

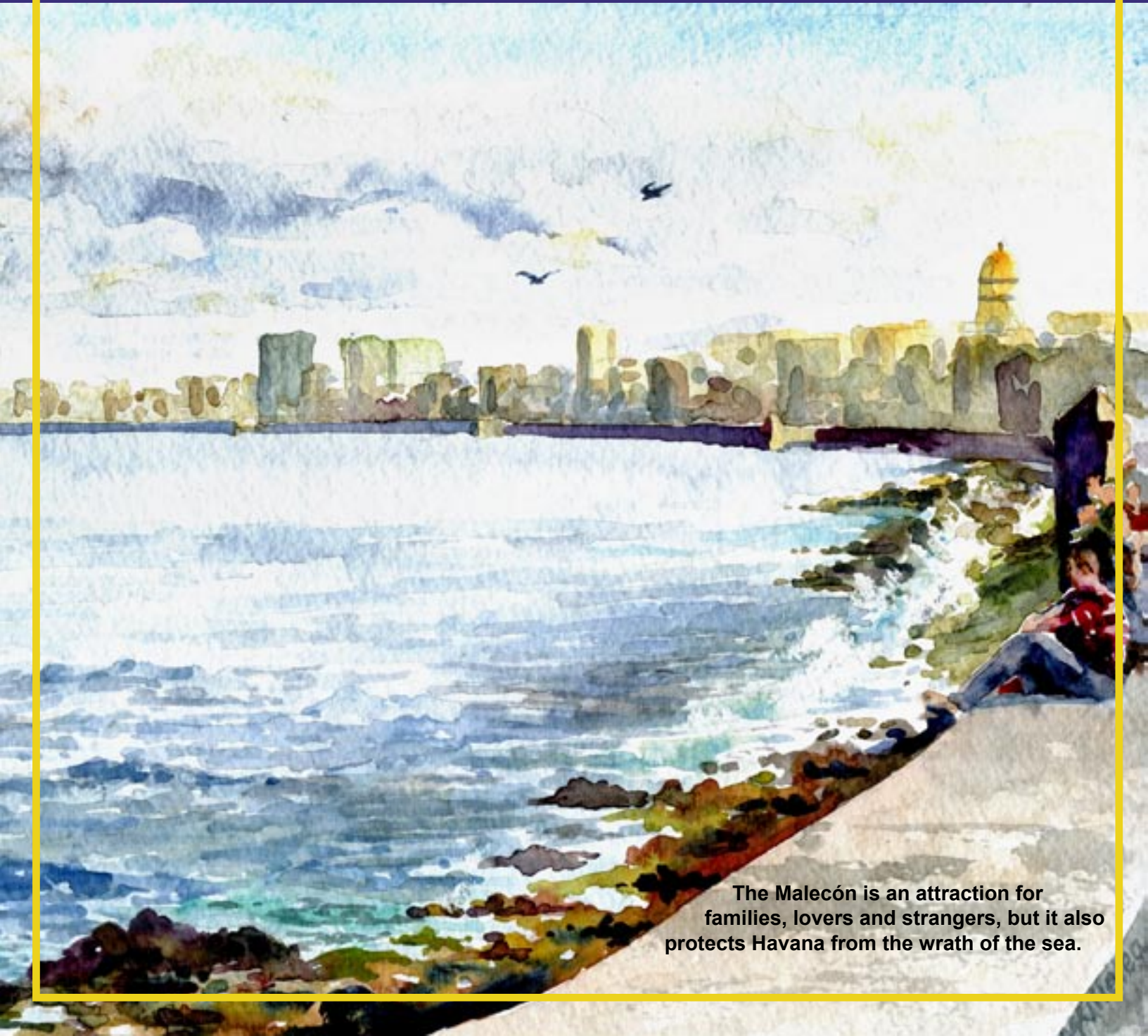
CUBA

Where the music plays on
though the record is broken

Watercolor sketches look through a time warp at an embargoed land

BY MICHAEL KILLELEA

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The Malecón is an attraction for families, lovers and strangers, but it also protects Havana from the wrath of the sea.



V

aradero (above) and its exquisite sand beaches are beyond the reach of most Cubans, who may stroll Havana's Aveneda Paolo (right) in search of extra groceries.





Local neighborhoods in Havana are lively communal centers where laundry and conversations flow across balconies and streets. The occasional car or water truck gives way to pedestrians and bicycle taxis, while El Capitolio towers over the whole city.



T

he lore and legend of vintage Cuba is personified in Havana's iconic Hotel Nacional where classic 1950's cars wait at the entrance to chauffeur visitors through their memories. The hotel has a long and colorful history, hosting mobsters, politicians, movie and sports celebrities as well as generations of world travelers since its opening in 1930. Both Hemingway and the Castros loved it.

Michael Killelea is an artist with an insatiable curiosity about the world he finds all around him and who loves to record his impressions as they unfold. He did these plein air sketches while participating in an interactive program on the Arts in Cuba.

