

THE CHAUPAL SPEAKS

A DIALOGUE ON ARTS, CULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

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UNDERSTANDING THE VIRTUAL

The Kala Chaupal Trust reinvents engagements to keep arts and culture relevant and sustainable.

This second newsletter again combats social isolation by using knowledge triggers to influence the relevance of arts, culture and it's relationship to ecological changing times.

Intertwined yet independent, artistic and ecological, cultural and relevant.



Edvard Munch's 'Self-Portrait with the Spanish Flu' is one of few pieces of art documenting this condition. He did not die from the illness. (www.wellcomcollection.org)



Artist @Rannel Ngumuya

We navigate with you in this virtual unknown, beginning with looking the devil straight in it's face....COVID-19. Quarantine or pandemics are not new to society or humans.

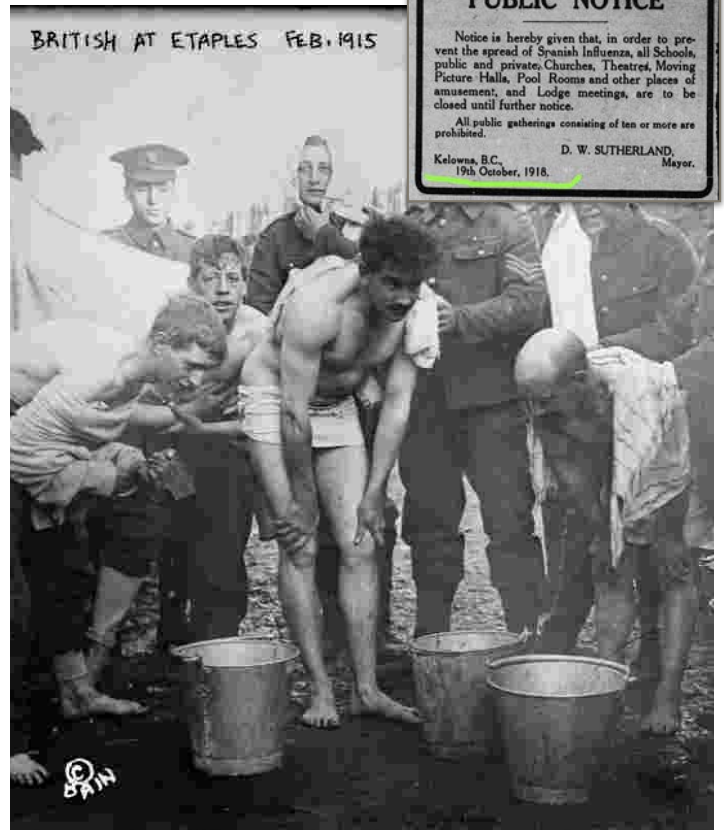
THE ENIGMA: CULTURAL AMNESIA Do we forget?

This absence of artistic responses and conscious acts of public remembrance puzzled commentators at the time. "There is some psychological interest in the fact... that actually the emotional impression created [by the influenza pandemic] was fainter than that produced by much less grave epidemiological happening," observed Major Greenwood – a classically trained scholar and epidemiologist who helped compile the official British government report on the pandemic – in his 1935 book 'Epidemics and Crowd-Diseases: An Introduction to the Study of Epidemiology'.

The environmental historian Alfred Crosby was similarly perplexed, writing in his history of the pandemic in 1976: "One searches for explanations for the odd fact that Americans took little notice of the pandemic, and then quickly forgot whatever they did notice."

Crosby's book was originally entitled 'Epidemic and Peace'.

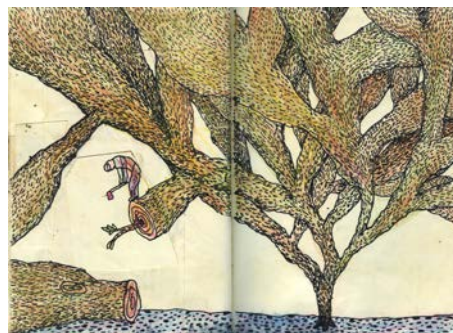
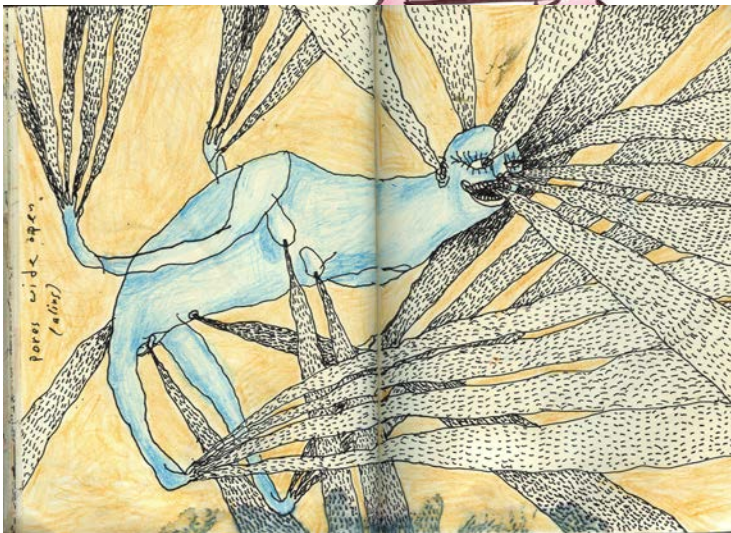
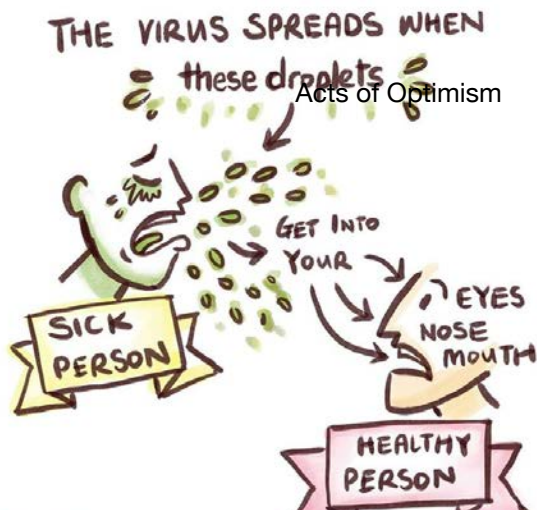
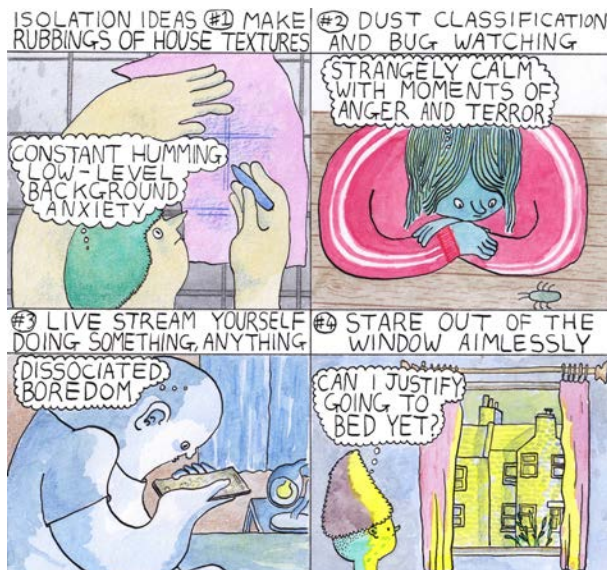
Citation: American pandemic : the lost worlds of the 1918 influenza epidemic / Nancy K. Bristow



Iconic Dunwoody mural becomes yard signs to support artists during pandemic
Posted by John Ruch | Mar 22,

Acts of Optimism

<https://www.reporternewspapers.net/2020/03/22/iconic-dunwoody-mural-becomes-yard-signs-to-support-artists-during-pandemic/>



EXPRESSIONS OF SELF ISOLATION FROM ARTIST HENRIK DRESCHER

<https://www.printmag.com/daily-heller/henrik-drescher-on-self-isolation/?fbclid=IwAR3LYHrcWtOwQbosAkYLUMjDBgpxLU5X0GauoUKwsflw1ULALyhTABZwhlQ>

COVID-19 & Artist Actions

CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF NATURE CONSERVATION IN INDIA

- S.M. Nair

Living in harmony with Nature has been an integral part of Indian culture. This has been abundantly reflected in a variety of traditional practices, religious beliefs, rituals, folklore, arts and crafts, and in the daily lives of the Indian people from time immemorial. The present day global concerns for sustainable development and conservation of natural resources spanning the two decades between the Stockholm Conference of Environment in 1992 and the United Nations Conference on Human Environment and Development (Earth Summit) at Rio de Janeiro in 1992 are of recent origin in comparison to the long tradition and cultural ethos of nature conservation in India.

<http://ccrtindia.gov.in/readingroom/nscd/ch/ch11.php>



Khovar & Sohrai of Jharkhand, **Patachitra** in West Bengal & Odisha and **Gond Art** of Madhya Pradesh



INDIA: THE INDIGENOUS

The Visual Landscape of a World Shaped by Pandemic

• **ALAN TAYLOR MARCH 26, 2020 32 PHOTOS IN FOCUS**

The drastic impacts of the coronavirus outbreak have changed nearly every aspect of daily life, leaving a visual impact on the world around us. Grounded aircraft, deserted beaches, temporary hospitals, idle buses, quiet streets, empty shelves, and socially distant behavior have quickly become common sights. Gathered here, a few more glimpses of our new reality as billions of people stay home.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2020/03/visual-landscape-world-shaped-pandemic/608824/>

ARE WE ALL TO BLAME?



Delta Air Lines passenger planes are seen parked at Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport in Birmingham, Alabama, on March 25, 2020, due to flight reductions made to slow the spread of the coronavirus. #Elijah Nouvelage / Reuters



Serbian military personnel set up beds inside a hall at the Belgrade Fair to accommodate people suffering from mild symptoms of COVID-19 on March 24, 2020. #Vladimir Zivojinovic / AFP / Getty

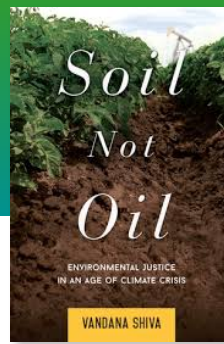
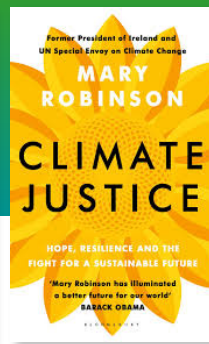
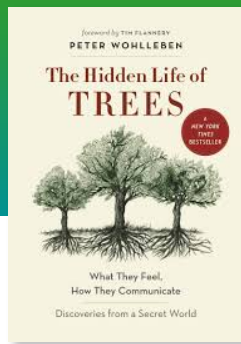
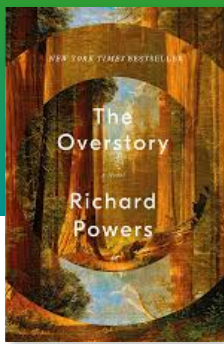


Food-delivery staff members sit on social-distancing chairs as they wait for their costumers' orders at a department store in Bangkok, Thailand, on March 24, 2020. #Chaline Thirasupa / Reuters



A man walks between two terminals at the Franz Josef Strauss Airport in Munich, southern Germany, where many flights are currently canceled by the airlines, on March 17, 2020. #Christof Stache / AFP / Getty

Recommended Books: Adults



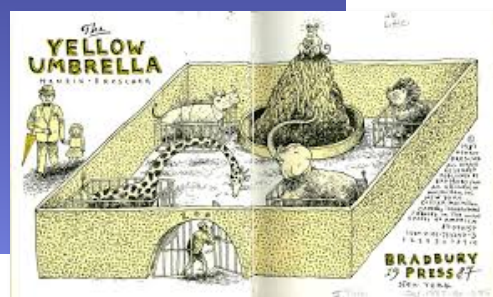
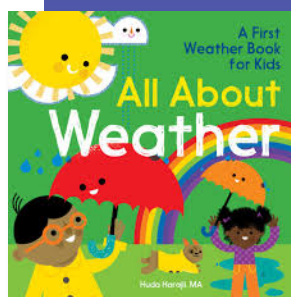
Sketching for Relaxation during Shelter@home: Initiative by Asian Art Museum, San Francisco and is recommended by them:

Did you know? The rhythmic and repetitive motion of drawing helps synchronize hand and eye, body and mind, and can be used to elicit what Harvard cardiologist Herbert Benson has identified as the "relaxation response."

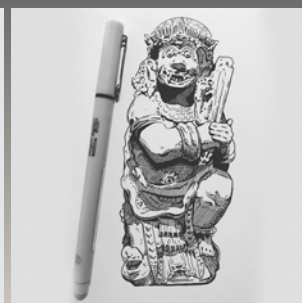
Take a look at some of our favorite sketches created by our talented museum visitors.

Recommended Books: Kids

Animated Children's Books Presents:



You can write back to us on info@kalachaupal.org with your recommendations.



ENGAGING WITH ARTS

FAMILY TIME: FILM WATCHING



SOME INTERESTING RESEARCH

6 Environmental Artists Who Celebrate Nature and Promote Positive Social Change

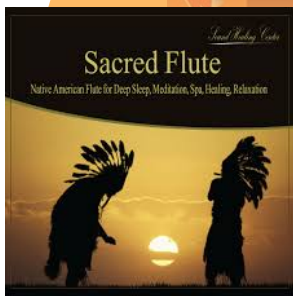
By Emma Taggart on December 5, 2018

<https://mymodernmet.com/environmental-art/>



IDEA CONTRIBUTIONS

You can write back to us on info@kalachaupal.org with your recommendations.



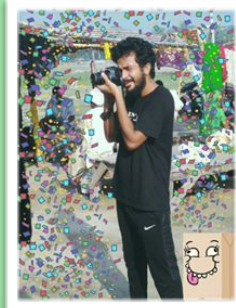
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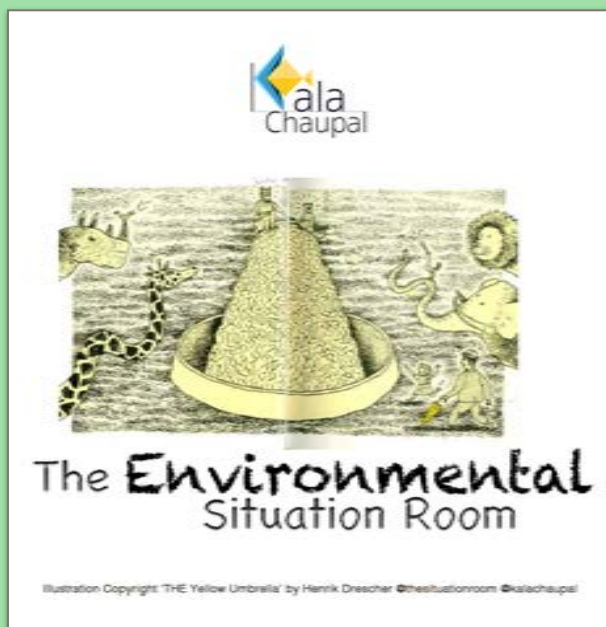
ENGAGING WITH ARTS

CONTRIBUTE TO A NEW DIALOGUE

The Kala Chaupal Team- Helen Frederick, Premila Singh, Leenika Jacob & Sibdas Sengupta (Right to Left)



STAY SAFE
IN YOUR HOMES AND
TALK TO US



An invitation to communities to join the
“ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION ROOM”

A Curatorial Premise by Helen Frederick-
Organisational Curator Kala Chaupal

YOU are invited to the global situation art project. Send experimental images, texts, designs, robotic diagrams, any and all forms of collective concepts for innovative environmental change. Respond to the transformation YOU are experiencing during OUR world-wide crisis, and the need to preserve life from disease, to protect and restore the world's environment, its oceans, air, forests and populations; and to activate a creative virtual community for behaviour and ecological change.

A Community Concept Proposal: IN THE TIMES OF COVID-19 'ISOLATION' IS A REAL TERM

With the current global crisis around the pandemic called the COVID-19, many cities/towns have shut down all public spaces which offer art, music and other entertainment activities, leaving the common man, woman & child sitting at home with a lot of free time on their hands. We propose to get the community active together (virtually) and excited about an interactivity that uses Art and invites knowledge & skill based participation.



Find **ARTWORKS, POEMS, SONGS, WRITINGS, VIDEOS** on
#theenvironmentalsituationroom
@KALACHAUPAL

If you would like to share your works then email:
thesituationroom@kalachaupal.org

Find 'The Environmental Situation Room' online

#theenvironmentalsituationroom @kalachaupal



Nature as a mystery, studies in isolation.
Kolkata

Artist : Dr. Paula Sengupta

"Far from representational, in the conceptual tradition of the Eastern schools, these motifs lie somewhere between the plant and animal world, irresistibly beautiful, yet menacing, uncontrolled and erotic. Camouflage is also an inherent characteristic of chintz, deriving once again from Nature's intrinsic order."



From Isolation
in Silver Spring, USA

Artist :Helen Frederick

'Crisis', 2020
48" x 58", pulp painting

"CRISIS reflects upon unknown territories and conditions that we are now experiencing. By using text in this piece, I trust the work provides a voice or voices who are globally sharing psychological changes. Our responses that are collectively urgent consider humankind's survival while we are perpetuating so many things that contribute to our own demise."

www.helenfrederick.com



We all have our creativity to share

Visit 'The Environmental Situation Room' online

#theenvironmentalsituationroom @kalachaupal



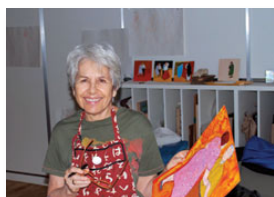
From New York City

Artist : Bette Alexander

30" ht., oil paint, oil sticks and charcoal

"These works were made between January and early March 2020 just before COVID-19 rose to attention in America and hit New York City, where I live, very hard. In retrospect, the two paintings and one collage are like forecasts of a world about to enter chaos, confusion and despair. Actually, in my mind, the entire world was already in the midst of calamity, as the works reference climate change, political dysfunction, and other miseries of the human condition which have been with us for some time."

www.bettealexander.com

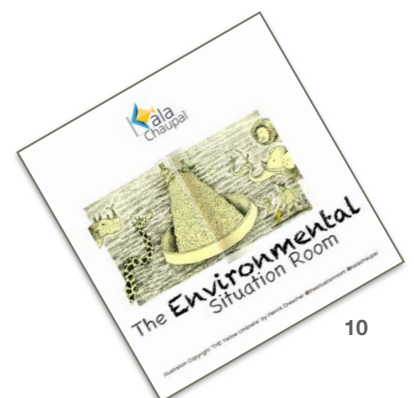


Cyberabad :
Not too
faraway

Artist:
Thommen
Lukose

"A city that provides housing to an

*extent that homelessness is a myth. Where wifi is 24*7 but no water, vehicles can teleport but still people can't find time. Nature is scarce; the cubicle houses are exact replicas of each other. Where ownership by MNCs have ensured a system of efficiency. The pixilation's and visual distortions paint a utopian image while cleverly hiding it's shortcomings behind the shining landscapes. The dystopian future, which seems light years away is not too far away."*





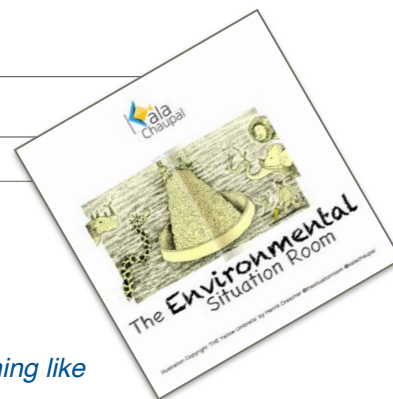
'Migrations'

Artist : Premila Singh

Acrylic on canvas

"Lives hang by fragile threads during present times under the threat of coronavirus. Millions of migrant workers who live on daily wages are facing the trauma of being far away from their families and homes. They are at times the sole earners and have many family members back in their villages, dependent on them. We have visibility to these people on a daily basis in the form of our domestic staff, carpenters, masons, house painters, electricians, tailors, peons , auto rickshaw and truck drivers . The list is endless. In the current scenario all they want is to do is to be with their loved ones."

You may contribute to : <https://www.feedingindia.org>



CORPORATE CORNER: Editor's Choice



*"Some you want to some you don't want to know.....
There is family and there are friends,
Some are just thrown together
Some just for the sake of social media trends;
Some you know don't matter
So you don't intend to know
Some seem to be controlling your destiny
Who for sure feel like your worst foe;
The faster we run and the higher we fly
We try go past people on a sly,
Crammed elevator is virtually empty
Mobile is there to not see eye to eye;*

*"It's a race though about running like fanatics,
It's a race to be won and not one race
What's in it for me trumps over genetics;
We feel for what would help us win the race
Yes we work together but can't work together,
We are human beings but not human
We are strangers though we know each other;
It's a global village
The Earth is but a tiny spec within the universe,
I, me, myself is but The dominant verse....
Lexicon is growing with conundrums Oxymorons,
contradictions and paradoxes, The faster we run the higher."*

Acknowledgement: 'writings' courtesy, Mr. Sanjeev Shukla. Emphasises that creativity lies in all of us and we are all human first.

SUPPORT THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

GLOBAL CALL TO CREATIVES- An Open Brief from the United Nations



IT IS NOT TOO LATE...

NO ONE CAN DO EVERYTHING, BUT EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING TOGETHER, WE CAN SAVE LIVES, PROTECT RESOURCES AND CARE FOR EACH OTHER

In response to the United Nations current brief, The Kala Chaupal Trust wishes to act as an influencer and share their messages to resonate with you for model behaviours during the COVID-19 crisis.

See the **UN GLOBAL CALL TO CREATIVES** at this link :

<https://unfoundation.org/what-we-do/issues/global-health/covid-19-response-fund-toolkit/>

The UN has identified six key areas of public activation most essential right now. Together these make up six “mini-briefs” or episodes:

1. Personal hygiene
2. Social distancing
3. Know the symptoms
4. Kindness contagion
5. Myth busting
6. Do more, donate

Let's fight this together!!



CALL FOR ACTION POINTS:

IF YOU ARE A **CREATOR** THEN BUILD VISUAL CONTENT.

IF YOU ARE A **MEDIA CHANNEL** THEN PLEASE CARRY THE CONTENT.

IF YOU ARE A **DONOR** THEN PLEASE DONATE.

Taking a hot bath will not prevent you from catching COVID-19. Your normal body temperature remains around 36.5°C to 37°C, regardless of the temperature of your bath or shower. Actually, taking a hot bath with extremely hot water can be harmful, as it can burn you.

The best way to protect yourself against COVID-19 is by frequently cleaning your hands. By doing this you eliminate viruses that may be on your hands and avoid infection that could occur by then touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.

FACT:
Taking a hot bath does not prevent the new coronavirus disease



From the evidence so far, the new coronavirus can be transmitted in ALL AREAS, including areas with hot and humid weather.

Regardless of climate, adopt protective measures if you live in, or travel to an area reporting COVID-19.

The best way to protect yourself against COVID-19 is by frequently cleaning your hands. Eliminate viruses that may be on your hands and avoid infection that could occur by then touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.

FACT:
The new coronavirus can be transmitted in areas with hot and humid climates

