



Brooks Arts Faculty Sonja Holmberg Nagel

THE ROBERT LEHMAN ART CENTER AT BROOKS SCHOOL
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www.brooksschool.org/arts/lehman-art-center

La nostalgie: ici et là-bas **(Nostalgia: here and there)**

Americana and Orquevaux, France

November 27, 2023 – January 1, 2024

Artist's Reception: December 1, 2023, 6 – 8 p.m.

As a practicing artist, visual arts educator and Francophile, my residency at Château D'Orquevaux provided me with the perfect opportunity to enrich my artistic practice while enabling me to further cultivate my passion for French language and culture. Prior to beginning my residency in France, I had been developing a series of watercolors exploring Americana art and architecture and its power to evoke nostalgia in viewers all across the country. The works that I produced during my residency are the perfect complement to this series, as they explore the French equivalent of this distinctly American nostalgia. Since France is a much older country than the United States, it was fascinating to see how these feelings translated from one country to another and determine how best to communicate them through my visual language. Ultimately, I discovered that nostalgia transcends borders. While its aesthetic and mood might shift from one place to the next, its evocative power remains constant. Whether incited by the magnetic glow of a neon sign or the subtle shadow of a gnarled grapevine, nostalgia transports us to a distant, yet familiar, time.