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CoronaCulture



Will Jennings [Follow](#)

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A growing list of Art for Isolation



As someone who creates, writes about, & programmes culture of all kinds, I know that the Coronavirus outbreak will affect the cultural sector hugely. Many organisations, big & small, may not even see it out the other side intact, & the crisis will affect millions of people who rely on the industry for income.

Many organisations are working out not only how to survive, but how to go on creating & showing content through digital or participatory methods. This list is a selection of

some of the responses, with a range of creative performances, talks, films and more for you to explore in lockdown.

Whatever happens after this period of isolation & anxiety, we can hope that cultural organisations not only come out the other side surviving, but with countless new tools & ideas to reach people, & with huge new audiences to support them.

If you can afford to, please donate. Please share, because the cultural community needs to share now more than ever. And if you know of any more content that may be good to include on this list, please drop me a message on willjennings80 at gmail dot com or on Twitter at willjennings80.

FILM

The British Film Institute

They always have an excellent archive of free films available, & now is a great time to dive in. They also offer world & classic cinema for micropayments:

<https://player.bfi.org.uk/free>

Filmoteca Española

The Spanish film archive has made classic titles available for viewing at home through its Vimeo page:

<https://vimeo.com/user70603283>

Gary Hustwit's Design Documentaries

The director of films on design classics from Helvetica to Dieter Rams, with a new one uploaded every Tuesday:

<https://www.ohyouprettythings.com/free>

The Independent Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam

IDFA have put nearly 800 documentaries and projects from their collection available for free or a micropayment:

<https://www.idfa.nl/en/collection/free?page=1>

Mubi

Wasn't intending to list commercial companies, but a 3 months for £1 offer from Mubi, who offer a changing selection of sublime world cinema, was too good to skip:

<https://mubi.com/>

Thought Maybe

Another archive which was around pre-covid, but now more important than ever with

their broad offer of free political documentaries:

<https://thoughtmaybe.com/>

UCL Urban Lab

A department at the University College London interested in all issues urban & the city have collated a series of urban films to watch at home, some free some for micropayments:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/urban-lab/news/2020/mar/watch-urban-lab-films-available-stream-home>

PERFORMANCE & MUSIC

Andrew Lloyd Webber

The composer has announced that his musicals will be streaming online for free. Each weekend for 48 hours a different musical, starting with Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, will be available on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/theshowsmustgoon>

Berlin Philharmoniker

You can access a huge range of live recordings through their Digital Concert Hall, now free:

<https://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/home>

Bolshoi Theatre

Moscow's theatre has locked down, but they are showing a series of pre-recorded shows through to 10 April, available live & for the following 24 hours on catchup. Each will play at 7pm local time (5pm in Britain) and their Youtube channel offers a schedule and a subscribe option to be reminded:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/bolshoi>

Cafe OTO

The Hackney experimental music venue had to cancel a large number of live shows, but live-streamed some and may do more. You can catch them on their archive page for free or donations:

<https://www.cafeoto.co.uk/archive/>

Hampstead Theatre

Three plays — *Wild*, *Wonderland*, and *Drawing the Line* — are available to watch for three on the theatre's website:

<https://www.hampsteadtheatre.com/>

City Central

With their show at the Southbank Centre coronacancelled, extracts of the event are going to be livestreamed and then available later on their website until 4th April. Expect an exploration of black Europe with audio material from Chris Morris:

<https://speaking-volumes.org.uk/2020/03/27/city-central-online/>

Deutsches Symphonie Orchester Berlin

A selection of pre-recorded performances will be streamed through to April 13th:

<https://www.dso-berlin.de/de/>

Home Manchester: Homemakers

On top of their existing Digital Channel, a selection of artists including Bryony Kimmings, Yusra Warsama, & Plaster Cast Theatre have been commissioned to make new work for this isolation period in their *Homemakers* project, which should commence early April:

<https://homemcr.org/article/homemakers-artists-new-work-coronavirus/>

London Palladium

You can entertain the family with 2017's *The Wind in the Willows*, viewable online here:

<https://www.willowsmusical.com/>

The Metropolitan Opera

New York's opera house are presenting a different opera every day:

<https://www.metopera.org/season/on-demand/>

Montreux Jazz Festival

The annual festival has put more than 50 performances online to view for free, including Nina Simone, Johnny Cash, Ray Charles and more. Go to the link below and use the code FREEMJF1M. As well as Montreux, the platform offers countless other music-themed films & performances:

<https://qello.com/promo>

Music on the Rebound

An online festival to help musicians & performers affected by the covid crisis, an outlet for those who can't perform at cancelled events:

<https://www.musicrebound.com/>

The National eTheatr

An online project throwing up monologues & performances directly from actor's homes onto Youtube and Twitch, for free or for donations [here](#) or [here](#). Follow them on Twitter

for advance warning of performances.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQSVtjpUQfES378Mnb1GtYQ>

The National Theatre

London's Southbank institution are offering the best of British theatre to watch in home isolation, for free:

<https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/nt-at-home>

On the Boards TV

Free streaming of online HD contemporary performance with the promocode ARTATHOME20, if you select the 48 hour rental option then add as many films to your cart as you want before checking out:

<https://www.ontheboards.tv/>

Opera Vision

Funded by Creative Europe, Opera Vision offers loads of filmed operas from a variety of cities, all for free:

<https://operavision.eu/en/library>

The Royal Court Theatre

From Sloane Square to the sitting room, you can watch David Ireland's Cyprus Avenue at home, donations appreciated:

<https://royalcourttheatre.com/whats-on/cyprus-avenue-film/>

The Royal Opera House

Covent Garden's grandest is offering a #OurHouseToYourHouse series of free broadcasts & live content:

<https://www.roh.org.uk/>

Sadlers Wells

All things dance, from workshops to performances, to talks, is available on the organisation's Facebook page, with details and links here:

<https://www.sadlerswells.com/whats-on/2020/digital-stage/>

Schaubühne

Berlin's theatre with a social & political bent is offering an online schedule you can tune into & catch up on:

<https://www.schaubuehne.de/de/seiten/online-spielplan.html>

The Stay at Home Comedy Festival

With regular performers like Josie Long, Ed Byrne, & Robin Ince, this online offer organised by the Cosmic Shambles Network brings lols to the living room:

<https://cosmicshambles.com/stayathome>

Tate

The BMW Live series in Tate Modern's Tanks spaces has been hit hard by coronavirus, but one of the performances, *Our Bodies, Our Archives*, by Faustin Linyekula, can be viewed online:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-modern/exhibition/bmw-tate-live-exhibition-2020>

United We Stream

Berlin's clubbing culture faces "the greatest challenge in its history", with a risk to knock on effects for the 9,000 employees and tens of thousands of artists. So they are having a DJ set every night & appreciate any donations:

<https://unitedwestream.berlin/>

Vienna State Opera

A selection of superbly staged performances are available daily through their website:

<https://www.staatsoperlive.com/live>

Wigmore Hall

One of the world's greatest concert halls, specialising in chamber & instrumental music, is offering its archive of concerts and masterclasses for free:

<https://wigmore-hall.org.uk/wigmore-hall-live/past-live-streams>

The Wooster Group

This NY ensemble of artists, theatre makers & dancers have put up their version of Hamlet for free, viewable until 7 April:

<https://vimeo.com/402174311/c2aa32a43d>

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

The Barbican

Usually hosting hundreds of events a month, The Barbican is seeking to develop its digital offer, primarily through its Read, Watch & Listen page:

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/read-watch-listen>

Covideo19

Three curators have put together a selection of contemporary art video works less than

19 minutes long, made by artists in other contexts but presented for this at-home exhibition:

<https://www.covideo19.art/vym.html>

The Louvre

Paris's finest museum has always had its four virtual guided tours available, but now they are more popular than ever:

<https://www.louvre.fr/en/visites-en-ligne>

The Courtauld

London's best not-known-of-enough gallery was closed for refurb when covid hit, and already had an excellent digital tour, which has now seen a 723% rise in visitors:

<https://courtauld.ac.uk/gallery/about/3d-gallery-virtual-tour>

Google Arts & Culture

Tonnes of other global museums & galleries are listed through this portal, all offering different kinds of tours and virtual visits:

<https://artsandculture.google.com/partner?hl=en>

Institute of Contemporary Arts

The ICA is offering a daily email with links, lists, text, listening and watching. They hope to have some live-streamed events soon too:

<https://www.ica.art/ica-daily>

Museu del Prado

The Madrid museum is really testing new areas of digital museuming, & you can find it all here:

<https://www.museodelprado.es/en>

Photo London

The annual Photo fair at Somerset House is one-by-one uploading their archive of talks for free public access. These include conversations with over 100 artists & curators, including Taryn Simon, Edward Burtynsky, Stephen Shore and more, beginning with Tim Walker:

<https://photolondon.org/academy/talks/>

Smartify App

The free app is now offering all museum audiotours for free for all of 2020, so download, close your eyes and get taken around any gallery of your choice:

<https://smartify.org/>

The Whitechapel Gallery

One film from the Artists' Film Internation project will be viewable each week, & you can find it and more of the gallery's digital content on their blog page:

<https://www.whitechapelgallery.org/about/blog/>

LEARNING

Architecture Foundation 100 Day Studio

London's centre for all conversations architectural has created an exciting curated offer each day for 100 days, featuring readings, projects, videos & more:

<https://www.architecturefoundation.org.uk/news/100-day-studio>

British History Online

The digital collection of key printed primary & secondary sources from 1300–1800 is now all available free until the end of July:

<https://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

Hay Festival

See below for their new podcast, but Hay Festival deserves two listings on here as they are also making their huge schools education offer online for free:

<https://www.hayfestival.com/education>

The London Library

Older than the British Library, the 179 year old institution is promising more from its London Library at Home offer, but until then they have a wealth of archived talks available, including Jack the Ripper, the suffragettes, Dunkirk, and censorship:

<https://www.londonlibrary.co.uk/whats-on/past-events>

Open Culture

It was around before the pandemic, but a Open Culture is a great resource for all kinds of online learning, ebooks, documentaries and more:

<http://www.openculture.com/>

Open University

It's moved on a bit since the brown cord/brown cardigan physics lectures on TV at 2am, & you can now access a huge range of at-home learning for free, from the arts to finance, nature to law:

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>

OTHER

Britain from the Air

You can easily waste a day floating above Britain looking at historic aerial photos, then downloading them for free for a limited period:

<https://britainfromabove.org.uk/en>

JW3

London's Jewish community & arts centre is for anyone, Jewish or not, and now it's for anyone with an internet connection. They are putting highlights from their six years of events from comedy to history lectures, alongside new content, available for all, with plenty of free recordings. As with all, donations are welcome to help them survive this period:

<https://jewishonline.jw3.org.uk/>

The National Emergency Archive

1,4 million books are available through The Internet Archive's emergency offer, which will run for the duration of the US national emergency. Plenty to pass a few months!

<https://archive.org/NEL>

The Southbank Centre

Instead of hosting the hundreds of events and thousands of people a month, the SBC is reaching out with a regular email bulletin full of podcasts, interviews, playlists and other content, and they love donations to stay afloat. Check their blog, & scroll to the bottom to add yourself to the regular mailing list:

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/blog>

The Stay-at-Home! Literary Festival

An international online festival with talks, poetry, career advice and publishing tips:

<https://stayathomefest.wordpress.com/>

Tim Burgess's Listening Party

The man from The Charlatans is offering a bespoke public service with a twice-nightly participatory listening party. Everybody taking part starts a classic album at the same time, while on Twitter Tim & a guest discuss what everyone is listening to. Genius!

<https://timstwitterlisteningparty.com/>

Stay at Home Fest

Organised by Fight for the Future artist collective, you can sign up to get notified of a range of live artistic events, participatory & performed:

<https://www.stayathomefest.com/>

#MuseumFromHome

A range of museum professionals are contributing to the Museum From Home project with this hashtag, including live stream talks including LGBTQ object discussions led by Dan Vo:

<https://twitter.com/hashtag/MuseumFromHome>

PROJECTS

64 Million Artists

The organisation with a mission to turn Britain into a nation of creative thinkers & doers, offers *Do Think Share* with lots of daily creative challenges:

<http://dothinkshare.com/creative-inspiration/create-to-connect/>

Rosas: Dance in Times of Isolation

Make your own version of seminal dancework Rosas danst Rosas by Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker from your own chair with this FABULEUS project:

<https://www.rosas.be/en/news/814-dance-in-times-of-isolation>

Desktop Design Academy

Architect Sam Jacob is leading a weekly #DesktopDesignAcademy participatory design project with a brief, social sharing and fun, week 1 is to design a souvenir from your isolation:

https://twitter.com/_SamJacob/status/1244572058480238592

Firstsite

Colchester's public contemporary art gallery is working with world famous artists including Jeremy Deller, Gillian Wearing, Grayson Perry, and more, to create activity packs for the family at home. Sign up here:

<https://firstsite.uk/art-is-where-the-home-is/>

Isolation Film Festival

Want to be a film-maker? Have some spare time on your hands suddenly? Enter this, with donation-based entry of which 100% goes to the Cavell Nurses Trust. The theme is "Hope":

<https://www.isolationfilmfest.co.uk/>

Nonsuch Studios

The Nottingham theatre maker org are running a Creative Quarantine programme, with participatory creative adventures and activities for those with time to spare, of all ages:

<https://wearenonsuch.com/creativequarantine/>

PODCASTS

Hay Festival

The annual literature festival on the Welsh/English border is not only huge, it's hugely important to the local economy. It is cancelled this year and the organisers are desperate for financial support. As well as their micropayment Hayplayer video offer, they now produce a podcast, here on Spotify:

<https://t.co/gCpdX7UuuB?amp=1>

Parallel State

The Scottish arts org is creating a new Front Line Doc podcast for your home of single-daily-exercise listening:

<https://soundcloud.com/parallelstate-uk>

OTHER LISTS

Art Lives On

A listing of US based streaming performances and events. Including banjos:

<https://www.artliveson.com/streaming-now>

Art Berlinealive

A listing of live-streamed cultural events from Berlin, cabaret to kids, DJs to plays:

<https://www.berlinalive.de/>

CaroCulture

Architecture & design PR agency Caro Communications have set up a space to share the best of online offerings in these areas:

<https://carocommunications.com/caro-culture-club/>

Free Theatre Screenings GoogleDoc

An excellent list of global theatre & opera screenings but together by Alisa Kalyanova:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JC9gQn8-e_hL6vZGPBENdt_a3QEkcZVmbi3rv4_xNzE/edit#gid=0

Social Distancing Festival

Canadian artist Nick Green has created a website for listings of live events. They are in Canadian time, so double check before sitting down with a beer for a live stream:

<https://www.socialdistancingfestival.com/>

UbuWeb

The longstanding archive of avant-garde writing, sound, film, and more, has plenty on


to pass a few months locked indoors:


<http://www.ubu.com/>

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