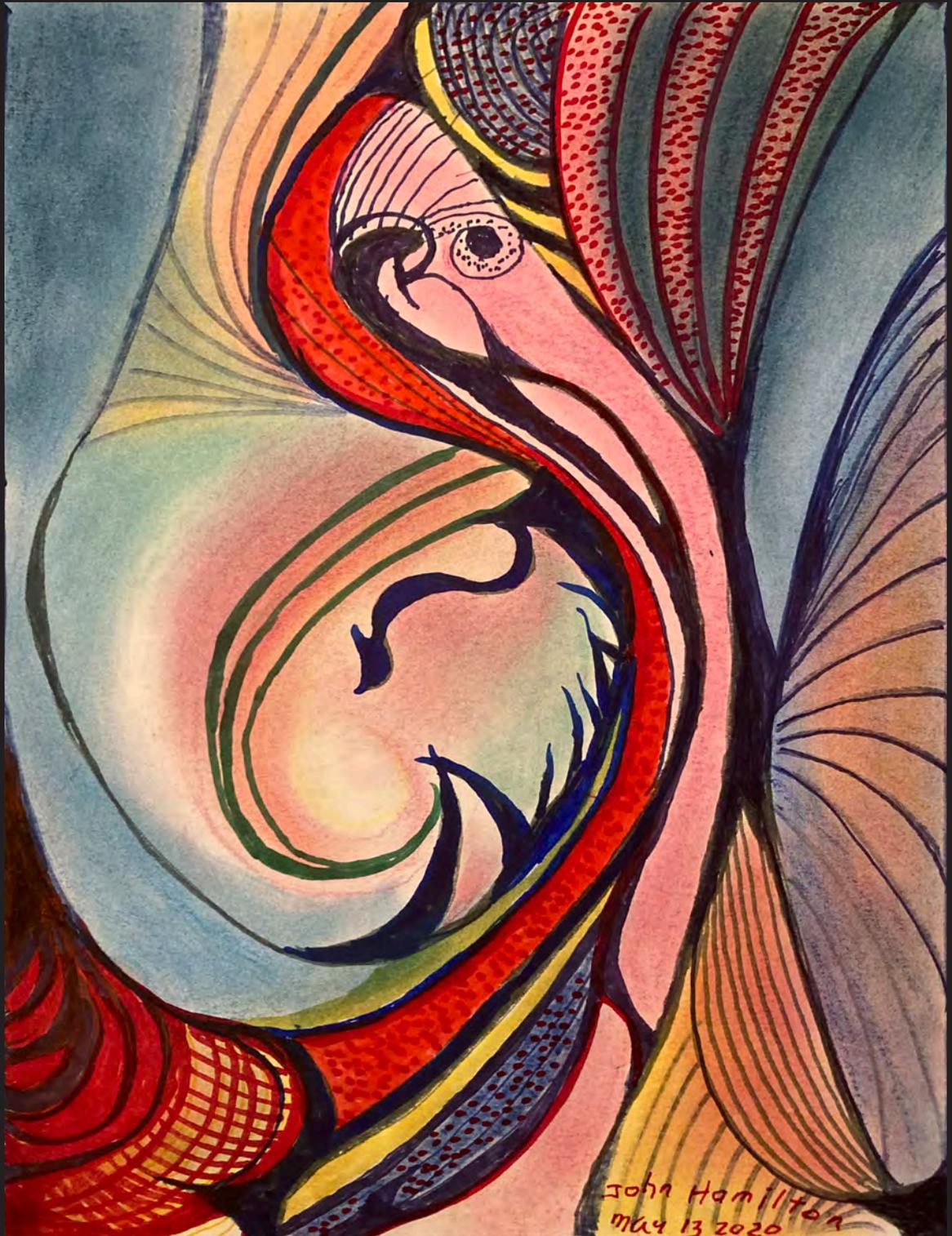


BEYOND ABSTRACTION

Capturing the feeling of the moment



The sketches of John Hamilton



John creating his most recent masterpiece in his room at Lone Pine Nursing facility
- Raquel Saunders

John Hamilton aged 90 is a prolific artist from Darwin Ca. He quit all medication in the nursing home in Bishop quite prepared to die.

Instead he recovered and started sketching in a whole new way.

This book is published by Goodent, a local non profit to showcase these sketches.

Proceeds from the sale of these books go towards art supplies for John & an art station at the nursing home in Lone Pine, where John still sketches and paints

For more information go to www.goodent.org.



Jude & John on his first day out after over 2 years stuck in nursing homes & hospitals.

We met John Hamilton over 21 years ago in Ridgecrest. He was looking for a place to land - so we suggested the Darwin Mine.

I saw all his amazing landscapes and realized what an unsung art hero he was & vowed from that day to make sure the world could enjoy

his work. I digitized all his landscapes and invited to exhibit whenever I did. We showed in Tecopa, Ridgecrest and Yucca Valley. Since residing in the nursing home Jim Macy was left the formidable task of dealing with his work.

The quantity and breadth of John's work was overwhelming We thank C5 Gallery for taking over his inventory and exhibiting his later abstract paintings & sketches.

- Judyth Greenburgh, Darwin Artist.



Naomi Hart from C5 studios looks at John's - Judyth Greenburgh

C5 Studios presents:



John HAMILTON
September 24 - November 20, 2021



We invite you to attend a reception on Friday, September 24 5pm - 7.30pm. All are welcome.

C5 Studios Community Arts Center
210 S Warren St, Bishop
www.c5studios.org



A SHORT "BIO" OF THE ARTIST JOHN HAMILTON

Artist - John Hamilton - Darwin, Ca.



John Emmett Hamilton was born November of 1930 in Sweetwater Texas. John's dad worked the oil fields in Sweetwater and around Texas. He started school at age seven after which he describes a troubled youth trapped in a repressive education system though he did attend the university of Texas at Austin. He then entered the airforce during the Korean War and worked as a draftsman while enlisted.

After the war he worked as a draftsman for the Bechtel Corporation in San Francisco. This was

during the "beat" generation upheaval taking place in the north beach neighborhood of the city. John "dropped out" of the workaday world leaving Bechtel for the "free life". Around 1964 he could be found living in the windmill house across from the Bolinas nursery as you drive into Bolinas, a town on the coast of West Marin county just north of San Francisco.

I met John there in the Windmill House in 1964 - 1965. At other times he lived with Rosalind in the little red house on Phinney's Hill at the corner of Mesa Road on the way into Bolinas. He worked for Bill Brown landscaping clients homes "over the hill" in Tiburon and Belvedere. He also stayed in Stinson beach where he shared wine visits with Joe Avila, a local character.

John was also a carpenter and stone mason. For awhile he lived on the ridge above Fort Ross and built his partner a Japanese style house with the natural timber poles scribed over rocks. All this time John traveled in a 1960's Chevy pickup. At some point he built a homemade camper out of plywood with one side sliding open to reveal an art studio. There John would paint "plein aire" landscapes from his truck.

His travels took him to the eastern Sierra, Sonora pass, Mono County north of Bridgeport, Owens Valley and during the winter to the desert of southeastern California and on the Colorado River. During this time he stayed on my Keeler property in Owens valley working as a carpenter while I was working elsewhere. Later, he moved into the old talc mill at Keeler during a sedentary lapse. Eventually, back on the road again John landed in Darwin

at the Darwin mine where a friend was the caretaker. He had his own "office" in the abandoned office building. John lived like a king at the mine with plenty of room to paint and hold court from his 'office'. During his stay there John took his camper off his truck and left it on the ground.

After a few years, the mine transferred ownership. John's job for the new owner was to raise and lower the American flag on the flagpole. He began hearing the click of high heels as the new secretaries walked down the linoleum hall to their offices. Too much distraction in the quiet desert for John. He relocated to a Darwin shack owned by a "friend of the arts" who lived in Seattle. There John spent many idilic years painting and building creative projects on the property while maintaining a garden & occasional trips to town to buy ice cream.

It was at the Darwin shack that John's painting transitioned from landscapes to abstract subjects. Although he had painted "symmetrical abstracts" in the later '60's the landscapes predominated. Now, his work was prodigious and purely abstract.

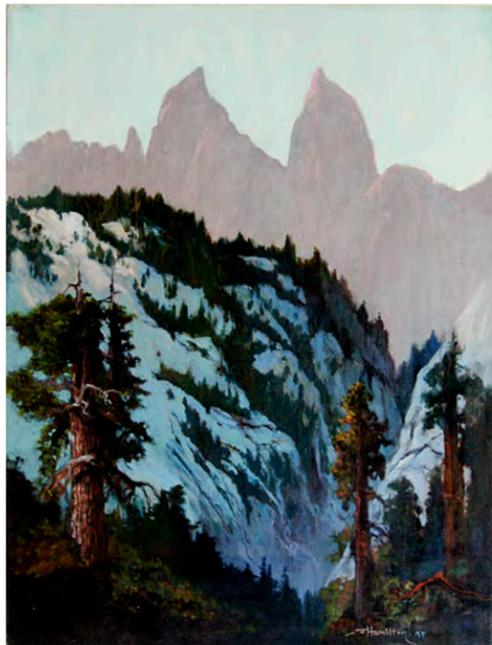
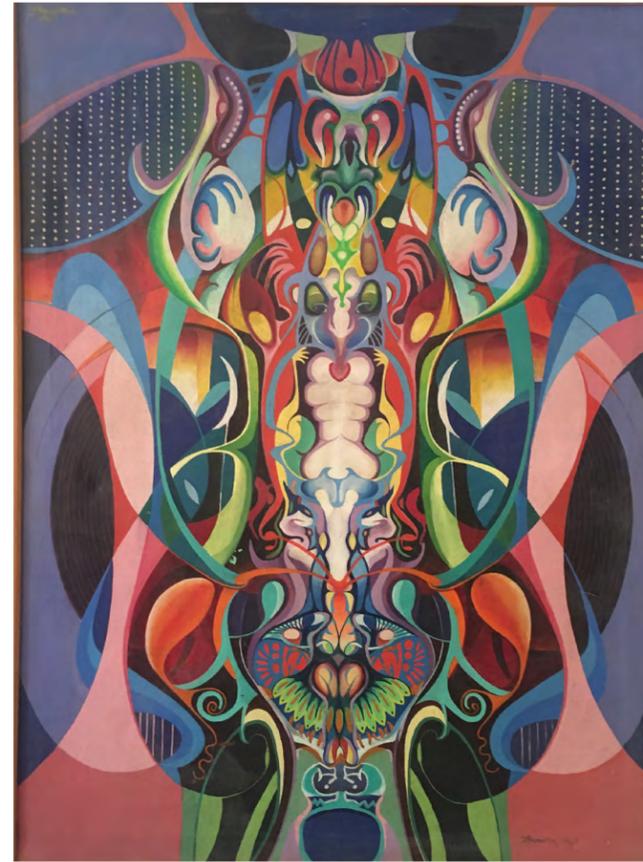
Over time, in his late 80's John lost interest in cooking and house cleaning. He would then grow weak and end up on the floor where friends would scrape him up and take him to the ER. After repeated episodes John now resides at the skilled nursing facility at the Lone Pine hospital. He paints or draws abstracts every day and misses his Darwin cat.

Jim Macey
Keeler, Ca.
September 14, 2021



'One Dollar' John's cat contemplates one of John's landscapes - Judyth Greenburgh

Earlier oil paintings
landscapes, symmetry & abstracts





John at his Darwin Studio - by Kim Stringfellow

“The word abstraction

is a verbal definition that has no definition.

I am focusing on the concept of feeling.

Art is a method of expressing feelings.

Artists can express their feelings in an abstract form.

Most often we’re not conscious of what we’re feeling.

Music is a clear example of abstract expressionism.

Jazz without lyrics has no words or story,
just a pattern of sounds and feeling.

I try to capture my feeling of the moment.

Every color has a tone.

The time between notes is the length between colors.

The beat is repetition, the rhythm the variation,
the pure note - pure color.

To tell the truth, my paintings are just mindless doodles.

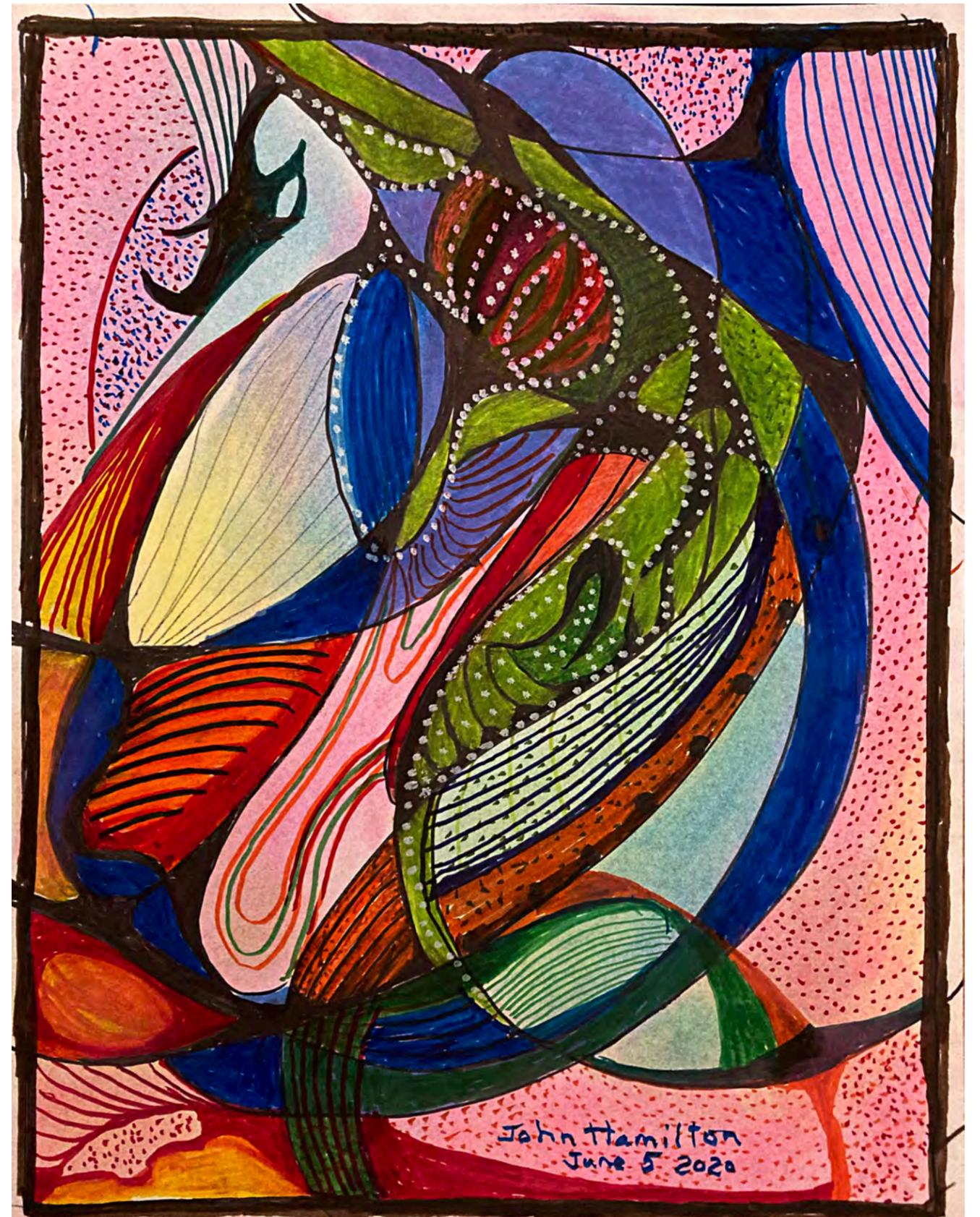
That’s the trick. Don’t think! Don’t try to understand.

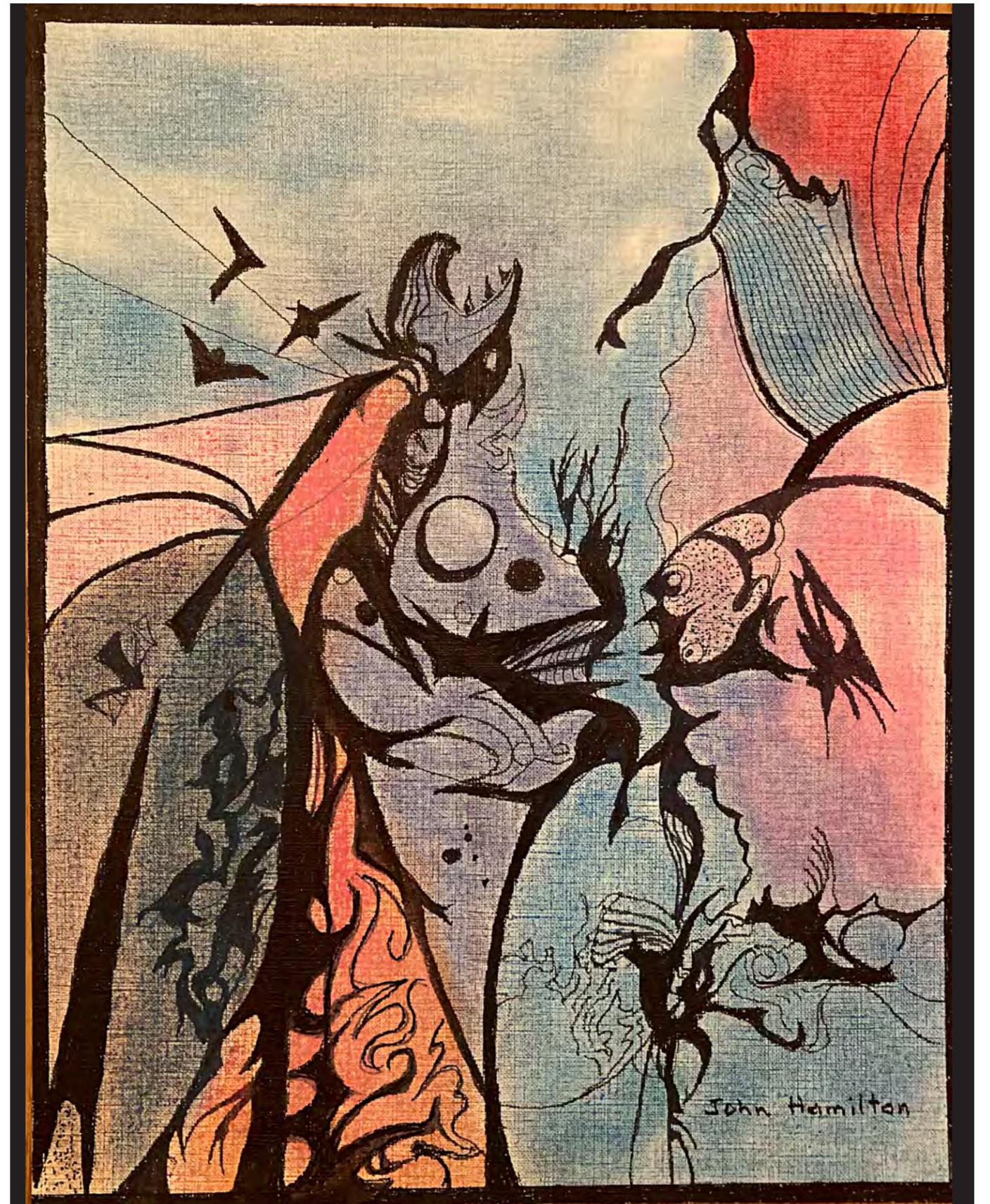
The right brain has to put aside the dominant rational left-brain.

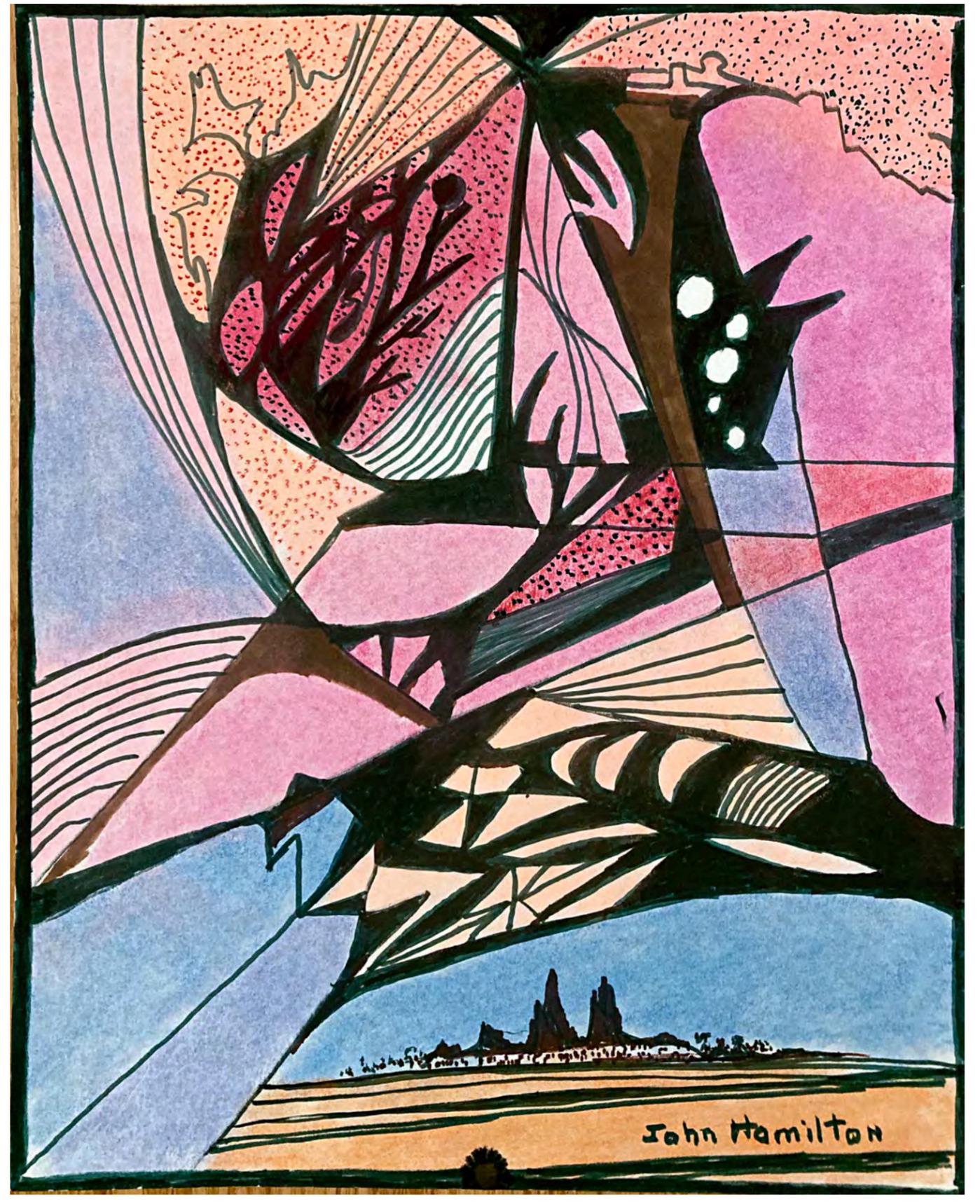
I just do what feels right with no idea what I’m going to paint.”

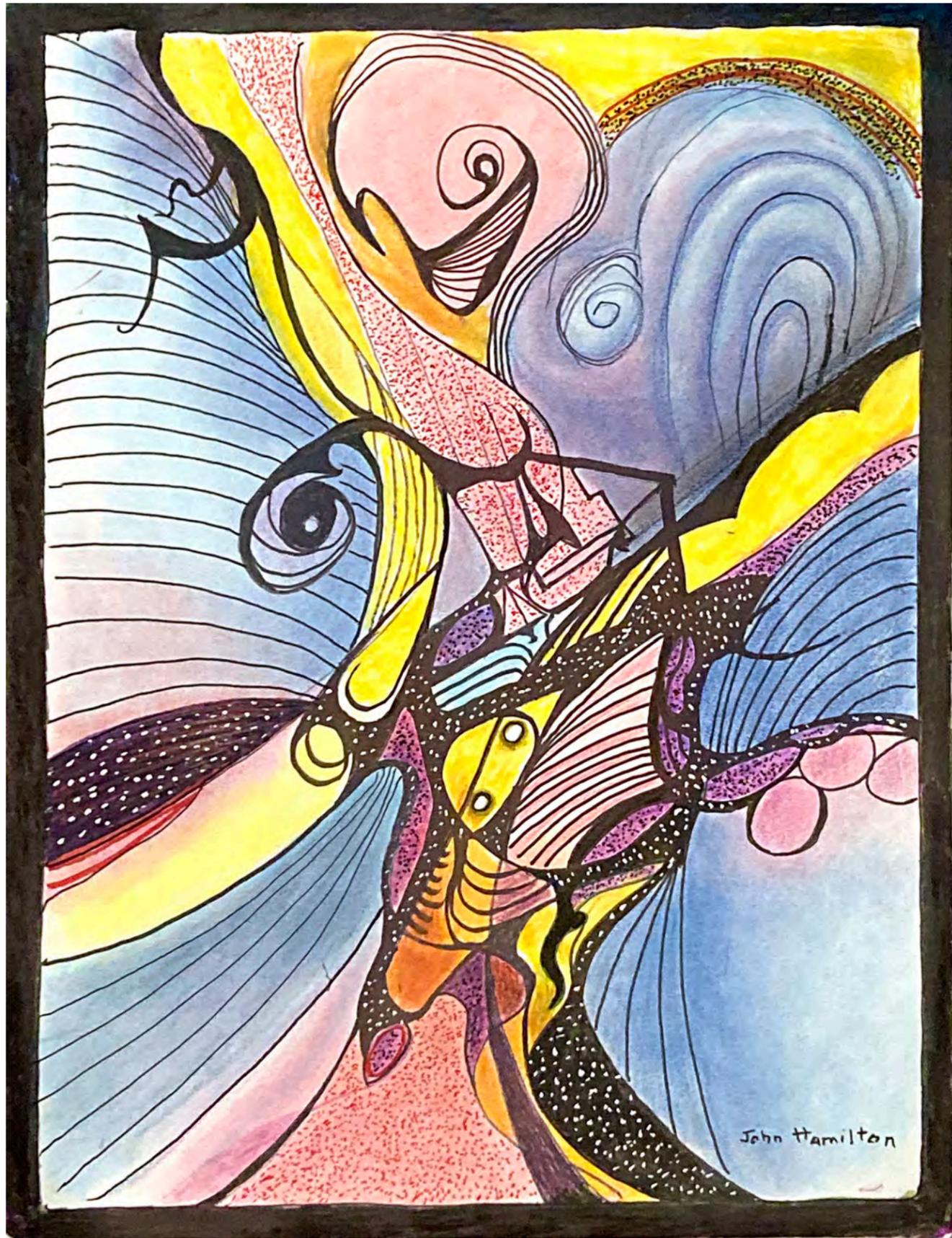
- John Hamilton, Artist

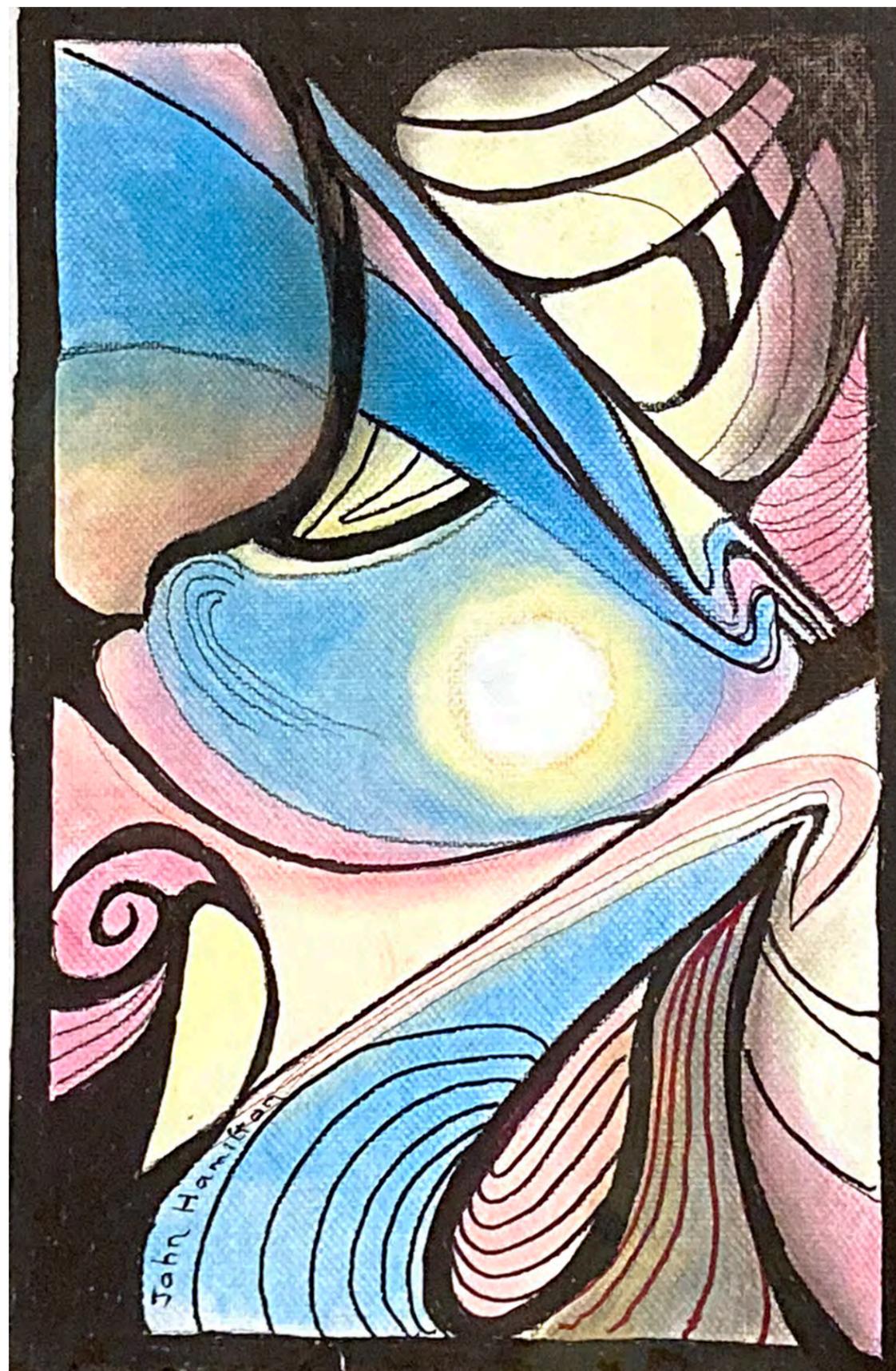












PLEASE NOTE

This presentation is an approximate representation of what the final book will look like.

Check our website for the final layout once it's finished.

www.goodent.org



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For more information & bonus videos of John go to www.goodent.org.

