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Impact Of COVID-19 On Art Forms

By, Madhura Halde,
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becoming their stages and social media is providing audience to them. Many of them have started providing online classes to their students so that they remain in touch with their passion. This pandemic has brought really a huge change in the field of art forms.

According to the critics, digitalizing the art forms might have serious consequences in the coming future. For a performing artist, social gatherings are integral part of his/her life. Every person sitting in the audience are their priority. Hence, all the performing artists would not adapt to this change. Art teachers might not choose online classes to teach their students as they prefer live contact with their students. In such a case, art forms might lose their traditional essence. Frequent use of technology in the field of art may lead to certain malpractices such as plagiarism, digital manipulations and violation of copyrights.

However, considering the current situation, it is wise to adapt to technology in the field of arts. It, at least, would help practice, perform, and showcase ones potential despite all the limitations.

The world is currently undergoing a lot of changes. We are facing a global health crisis due to the outbreak of a deadly virus COVID-19. The disease has created a major impact on all the segments of population. The pandemic has disrupted the life all over the world. It has not only affected economies of the major countries but it deteriorating the physical, social and mental wellbeing of people.

So, considering the current COVID19-situation, I would like to present my views on how artists are tackling the difficult time of such crisis. Since the lockdown situation has made every person work from home, artists are no exception to this. This pandemic has brought many artists on digital media platforms. There are many enthusiastic professionals who are sharing their piece of art on social media and they are getting a good response from other art lovers and critiques as well! Due to the current scenario, for many performers homes are

Two Sides Of A Coin

By, Jui Pimple,
Assistant Professor, USLM

As the famous saying goes 'Every coin has two sides', this deadly coronavirus has also showed two sides. The virus is extremely harmful for humans, as it has affected every aspect of human being; right from physical health to mental peace, financial and economic loss, including mass of people losing their jobs and the costs of essentials getting high. The man is caged in his own house with no vision of when this monster virus will disappear and everything will be back to normal.

Since the past few weeks, the space between the four walls seems like an entire world to us as it being the home, workplace, recreational zone as well as religious space. The basic freedom of moving out is snatched away by this pandemic. People avoid meeting and talking, the ones meeting daily and having unending talks now just "hi" from distance and all the conversations happen only virtually. The only people one can see and talk are family members (some are not even that fortunate) who might had been ignored earlier. All the health professionals, police force, military people and all volunteers are fighting everyday against the COVID-19. For them, every new day without getting infected is like a rebirth. Every human, no matter how rich or poor, from upper or lower casts, literate or illiterate, man or woman, all have come on the same level in Abraham Maslow's needs hierarchy of basic physiological and safety needs. The only question everyone has is of the "Survival".

But the other side of the coin is that the nature seems to have benefited from the lockdown of the human being. Decrease in air pollution, traffic, noise, water pollution is rejuvenating the mother nature. The air is getting clear, rivers are less filthy, chirping of birds is soothing than the loud noise of traffic, animals in national parks and forests must be feeling undisturbed as no tourists to take away their peace. The vibrations on the earth must have reduced as the road traffic is only minimal. The nature seems to be truly advantaged with the lockdown of human beings. For years, man has caused enough harm to nature and now it seems like karma is giving it back to us. Man is paying severe price for the developments and inventions done for selfish intentions. But as the man is the fittest animal, I believe everything will get back to normal in few months and again he will overpower the nature.



Another noticeable aspect on this other side of the pandemic is a life-transforming condition. People have started realizing the importance of family members, they are learning to live with minimal requirements, letting go off the all the fancy demands and expectations, everyone is slowing down; giving time for introspection. The ones who never offered a helping hand in household work are now willingly doing cleaning as well as cooking. Some or the other aspect of everyone's life is changed and will keep changing further till the world gets rid of COVID-19 pandemic. This is the best time to have self-dialogue, have deeper understanding of one's own self and the meaning of life, indulge in activities that you only thought of, as this is better way of dealing with anxiety and panic of coronavirus.

Art Work

By, Devyani Chavda,
Sem-2, USLM



Ek Chitthi

By, Kanishk Tejura,
Sem-2, USLM



#dedicatedtosouls
#dedicatedtomygrandpa

Ek chitthi paigaam ki,
Na naam ki, bas ek kaam ki.
Liya tha jo sar pe hauda usne,
Uss hi ki to yeh baat thi.
Jaha log kehne, aur karne me maante nahi the,
Vaha ek chitthi paigaam se vo kaam karva diya,
Dhundhte hue to saahara dila dia aur,
Kashtio ko kinaara milva lia
Jaha log kehne aur karne me maante nahi the.....
vahi aaj keh bhi rahe hai aur maan bhi rahe hai
Ki vo ek chitthi paigaam ki
Na thi sirf naam ki bas vo kuch thi ek aise sahi kaam ki !

OH! MS BIOMAX: A PRE-COVID CAMPUS TALE

By, Rashmi Chouhan,
Assistant Professor, USLM

The ongoing lockdown has rendered “Ms” BioMax defunct. “Ms” BioMax is a tiny, black-coloured, cute-looking, wide-eyed, clock-in-clock-out biometric machine installed outside the main entrance of our department at the university. And I assume, it’s still there. In the pre-COVID era, when the faculties marched into and out of the campus, **“Ms” BioMax “wreaked havoc”** on my peace, in an edifying way albeit.



THE REASON?

The reason being this — I have been a lazybones throughout my life. All I wanted was to laze around, read fiction and watch thought-provoking movies to get enough material to write on. I was lazy to even move a muscle to chew the morsel in my mouth. And if someone could escort me to the dining table — rather get food to my bed — and back without me getting up, I would be the happiest person. I always expected someone else to switch on/off my room’s light. Yes, I was lazy.

After Joaquin Phoenix (“Joker”) speech — “I have been a scoundrel all my life, I’ve been selfish. I’ve been cruel at times, hard to work with...” — made headlines by winning Oscars-2020 for the best actor, I, too, took no qualms in promulgating that I had lived a life of laziness, lacking a sense of time. In my vibrant, yet the cozy, quiet, warm, peaceful corner of my bay in our staff room, I used to nestle every day after my classes and leisurely do what I love the most — reading, research and writing.

As “laziness” had been an integral, innate and unquestionable part of me — which I had always vehemently tried to cover up — I never really valued time much. I had been procrastinator, who somehow scrambled up in the last minute and successfully finished tasks. Even many things “earth-shattering” — like missing a train — could make me realize the value of time only till the moment my memory could retain its consequences. I would be back (with a bang!) to square one, forgetting the worth of minutes and seconds.

But as I merrily continued to live a life of laziness lacking a sense of time, “Ms” BioMax pushed me to realize the worth of each second.

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BUT HOW?

At our University, the clock-out time for faculties is 5pm. The “charm” of “Ms” BioMax laid in forcing the academicians of scholastic magnitude to make a beeline at 4.59pm, gaze at “her” eyes straight for one minute and count each millisecond as “she” crawled to clock 5pm, prodding the faculties to sporadically invoke Hirenbbhai (the IT official) over “Ms” BioMax’s snail-pace progress.

The sixty-second scene between 4.59pm and 5pm every day on the floor entrance was a “moment”ous one. While the wait used to seem endless, the beeline made by all was akin to the one made by Mumbaikars to catch a taxi or a bus on the road. I, on the other hand, always stood frustrated refusing to even look at the bot. “Who the hell is “she” to snatch away my ecstatic sense of timelessness,” I would ponder. Standing closer to it and waiting for 5pm to “appear” seemed like an eternity. But at times, it did cross my mind that, “If this one minute is so long, imagine what I can achieve by making use of many such one minutes.” “Ms” BioMax contested and questioned my laziness, my habit to procrastinate, and often my utter wastage of time.

This very realization infused in me by “Ms” BioMax has kept things going for me during the lockdown. I reconnected back to my lost hobbies and passions — Yoga, exercise, reading, writing and cooking. The more I devoted my time to these, the better my life became.

“Ms” BioMax taught me that every second matters. And there can’t be a better time for oneself than a lockdown period!

BY THE WAY, WHY “MS”?



Her voice indeed! At 5pm, the beeline would become a beehive as everyone would spring into action to punch out. After that endless wait of one minute, “Ms” BioMax’s used to greet us out with a beep and a “Thank You” in a honeyed female voice only to welcome us the next day.

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